

BATAVIA HIGH SCHOOL INTRAMURAL PROGRAM STRESSED THIS TERM

Physical Fitness Plan Will be of Benefit to All Students Who Participate

(By ED MARSHALL, JR.)

The Physical Education Department of Batavia High School outlined one of the most comprehensive intramural sports programs in New York State, designed to affect as many students as possible and encourage both boys and girls to participate in athletics for their own benefit. The Intramural Credit System was revised this year to make it easier for participants to earn intramural "B's" and in doing so promote greater enthusiasm among members of the student body.

In the autumn of the past year, touch football was played by intramural-sponsored teams in a league for which credit was given in proportion to attendance. This activity was also carried on competitively between Home Rooms in both Junior and Senior High School during activity periods. Many teams were entered in both leagues with students enjoying and understanding the game to a fuller extent.

Intramural basketball offers the best example of a properly directed intramural sport. Over ten teams were entered in the league with games being played on the school court, one a week. Teams were entered by the Vocational School and the B.H.S. faculty as well as by students. Credit toward a "B" bearing the name Intramural, was likewise given for participation in this activity.

Softball teams were formed in the spring for an after school league as well as for the activity period league. Games were played during every free activity period and every day after school on the diamond adjoining the school. Softball was also played during noon hour periods with points being given in proportion to attendance.

Tumbling was also carried on during the winter months under the direction of Coach Van Delta. Approximately 25 boys turned out to learn many new stunts and formations. The sport is recommended as a good conditioner for varsity athletics.

Wrestling was directed by Mr. Spaulding who formed a club open to all interested. Instruction was given and matches were arranged with the Blind School Club. Exhibition matches were put on during the halves of the home basketball games to show the progress made by the members of the club.

Boxing was supervised on an even par with wrestling with exhibition matches presented during half-time of basketball games. Instruction was given by Mr. Winters to 7 members

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of the club both boxing and wrestling are destined to become interscholastic sports in the near future. Wrestling having made a step in that direction this year.

The Batavia High School Ski Club was formed as a division of the Batavia Ski Club both of which were started by Mr. DuBois. Approximately thirty students were present at the inaugural meeting. Emblems bearing the club's name were distributed to club members. Two excursions were made to Allegany State Park by the club during the past season. On each trip, 15 members enjoyed the skiing facilities of the park for week-end long periods. Similar journeys were planned for the coming season.

A new sport was inaugurated in B.H.S. in winter months of the 1941-42 school year. Mr. DuBois formed a club which worked the apparatus in the school gymnasium and was called the "Flying Rings" group. Boys were given detailed instruction by Mr. DuBois on the handling of the rings while in motion. Demonstrations of this type of sport were given by members of the club between halves of home varsity basketball tilts. Approximately ten boys were members of the club.

Program for Girls

In view of the fact that girls' athletics are limited to non-interscholastic competition, the intramural sports program fills a vital need in providing healthful and entertaining relaxation for girls.

Under the competent direction of Miss Britton, a Girls' Leaders Group was formed to aid in conducting gym and intramural classes as well as give practical training to members of the group. This group of 14 girls comprised the nucleus around which such activities as, field hockey and soccer were formed. Entrance into the group is open to all girls in high school.

Soccer and field hockey were played at the beginning of the school year by girls' teams in an after-school league.

Basketball was directed by Mrs. Dalrymple in an after-school league. The basketball season was climaxed by the traditional Yale-Princeton and Army-Navy games. These teams were composed of girls chosen from the after-school league in which eight teams participated. Team colors were made by the Girls' Service League and were worn by the respective fans. The games have become classics in feminine athletic circles, having been played for many years.

One of the most interesting and educational athletic activities for girls is the Terpsichorean Club. The club specializes in modern interpretive dancing which is taught by Miss Britton, the founder of the club. Second year members of the club composed an original dance called: "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," which was presented in Junior High Assembly. Ten girls were enrolled in the club which completed its year with the close of school.

Class tournaments were held in ping pong and shuffle board during the winter months while teams were organized in a volleyball league.

Leaders of girls' athletics in surrounding areas cooperated in holding "play days" on which teams of various schools competed in seasonal sports such as volleyball, basketball and bowling. Girls from B.H.S. participated in these events which were held in LeRoy, Medina and Elba. Similar events have been planned for the next school year.

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