

## **Ripon Area School District** ***Athletic Department***

# Memo

**To:** Dr. Mary Whitrock, Board of Education  
**From:** Vincent Propson, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director  
**Date:** February 25, 2025  
**Re:** Dual Sport Agreement

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### **Proposal for Allowing Dual-Sport Participation in a Single Season**

#### **Introduction**

I am writing to propose an immediate change to the Student Co-Curricular Handbook that would allow student-athletes at Ripon High School to participate in two sports during a single athletic season. By implementing a structured dual-sport participation agreement, we can offer our students expanded athletic opportunities, increasing lower level participation, while maintaining high academic standards, injury prevention, and competitive integrity.

[Click here to review the “Ripon Dual-Sport Agreement”](#)

#### **Benefits of Dual-Sport Participation**

##### **Expanded Opportunities for Student Participation**

- Many students have interests in multiple sports, and this policy would provide them the ability to compete in both without being forced to choose one over the other.
- Some sports, especially those with smaller rosters, could benefit from additional participation, increasing team depth and competitiveness.

##### **Improved College Recruitment and Exposure**

- College recruiters often value multi-sport athletes for their versatility, athleticism, and ability to balance responsibilities.

- A dual-sport agreement could give our student-athletes an edge in recruitment by allowing them to showcase skills in multiple areas.

### **Reinforcing Time Management and Discipline**

- Student-athletes who successfully manage two sports will develop strong time management, prioritization, and responsibility skills—essential qualities for college and career readiness.
- With structured oversight, dual-sport participation can be managed effectively without negatively impacting academics.

### **Proposed Agreement Guidelines**

#### **Approval Process:**

- Students must obtain written permission from parents/guardians, both head coaches, and the Athletic Director before participating in two sports during the same season.
- A clear primary sport must be declared in case of scheduling conflicts.

#### **Academic and Conduct Requirements:**

- Students must maintain academic eligibility and meet the same behavioral expectations as single-sport athletes.

#### **Practice and Game Commitments:**

- Coaches must collaborate on a structured practice and game schedule to prevent overtraining and burnout.
- Athletes must communicate in advance regarding any conflicts and work with coaches to find solutions.

By allowing students to participate in two sports in the same season, Ripon High School can foster a more inclusive, competitive, and developmentally beneficial athletic environment. With clear practices and safeguards in place, this opportunity will support student-athletes in their physical, academic, and personal growth. I respectfully request that the Board of Education consider this proposal and allow us to move forward with implementing a dual-sport participation agreement.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to discussing this further and working together to enhance our athletic program.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vincent Propson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vincent Propson  
Athletic Director