

PITTSFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS (APP) PROCEDURES

The Pittsford Central School District is proud to offer its students a broad spectrum of potential athletic involvement beginning in seventh grade.

The purpose of the statewide Advanced Placement Process (APP) is to determine the level of physical fitness students have when compared to older athletes that will be competing in high school programs. If your son or daughter is seeking to be part of a junior varsity or varsity high school team, a fitness test, along with a physical examination, will determine whether the appropriate level of physical development has evolved in relation to similar levels of older students (tanner test). Students must pass all required parts in order to be eligible for a tryout and to ensure the safety of their participation.

This program is designed for the exceptional athlete in that the specific talent and conditioning level would need to be well above the level of the average for athletes of a similar age. It is not intended to help schools fill out high school rosters or give kids a head start for the sake of early involvement.

Parents can expect students to be asked to complete 5 parts of the test, regardless of the high school team they are seeking to join. Tests include Curl-ups, Shuttle run, V-sit or Sit & Reach, 1 Mile Run, and Pull-ups or Right Angle push-ups. Athletes may be given a second chance at part of the test where they are close enough to achieve the needed score. It is not possible for athletes to be given as many chances as they wish.

Parents are cautioned that even though an athlete may be physically ready, it does not mean that he/she may be emotionally or socially ready to handle the normal stress of competition, or have the ability to mix with older athletes. Even though coaches set the stage for assimilation of younger students into the team structure, the younger athletes must be comfortable within this environment. Should this not be a natural adjustment, it is recommended that the athlete remain at the district's modified level or wait until high school. This decision must be made during the first 3 to 5 days of upper level practice as required by state modified rules.

Checklist for Athletic Placement Process (APP)

1. The Pittsford Varsity coach is made aware of a student-athlete with exceptional skill in a specific sport by other coaches/physical education teachers and/or a recommendation from a coach familiar with their performance with an outside organization.
2. The Varsity coach contacts the Athletic Department with the recommendation for this process.
3. The Building Athletic Coordinators (BAC) at the middle school level email the recommended student-athlete's parent/guardian with registration information and fitness test dates.
4. The parent/guardian completes the registration process through the APP organization within the FamilyID site. The parent/guardian should be sure that all health related forms on file are current within FamilyID and that the APP parent permission form has been electronically signed. If there are questions/concerns regarding registration, parents/guardians are encouraged to contact FamilyID directly to resolve those issues.
5. On the date designated in the BAC's email, all student-athletes approved through FamilyID and the building health staff will take the APP fitness test (procedures and expectations are attached). The Athletic Director and/or the BACs will administer the test. Please note: if the student-athlete has passed the APP fitness test in a previous season, they will not be required to take it again.
6. Those student-athletes who have been medically approved and pass the fitness test will be notified by FamilyID and are eligible to try out for the team at the identified advanced level. In accordance to NYSPHSAA rules, the try out period can last no longer than three (3) days so the appropriate level for competition can be determined.

Any student-athlete who is recommended for the APP program but does not meet the State requirements is encouraged to participate at the modified level or if there is not one, to try another sports for that season. If you have any questions regarding the APP process, please contact the Athletic Director's office at 267-1062.



ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST: INSTRUCTIONS

Curl-ups

This activity measures abdominal strength and endurance.

Curl-ups Testing

Here's what you do:

- Have the student lie on a cushioned, clean surface with knees flexed and feet about 12 inches from buttocks. A partner holds the feet.
- Make sure the arms are crossed with hands placed on opposite shoulders and elbows held close to chest.
- Keeping this arm position, the student raises the trunk, curling up to touch elbows to thighs, and then lowers the back to the floor so that the scapulas (shoulder blades) touch the floor, for one curl-up.
- To start, a timer calls out the signal " Ready? Go!" and begins timing the student for one minute. The student stops on the word "Stop."

Curl-ups Tip

Instruct helpers to count aloud the number of repetitions.

Curl-ups Scoring

"Bouncing" off the floor is not permitted. The curl-up should be counted only if performed correctly.

Shuttle Run

This activity measures speed and agility.

Testing

Here's what you do:

- Mark two parallel lines 30 feet apart and place two blocks of wood or similar objects behind one of the lines.
- Student starts behind the opposite line. On the signal "Ready? Go!" the student runs to the blocks, picks one up, runs back to the starting line, places the block behind the line, runs back and picks up the second block, and runs back across the starting line.

Tips

Be sure the participants understand the importance of running through the finish line. Participants should perform this activity on a gym floor or other appropriate surface.

Scoring

Blocks should not be thrown across the lines. Scores are recorded to the nearest tenth of a second.

One Mile Run/Walk

This activity measures heart/lung endurance.

Testing

Here's what you do:

- On a safe, one-mile distance, students begin running on the count "Ready? Go!"
- Walking may be interspersed with running. However, the students should be encouraged to cover the distance in as short a time as possible.

Tips

Use a large enough running area so that no more than eight laps are necessary to complete a mile. Help participants learn proper pacing for the mile by having them run at the mile pace for short distances during warm-up time.

Scoring

Always review students' health status before administering this test. Give students ample instruction on how to pace themselves. Allow them to practice running this distance against time, as well as sufficient time for warming up and cooling down before and after the test. Times are recorded in minutes and seconds.

Pull-ups

This activity measures upper body strength and endurance.

Pull-ups Testing

Here's what you do:

- The student hangs from a horizontal bar at a height the student can hang from with arms fully extended and feet free from the floor, using either an overhand grip (palms facing away from body) or underhand grip (palms facing toward body). Small students may be lifted to the starting position.
- The student raises his/her body until chin clears the bar and then lowers his/her body to the full-hang starting position. The student performs as many correct pull-ups as possible.

Pull-ups Tips

Spend as little time hanging from the bar beforehand as possible because the extra time on the bar may reduce the number of pull-ups performed. Discourage any leg kicking or body swinging, as this may also decrease the number of repetitions.

Pull-ups Scoring

Pull-ups should be done in a smooth rather than jerky motion. Kicking or bending the legs is not permitted and the body must not swing during the movement.

Right Angle Push-ups Testing

Here's what you do:

- The student starts in push-up position, with hands under shoulders, arms straight, fingers pointed forward, and legs straight, parallel, and slightly apart (approximately 2-4 inches) with the toes supporting the feet.
- Keeping the back and knees straight, the student then lowers the body until there is a 90-degree angle formed at the elbows, with upper arms parallel to the floor. A partner holds her/his hands at the point of the 90-degree angle so that the student being tested goes down only until her/his shoulders touch the partner's hand, then back up.
- The push-ups are done to a metronome (or audio tape, clapping, drums) with one complete push-up every three seconds, and are continued until the student can do no more at the required pace. The student should remain in motion during the entire three second interval.

Right Angle Push-ups Tip

As with the pull-up, spend as little time in the starting position beforehand in order to increase the number of repetitions. Any extra movement may also decrease the number of repetitions.

Right Angle Push-ups Scoring

Record only those push-ups done with proper form and in rhythm.

Right Angle Push-ups Rationale

Right angle push-ups are a good indicator of the range of strength/endurance found in kids, whereas some kids are unable to do any pull-ups. Pull-ups remain an option for those students at higher levels of strength/endurance.

V-sit Reach

This activity measures flexibility of the lower back and hamstrings.

V-sit Reach Testing

Here's what you do:

- A straight line two feet long is marked on the floor as the baseline.
- A measuring line four feet long is drawn perpendicular to the midpoint of the baseline, extending two feet on each side and marked off in half-inches. The point where the baseline and measuring line intersect is the "0" point.
- Student removes his/her shoes and sits on floor with measuring line between his/her legs and the soles of his/her feet placed directly behind the baseline, with the heels 8-12 inches apart.
- With hands on top of each other, palms down, the student places them on measuring line.
- With the legs held flat by a partner, the student slowly reaches forward as far as possible, keeping fingers on the measuring line and feet flexed.
- After three practice tries, the student holds the fourth reach for three seconds while that distance is recorded.

V-sit Reach Tip

Participants are most flexible after a warm-up run. Best results may occur immediately after performing the endurance run.

V-sit Reach Rules

Legs must remain straight with soles of feet held perpendicular to the floor (feet flexed). Students should be encouraged to reach slowly rather than "bounce" while stretching. Scores, recorded to the nearest half inch, are read as plus scores for reaches beyond baseline, minus scores for reaches behind baseline.

Sit and Reach Testing

Here's what you do:

- You'll need a specially constructed box with a measuring scale marked in centimeters, with 23 centimeters at the level of the feet.
- The student removes shoes and sits on floor with knees fully extended, feet shoulder-width apart and soles of the feet held flat against the end of the box.
- With hands on top of each other, palms down, and legs held flat, student reaches along the measuring line as far as possible. After three practice reaches, the fourth reach is held while the distance is recorded.

Sit and Reach Tip

Participants are most flexible after a warm-up run. Best results may occur immediately after performing the endurance run.

Sit and Reach Rules

Legs must remain straight, soles of feet against box, and fingertips of both hands should reach evenly along the measuring line. Scores are recorded to the nearest centimeter.

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

Physical Fitness: Scores Required for the Athletic Placement Process

SEX	AGE	Curl-Ups # in one minute	Shuttle Run in seconds	Choose one ¹		1 Mile- Walk/Run min/sec*	Pull-Ups # completed	Right Angle Push-ups # every 3 sec.
				V-sit Reach in inches	Sit & Reach in centimeters			
Males	11	47	10.0	4.0	31	7:32	6	26
	12	50	9.8	4.0	31	7:11	7	30
	13	53	9.5	3.5	31	6:50	7	35
	14	56	9.1	4.5	33	6:26	10	37
	15	57	9.0	5.0	36	6:20	11	40
Females	11	42	10.5	6.5	34	9:02	3	19
	12	45	10.4	7.0	36	8:23	2	20
	13	46	10.2	7.0	38	8:13	2	21
	14	47	10.1	8.0	40	7:59	2	20
	15	48	10.0	8.0	43	8:08	2	20

*For swimming, see next page for alternative 500 yard swim scores.

¹ Upper body strength can be measured by performing pull-ups, or right angle push-ups.

² Flexibility can be measured by performing the V-sit Reach or the Sit and Reach

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

Physical Fitness Scores

Required for the Athletic Placement Process

SWIMMING

The swimming endurance component of the physical fitness test allows the athlete to choose which endurance test he/she prefers. It will be necessary to choose one: either the one mile run (see Appendix J) or the 500 yard swim.

SWIMMING TIMES REQUIRED FOR 500 YARD SWIM

BOYS

LEVEL	500 Yard Swim Time (min:sec)
Modified	9:15
Freshman	9:00
Junior Varsity	8:45
Varsity	8:30

GIRLS

LEVEL	500 Yard Swim Time (min:sec)
Modified	10:00
Freshman	9:45
Junior Varsity	9:30
Varsity	9:00