



# BROOKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

### GUIDELINES FOR DUAL PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS

Beginning with the 2016 - 2017 school year, student – athletes in Grades 9 – 12 may participate in two sports during the same season. It should be emphasized that dual participation is only recommended for the exceptional student – athlete, and only in sports where conflict of events is minimal. Dual participation will be permitted provided that ALL of the following guidelines are satisfied:

- The athlete is required to select one sport as the **primary** sport, and must participate in the primary sport **whenever** there is a conflict. Once the season has begun, changing the selection of the primary sport is not permitted, and the athlete cannot quit the primary sport to focus on the secondary sport.
- The athlete can have **no grades lower than C**. If at any time, his/her grades drop below that level, then the athlete, if still academically eligible, may only participate in the primary sport.
- There must be a **face – to – face meeting** involving the athlete and athletic director. At the AD’s discretion, a meeting between the head coaches of each sport, the athletic director, and at least one parent / guardian may be required before dual participation will be permitted. This meeting should occur **before** practices begin for each sport, and **must occur** before any contests.
- A contract detailing responsibilities and guidelines will be drawn up and signed by all parties.
- At the approximate midpoint of the season, the agreement will be evaluated.
- A head coach always has the right to deny the dual participation if he/she feels that the dual participation is detrimental to the athlete’s potential in either sport or to team chemistry.
- The athlete may have to practice at odd times in order to accommodate the needs of both teams. This may involve the athlete practicing before school or after normal practice times. Under no circumstances does the athlete have the option of choosing which practices to attend on a given day. At the discretion of the primary sport coach, the athlete may be permitted to leave practice to attend secondary sport practice.
- The athlete and his/her parent / guardian agree that splitting time between two sports might result in less participation time in both sports.

### NOTES ABOUT DUAL PARTICIPATION

1. Typically, dual participation is more likely to be successful during the fall or spring seasons. **In the winter, the numerous conflicts between the sports make it highly unlikely that dual participation would be successful or even permitted.**
2. Cheerleading is not subject to these dual participation rules at this time. As in the past, the athlete who also wishes to cheer must work it out with the head coach and advisor.
3. In schools that have experienced successful dual participation, the number of athletes involved is usually very low. Again, dual participation is not for everyone!

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**“What a Great Day to be a Falcon!”**