



**MOKENA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
PAY –TO – PARTICIPATE PROGRAM**



Students will be allowed to try out and participate in a full range of extra-curricular programs for a fee. The participation fee is determined by how much it costs the school district to run each program. The cost includes, coaches/sponsors, IESA fees, conference fees, transportation, officials, game workers, and incidentals.

Components of the program:

1. Each activity has a set fee based on the above criteria. We must have a set number of students in each activity to pay the full cost. If there are not enough students to run the activity, the activity will not occur.
2. Sign-ups will be announced in advance and payments must be made in full for each activity at sign-up nights.
 - a. For this year only, there will be more than one sign up night
 - i. Girls' Basketball and Boys' Volleyball sign-ups will be on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00 PM in the MJHS Commons.
 - ii. Tentatively, all other clubs and activities will have sign-ups on Tuesday, October 11th. (An announcement will go out later to confirm this date.)
 - b. For the 2012-2013 school-year, there will be a sign up night in the late spring for all activities – A late registration may be offered in the early fall for move-ins or special circumstances.
3. Payment must be made up front for each activity. For those activities that require try-outs, the payment must be made prior to try outs. Any student who paid but did not make the team will have his or her money refunded. All students must have the required materials turned in prior to the first try out.
4. Once payment is made, if the student/family chooses to withdraw from the program, there are no refunds.
5. Parents who qualify for free or reduced lunch may apply for a fee waiver. These waivers will be distributed on a limited basis.
6. Contest Philosophy for Team Sports – Junior high athletics are designed to give students exposure to the sports and an opportunity to build the fundamental skills necessary to excel in the activity. Although we will always strive to win every contest, sportsmanship, skill building and teamwork will be our primary focus.
7. Playing time for team sports:
 - a. During non-conference play, all participants will get equal playing time .
 - b. During conference play, all participants will get to play at least a minimum amount of time but playing time may not be equal.
 - c. During tournament play, all participants may not get to play or have equal time in an effort to win.
8. Sponsorship:
 - a. If individuals, groups or businesses would like to sponsor an activity, they can do so by contacting the MJHS office and designating which activity and at what amount they would like to donate.
 - b. Should a group become fully or partially sponsored, students/families who have already paid will be reimbursed for the full or partial amount.
 - c. Individuals, groups or businesses who would rather make a non-specific donation, are encouraged to do so. These funds will be used to reduce the cost of activities across the offered spectrum.
9. The 2011-2012 Seasons:
 - a. Due to this very late starting date, the seasons may not be as complete as we would like and we may not be able to schedule events with conference schools. We may have several contests with schools with which we do not normally compete.
 - b. We will make every effort to have a full and complete season in each activity, but it should be understood that a set number of games or tournaments for this school year is difficult to confirm.

10. The 2012-2013 Seasons and Beyond:

- a. We will play a full conference schedule.
- b. We will make every effort to fill the schedule with non-conference contests to the maximum allowable number.
- c. We will participate in IESA, conference, and/or invitational tournaments whenever possible.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *Can we get volunteer coaches?*

A: No. We are required by contract to utilize the services of our 159 certified staff first. Should there be an activity where we cannot find a 159 staff member for the activity, we can look outside of our group for qualified and properly certified individuals.

Q: *Can we use volunteer officials?*

A: No. The Illinois Elementary School Association, IESA, the group that governs athletics in the state of Illinois, requires that we have certified officials at all contests. These officials must be certified by either the IESA or the IHSA (Illinois High School Association) and we must pay them according to our conference pay scale. If anyone is interested in becoming an official, go to either the IESA or IHSA web site or speak to the MJHS administration for more information. As an aside, we are always in need of officials and this is a great way to stay involved in interschool athletics.

Q: *Is there a family cap for the cost of events?*

A: No. The fees are very tight and we are not able to allow for family caps.

Q: *Will we have to pay a fee at the gate?*

A: Yes. The admission fees are set by our conference and the money collected will be used to help fund those who cannot pay and for incidental needs throughout the season.

Q: *What about Yearbook?*

A: Yearbook is self sustaining and will continue. We will charge what we need to cover the stipend and the cost of the yearbook.

Q: Can we add activities that are not currently offered?

A: Maybe. There are some activities that have been offered in the past that may be offered at a later date. Other activities that are not on our list would have to go through the normal proposal and approval processes before being added to the list.

Q: *Why did it take so long to get this started?*

A: Setting up this type of program is difficult at best. We had several hurdles to jump to get to this point and all that can be said is that given the set of circumstances we were dealing with, this was the earliest we could possibly bring it forward.

Q: *Will there always be fees from now on?*

A: Yes... well, at least for the foreseeable future. Given the state of the economy and the funding for education, the pay to participate format is here to stay for a while. It is the hope that one day, we will be able to fully fund all aspects of schooling, but fees are now a part of our system and it is anticipated that they will be around in some fashion for a long time.

MJHS

Fee Chart for 2011-2012

Activity	Fee	Minimum Number of Students Needed
6 th Girls' Basketball A and B Teams	\$308	20
7 th Girls' Basketball	\$308	15
8 th Girls' Basketball	\$308	15

6 th &7 th Girls' Volleyball	\$292	15
8 th Girls' Volleyball	\$292	15

Cheerleading	\$161	20
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Poms	\$153	20
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Activity	Fee	Minimum Number of Students Needed
Debate Club	\$28	20

Angler's Club	\$62	15
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NJHS*	\$39	30
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Student Council	\$88	20
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Activity	Fee	Minimum Number of Students Needed
6 th Boys' Basketball A and B Teams	\$308	20
7 th Boys' Basketball	\$308	15
8 th Boys' Basketball	\$308	15

6 th & 7 th Boys' Volleyball	\$292	15
8 th Boys' Volleyball	\$292	15

Track	\$216	65
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Scholastic Bowl	\$129	15
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Activity	Fee	Minimum Number of Students Needed
Intramurals	\$29	70

Jazz Band	\$73	20
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Percussion Ensemble	\$45	10
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