

Tawas Area Schools

Athletic Participation Fee Guidelines

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Tawas Area Board of Education has instituted an Athletic Participation Fee. This is to assist in the Athletic Department's financial obligations to keep the program running as in past years.

The Participation Fee does not guarantee contest playing time for an athlete. Teams will continue to operate as in the past including any expenses for uniforms, equipment, and transportation for which athletes previously funded personally or through team fun raising efforts.

DEADLINE INFORMATION

Payment and the Letter of Understanding signed by both the parent/guardian and the athlete must be submitted before the athlete participates in any scrimmage or competition. Lack of payment will result in removal from the team.

THE PAYMENT PROCESS

The full payment and a complete "Letter of Understanding" contract for participation will be due following team tryouts. Payment will be required no later than two (2) weeks after practices begin.

The fees are as follows:

- \$65.00 per season (sport) at High School level
- \$35.00 per season (sport) at Junior High level

Payment must be in the form of a check or money order made payable to **Tawas Area Athletics**. We cannot accept credit card payments.

EXEMPTION PROCESS

An exemption of fees will be available to families with financial hardships. Qualifying for the Tawas Area Schools Free or Reduced Lunch Program will qualify the athlete for an exemption – no participation fee will be assessed. This information will be held confidential! The parent should indicate their exemption status on their Athletic Letter of Understanding contract. An authorization to release Free/Reduced Lunch status to the Athletic Department must be signed by the parent/guardian.

REFUND PROCESS

There will be no refunds of participation fees for withdrawal, ineligibility, code of conduct violation, or movement from the district except for a season ending injury prior to the first contest. The athlete and their family may request a refund with the following understanding and requirements;

- The athlete and family must submit a request for refund in writing to the Tawas Area Schools Athletic Department.
- The request must include a written verification of the injury from the athlete's physician.
- The student and family must acknowledge that they understand the receipt of such a refund will constitute the athlete's official resignation from the team and forfeiture of all team activities, awards, honors, and attendance of team banquets.