

Westwood Men's Lacrosse Varsity Letter Policy



Wearing a varsity letter is a significant honor for an athlete. A student sporting the Westwood “W” knows that his hard work, determination, dedication, and talents have earned him the opportunity to represent Westwood High School, the staff and faculty, the student body, the parent’s organization, the coaches, and the Westwood community in interscholastic competition. At first glance, the rules for obtaining a letter are simple. A player must:

1. Be a member of the varsity roster for 50% of the spring season (measured in weeks),
AND
2. Be academically eligible for the entire spring season,
OR
3. Be recognized by the coaching staff under “special circumstances” (e.g., a player who does not meet the criteria but who the coaches feel has had a significant impact on the squad and therefore warrants recognition).

These seemingly modest requirements are, in practice, very difficult to achieve. Our team goal is to compete for the division championship. To accomplish this aim, we play our best players. On our team, young men earn their playing time. Your head coach expects each player to work hard, to give his best effort every time he walks on a lacrosse field, to set the example for our younger players, and to represent his school with pride and decorum. A player’s individual efforts, integrity, commitment, and skills determine how much and how often he plays.

In some cases, a young man who would not otherwise qualify for a varsity letter clearly deserves recognition for his service to the team: for exceptional sportsmanship, dedication, teamwork, leadership. Sometimes those who make a team “work” are not our best game players. In addition, it is possible to have a player miss a significant part of the season and still be a key team asset deserving of a letter. The coaching staff reserves the right to award letters on a “special case” basis in these situations. That being said, a player who is academically ineligible for any grading period during the spring season is also ineligible for any Westwood Lacrosse team or club post-

season awards, and cannot be recommended by the Westwood coaching staff for District or State honors, excluding varsity letters.

Westwood lacrosse is about more than playing well and winning games. Sports teach about value, respect, school pride, team spirit, sportsmanship, self-esteem, desire, character, dignity, dedication, and success. Young men who wear the lacrosse “W” clearly exemplify these traits.

Last Revised on August 2015