

OPEN GYM

School coaches volunteer at time to supervise BVHS/BVMS Open Gym opportunities following SDHSAA regulations as well as BVHS Athletics Department philosophy and risk management procedures.

The SDHSAA holds local school administrators responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Open Gym Policy. Member schools may provide an open gym for students during the summer months and/or school year provided the following criteria is followed:

1. The local governing board has adopted an open gym policy that incorporates the SDHSAA guidelines as well as any other matter that would be germane to this type of activity.
2. This is a program whereby the gymnasium, playing field or other school facility is made available to all students for recreational purposes. Attendance must be on a voluntary basis.
3. Member schools may furnish specific equipment related to the open gymnasium activity such as balls, goals, standards, nets, mats, etc.
4. The time and day(s) of the open gym shall be made known to the student body by the administration in a timely manner, through announcements, bulletin board posting, school paper articles, etc. Local policy may designate certain schedules for girls only, boys only and by grade level.
5. Participants must furnish their own clothing such as sweatsuits, shorts, shoes, etc.
6. Supervision of open gyms shall be subject to local school board policy and must include but not be limited to the following:
 - a. The person in charge of supervising open gym may not coach. This restriction includes, but is not limited to, the teaching fundamentals for a specific sport. In this regard, organized practice sessions during open gyms are prohibited.
 - b. High school coaches may supervise open gyms.

Many students that choose to participate in open gym, however, are also involved in athletic programs. The BVHS Athletic Department believes that most student-athletes benefit from multi-sports participation, rather than sport specialization. Because open gym involves participation by both in-season and out-of-season student-athletes, open gym supervisors shall advise in-season to restrict their activities to the development of sport skills and techniques, rather than scrimmaging, to minimize the risk of injury that would prevent their participation in sports that are currently in-season. To ensure compliance with SDHSAA regulations and address concerns for legal liability, BVHS Open Gym shall only be supervised by members of the BVSD coaching staff.

(ADOPTION DATE: October 11, 2011)