



## Edina Alpine Ski Attendance Policy and Guidelines

The following attendance policies and guidelines were adopted with the understanding that it is a privilege to represent Edina High School and the it's Alpine Ski Team. Your best effort is expected each day!

### PRACTICE

- Dry-land training takes place Monday through Friday at Edina High School. Check calendar for times.
- Once we have snow and the ski area is open, on snow training will take place at Hyland Monday through Thursday. Practice times may vary; check the calendar for the latest updates.

### ATTENDANCE

- Team members are expected to attend all training sessions and races unless excused by coach.
- Team members must be on time. Practices/races begin at the posted time. Athletes must be on the hill at the designated location, ready to go at the designated time.
- Attendance may be taken at the beginning and end of each practice every day. All athletes will assist in course set-up, tear down, and slipping the lane at the conclusion of practice.
- Team members must practice and/or race with the team 3 or more days per week. Time trials, Varsity Race or JV Race, along with training days, are counted in the 3-day minimum attendance.
- Athletes will not ski if they are not in school for at least a half a day on the day of a meet or practice.
- As with other varsity sports, if you are not at practice, don't expect to race for Edina High School.

### POST SEASON ELIGIBILITY

Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Bylaw 405 defines the following minimum requirements for participation in post season tournaments (Section and State races):

*"Team: A member school must schedule a minimum of three interscholastic varsity games, meets or matches to qualify for League-sponsored tournament participation in that sport.*

*Individual: A skier must compete in at least 3 separate high school meets to be eligible to enter Section competition. A skier who has not been a member of the school team may not join the school team at League tournament time."*



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## WEDNESDAY PRACTICES & RELIGIOUS COMMITMENTS

- **If possible**, try to attend your religious sessions during times that do not conflict with ski practice.
- **If possible**, attend the first part of practice on the nights of your religious commitment.
- If conflict cannot be avoided, the athlete may elect to not attend practice. If this is the case, the athlete must still notify the coaches and they must attend at least 2 days of training or time trial/practice and a Varsity or a JV competition to complete their 3 days for the week.

## EXCUSED AND UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Unexcused absences generally occur because an athlete did not communicate with the coach, or had an unacceptable reason for an absence. **Contacting the coach is extremely critical!**

It is an athlete's responsibility to call, text, or e-mail, text the coach with an explanation as to why they cannot attend practice (**not their parents**)! Absences communicated by a parent are not accepted.

The athlete must contact the coach **before** the practice that is to be missed. If the coach is not notified in advance an absence is unexcused. Notify Coach Scribner by 2:00 PM.

### Actions for unexcused absence:

- 1<sup>st</sup> unexcused absence: discussion with the coaches
- 2<sup>nd</sup> unexcused absence: suspended from the next meet
- 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence: suspended from a second meet
- 4<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: possible dismissal from the team

### Examples of excused absences:

- Illness
- Family emergency or planned trip
- Injury
- Religious commitment
- Personal emergency (contact the coach)
- A prep-approved absence (must be in writing)

An excused absence the day before a meet must be discussed with the coach to determine whether the athlete will compete in the meet the following day.



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## CONFLICTING SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

With a number of students participating in multiple activities, situations arise when students may have competing demands of their time during the same season. When conflicts occur, we follow the school board policy and conflict resolution matrix available here:

<http://www.edinaschools.org/cms/lib07/MN01909547/Centricity/Domain/92/Board%20Policy%20Manual/628.pdf>

## USSA ATHLETES

United States Ski Association (USSA) athletes present a unique scenario for high school alpine ski teams. USSA racers train with both the high school team and their club team. Practice schedules may overlap. As a result, this scenario requires a separate attendance policy note.

Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Bylaw 208, Section 3(a) which addresses non-school competition and training for team and individual sports states:

*"Lessons/Training: During the League high school season athletes may take lessons from professionals and other non-school coaches without limit as to where, when or who may provide the training. **Athletes may not miss a high school practice, game, or meet to take a lesson or train for a non-school event.** Athletes may take lessons/train with a non-school team/club during the high school season in the same sport."*

In order to meet MSHSL rules and the team's 3-day per week minimum attendance requirement, USSA racers must meet the following:

During weeks when there is no time trial scheduled attend:

- 2 training days per week
- Varsity or JV Meet

During weeks when a time trial is scheduled attend:

- At least 2 hours of Edina High School training time per week
- Time trial
- Varsity or JV meet

**If an athlete does not meet the minimum attendance requirements they will be ineligible for the week's race.**

USSA athletes must provide the coach a calendar showing their availability for practices and meets; the athletes calendar should also indicate planned school absences. Providing a calendar to the coach will help ensure an athlete does not receive an unexcused absence. Unless approved by the coach in advance, USSA racers will not forego an Edina High School time trial or meet to attend a USSA practice or event.