

CHAMBERS ACADEMY ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

2025-2026

Coaching Staff
2024-2025

GIRLS ATHLETIC TEAMS

Girls Athletic Director- Jeff Hines

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL – Chuck Cooper

JUNIOR VARSITY VOLLEYBALL –Chuck Cooper

VARSITY BASKETBALL – Jeff Hines

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL – Jeff Hines

VARSITY SOFTBALL – Jeff Hines

JUNIOR VARSITY SOFTBALL –Jeff Hines

BOYS ATHLETIC TEAMS

Boys Athletic Director- Jason Allen

VARSITY FOOTBALL - Jason Allen

JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL- Jason Allen

PEE-WEE FOOTBALL - Jason Allen

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL- Jason Allen

VARSITY BASKETBALL - Jason Allen

JUNIOR VARSITY BASEBALL – Dillon Nessmith

VARSITY BASEBALL –Dillon Nessmith

ATHLETIC STATEMENT

This athletic handbook is designed to inform student athletes and their parents of the rules, regulations, and information that helped develop the rich tradition of competition in Chambers Academy Athletics. Participation in athletics is a privilege which carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility, and sacrifice. Since competition is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate shall be expected to follow the rules established by the Athletic Department and other specific coaches' rules for their sport. Each student athlete represents his/her school and student body. It is the student athlete's duty to conduct himself/herself in a manner becoming the student athlete, his/her family, and Chambers Academy.

While an attempt has been made to answer as many questions as possible and provide information on all aspects of athletic participation, it is possible that you may have some questions that are not answered here. Please contact the Headmaster and/or athletic director for additional information.

The Athletic Department will enforce all rules and regulations as described in this Athletic Handbook. Parents and athletes are asked to sign an acknowledgement document located at the end of this handbook stating that they have read and understand the information in the handbook and that the athlete is subject to disciplinary measures should he/she violate the rules and regulations set forth in this Athletic Handbook. Athletes cannot participate until this form is signed and returned to the coach/athletic director.

DEPARTMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

The goal of the Athletic Department is to provide the best opportunities for student athletes to excel in teamwork, sportsmanship, self-discipline, and character. In addition to developing skill in a sport, the purpose is to provide each participant with experiences that will be positive and memorable and that help develop the capacity for commitment to a cause, acceptance of responsibility, and loyalty toward any chosen endeavor.

AISA Rules of Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in AISA interscholastic athletic events, a student is subject to the following requirements:

I. Bona Fide Student

A. To qualify as a bona fide student of an AISA member school, an individual must be enrolled and in attendance for two full school days at grade level. To maintain the status, an individual must remain enrolled, sustain regular attendance and be assigned a typical class schedule which will allow normal progression toward graduation. When a student attends school for the third day, the student becomes a bona fide student.

1. If a student represents:

- a. That school in interscholastic competition before the official opening day of school, that student must meet the bona fide student criteria of that school on opening day;
- b. The member school in interscholastic competition prior to the official opening day but does not qualify as a bona fide student on the official opening day of school, any and all games played by the member school while that student was a participant will be forfeited to its opponents. That school will also be subject to further disciplinary action by the AISA.
- c. **Note:** Eligibility starts in the seventh grade.

I. Age Restriction

- A. A student is eligible for Junior High competition the entire year if his 16th
- B. Birthday falls **on or after August 1** and is enrolled in the 9th grade or below.
- C. Student-Athletes who will be **19 years of age prior to August 1** will be ineligible
- D. For AISA interscholastic athletics.

II. Academic Requirements

A. All student-athletes must meet the following minimum requirements at each grade level to be eligible for interscholastic athletics.

1. Seventh grade students must have passed the sixth grade the previous academic year, and have been promoted to the seventh grade.
2. Eighth grade students must have passed the seventh grade the previous academic year, and have been promoted to the eighth grade.

12

3. Ninth grade students must have passed the eighth grade the previous academic year, and have been promoted to the ninth grade.
4. Seventh and eighth grade students must pass five (5) subjects the first semester to be eligible for the second semester.
5. Tenth through twelfth grade students must have passed six (6) new Carnegie units during the previous academic year to be eligible for the first semester.
 - a) A minimum of four (4) core curriculum credits must be included in this requirement.
 - b) Ninth through twelfth grade students may earn and/or retain second semester eligibility by passing 3 new credits during the first semester of the current year.
 - c) A minimum of (1 1/2) core curricular credits must be included in this requirement.
 - d) If students do not meet AISA grade requirements at the end of the 1st semester, students may regain their eligibility for 2nd semester if all member school/AISA approved coursework is completed and in compliance with AISA grade requirements. **(A minimum of a 4-week course is required for eligibility purposes.)**
 - e) Verification is due in the AISA office no later than March 1st. If requirements are completed earlier, student athletes may participate upon verification of coursework by the AISA office. If students do not meet

requirements of this policy, they will continue to be ineligible for athletics for the remainder of 2nd semester.

- f) Students may not enroll in make-up coursework until the end of 1st semester as set on the school's calendar of events. **(A minimum of a 4-week course is required for eligibility purposes.)**

- g) Only AdvancED accredited courses/programs may be used.

- Note: Core curricular subjects include English, History, Math, and Science.

- Note: A student-athlete repeating any seventh or eighth grade will be ineligible (for 1 calendar year), regardless of the reason for repeating. Students in grades 9-12 will follow the AISA Academic requirements.

- Note: A senior student-athlete shall be exempt from "b" and "c" as stated above so long as they have already met the requirements for graduation as

13 stated in the AISA Accreditation Manual or the Alabama High School Graduation Requirements. Additionally, the student-athlete must be enrolled in the school and maintain regular attendance, for credit, in at least four courses during their senior year to maintain status as a full-time student.

Note: All student athletes transferring to an AISA member school will be given a one semester grace period to comply with AISA academic requirements for athletic eligibility providing they are athletically eligible in the system from which they transfer.

B. Explanation

1. Student-athletes in grades 9-12 may earn a unit of credit for each course which meets for 140 clock hours during the school year and is successfully completed. If the student fails one semester and passes one semester of a course, one-half unit of credit will be earned.

NOTE: Credit for courses not normally offered by AISA member schools and which are not clearly within the above definition must be approved by the AISA office for athletic eligibility purposes.

6. Courses taken in summer school shall be considered an extension of the school year and credits earned in summer school may be used in determining scholastic eligibility of students. Independent Study and tutorial type courses may not be used for athletic eligibility purposes. All summer school work and approved correspondence/on-line courses may be used for eligibility purposes but final grades must be in and recorded on student's transcript on the Monday prior to the AISA's third playing date for football. A student is allowed a maximum of two (2) units in summer school to establish eligibility for the fall semester. **(A minimum of a 4-week course is required for eligibility purposes.)**

7. Clarification: Summer school is defined as any coursework begun after end of 2nd semester (as stated on AISA calendar) and concluded by the deadline set by the AISA.

8. Only one (1) unit of credit may be earned for eligibility purposes when duplicate courses are taken during the same school year unless course(s) are scheduled for credit make up.

III. Time Limitations

IV. A student entering the ninth (9th) grade and meeting the bona fide student criteria will have a maximum of four (4) consecutive years of interscholastic athletic eligibility.

V.High school graduates are ineligible.

VI.Participation Requirements

14

2. Student athletes are ineligible if they have participated in athletics above the high school level. (This does not mean that a student cannot attend football and basketball camps and other summer camps that are sometimes held on college campuses and often instructed by college coaches.) Member schools cannot conduct such camps, unless sanctioned by the AISA.

3. Student-athletes cannot compete in a season in any sport at any school, public or independent, and then transfer to a member school and represent that school in the same sport during the school year.

VII.Required Forms

VIII.Before participating in athletics and/or cheerleading, a student must have a current physician's statement, concussion form, medical history form, certified Birth Certificate, a parent's permit to participate, and a medical treatment form on file in the administrator's and/or athletic director's office (includes pee wee).

IX.Amateur Status

X.A student must be an amateur to be eligible for AISA interscholastic competition. Amateur is defined as a person who engages in a study, sport, or other activity for pleasure rather than for financial benefit or professional reasons.

XI.Transfer Students

A. Student-athletes transferring to an AISA member school must have their current transcript on file in the administrator's office and be in compliance with all other stated eligibility requirements before participation in AISA interscholastic athletics.

NOTE: A transferring student-athlete will not be eligible in the AISA for one (1) calendar year if he/she cannot return or is not athletically eligible to return to the system/school from which he/she is transferring.

9. A student transferring to a member school is eligible for competition after a two week (10-week days) waiting period, provided he/she meets all other stated AISA eligibility requirements.

10. **NOTE:** Additions to sports eligibility list will not be allowed after the opening date of the sport season as listed on the AISA Calendar of Events.

11. A student in grades 7-12 who transfers from one member to another member school and whose parents' residence has not changed shall not be eligible for interscholastic competition at any level for one (1) year beginning with the date of withdrawal from the previous school or the date of his/her attendance at the school transferred to, whichever comes first.

12. A student may transfer from a member school to another member school at the end of sixth grade and be eligible. The student must be a bona-fide student and meet all academic eligibility requirements.

13. If a student athlete transfers to another AISA member school, the parents' residence must change to a location that is a minimum of 60 miles from the physical address of the school which he/she is transferring from, according to the shortest distance as measured by MapQuest (www.mapquest.com) and meet the additional bona fide move requirements stated in #10 of this section. Additionally, the parent,

or parents, must reside outside of the 60 miles for one (1) calendar year for the student-athlete to remain eligible.

14. A student enrolled in an AISA member school may transfer to a new school, in its first year of operation on a secondary level, and be eligible for junior high athletics only. This rule applies to students who live nearer (most direct route) to the new school. All other transfers must meet stated AISA transfer rules.

15. A student-athlete residing with a coach, administrator, teacher, school official or any non-custodial guardian will not be eligible for one (1) calendar year.

16. A student transferring from an AISA member school to a non-member school and transfers to another AISA school must have been officially withdrawn from previous member school for one (1) calendar year in order to be eligible to participate in athletics at that AISA member school. Furthermore, that student must also be eligible according to all the stated AISA rules prior to participating at the new AISA member school.

17. A transferring student-athlete may be eligible to compete in any sport at the school he/she transfers to if the school from which the transfer came does not offer competition in that sport.

18. Once school starts, a student athlete may not change schools and compete in the same sport at two different AISA schools within the same year.

19. The full-time professional employment of a student-athlete's parent(s) or guardian supersedes the AISA transfer policies so long as the following conditions have been met:

- a) The employee must have at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, be employed as an administrator, teacher or coach and meet the AISA Accreditation requirements for the assigned position(s).
- b) The employee must have been employed at a school (member or non-member) performing similar duties as assigned in the member school within the last twelve (12) months.

16

c) The employee must be full time and working a minimum of 30 hours per week as an administrator, teacher or coach.

d) The student-athlete is in good standing and eligible to return to his/her AISA member school.

20. Any student whose parents' residence has changed from one community to another is eligible for competition, providing the residence change meets ALL of the following criteria for a bona fide move:

- a. The family's household furniture and all personal belongings must be moved into an unoccupied house, apartment, or a dwelling. Documents substantiating the inhabitancy of a new dwelling must be available upon request.
- b. The entire family (all immediate dependents) must move to the new residence.
- c. The original residence must be closed, rented, or disposed of and not used by the moving family.

d. The parents' residence must change to a location that is a minimum of 60 miles from the physical address of the school which he/she is transferring from, according to the shortest distance as measured by MapQuest (www.mapquest.com). Additionally, the parent, or parents, must reside outside of the 60 miles for one (1) calendar year for the student-athlete to remain eligible.

e. The AISA office must be notified immediately in writing by the receiving school of any student-athlete transferring in from a member school.

f. The AISA office staff may personally visit and evaluate any move.

g. Eligibility approved on the compliance with the bona fide move criteria will be revoked immediately upon the families return to the dwelling from which they moved.

21. Boarding School Transfer: A student from a member school may transfer to a member boarding school and maintain eligibility. This procedure may be applied only one time during a student's four years of high school. A member boarding school student may transfer back to his/her home school and maintain eligibility if the transfer is made before school starts. This procedure may be applied only one time during a student's four years of high school. Other transfers must comply with all stated AISA transfer rules. This rule does not apply to day school students.

17

The following criteria must be met in order for an AISA member school to be classified as a boarding school:

d. The boarding school must have appropriate dormitory facilities that are school owned property to house, feed, and provide general living accommodations for the boarding students.

e. The boarding school must employ professionally trained supervisory personnel who are always on duty, including nights, weekends, and holidays.

f. A boarding student must spend at least an average of four (4) nights per week living and boarding on campus while school is in session.

g. The boarding school must meet all of the criteria listed herein and be approved as a boarding school through the AISA office prior to any athletic eligibility being established for boarding students.

h. All other eligibility requirements must be met prior to the establishment of athletic eligibility.

22. Student-athletes transferring from a home school and/or a non-traditional school program will be eligible for AISA interscholastic athletics if all AISA eligibility requirements have been met.

23. International Students: International students will have one (1) year of eligibility per sport in AISA interscholastic athletics providing: (a) they are assigned by an approved CSJET Foreign Exchange Program or reside with a parent or legal guardian, in accordance with AISA policies; and (b) they meet all AISA eligibility specifications. It is the responsibility of the head school administrator to ensure that all foreign education credentials have been properly evaluated for the purposes of athletic eligibility. The AISA recommends the professional foreign education credentialing services of Lisano International (www.lisano-intl.com), if the school does not have staff members qualified to properly evaluate the credentials. Note:

Only those international students meeting the criteria for a bona-fide move and in compliance with AISA legal custody policies will be considered for additional eligibility.

24. The eligibility of student-athletes enrolled at a member school that either closes or merges with another member school will be considered as follows:

a. If the school's secondary facility closes or merges, the school's student-athletes may transfer to any member school without loss of eligibility.

18

b. Student-athletes enrolled at the school selected to remain open in a merger are required to comply with stated AISA transfer policies.

15. TRANSFER RULES APPLY TO ALL STUDENT-ATHLETES IN GRADES 7-12.

XII. Legal Custody

XIII. The changing of legal custody, guardianship, process of adoption and legal separation will not establish athletic eligibility.

XIV. For the purposes of athletic eligibility, the AISA will consider the following:

a. Divorce: The eligibility of a student whose parents are divorced is determined by the following:

i. If there has been a divorce or a legal separation in a family and sole or physical custody has been awarded by the court granting the divorce, the athletic eligibility of the student will be established based on compliance with rule IX. 10. d. as stated in the AISA Athletic Handbook.

ii. If it becomes necessary later for the student to reside with the other parent, the move will be accepted as a bona fide move if the court that granted the divorce changes the custody to this parent. This type of move will be accepted for athletic eligibility purposes only one time and the student may only be eligible in the school where eligibility was previously established prior to the previous change of custody.

iii. If joint custody has been awarded or if the primary physical custodian did not meet the requirements set forth in rule IX. 10., d., as stated in the AISA Athletic Handbook, the student must attend the new school for one (1) calendar year before becoming eligible.

b. Ward of the State: If a student has been declared a "dependent of the state" and placed by the Department of Human Resources (DHR), that student must meet the Transfer Rule requirements as stated in the AISA Athletic Handbook.

c. Guardianship: Students residing with non-custodial parents, or guardians, may become eligible after one (1) calendar year at their transfer school.

25. Note: All matters related to legal custody are subject to review by the Athletic Committee prior to the establishment of athletic eligibility.

XV. Eligibility Lists

4. Each member school must have on file in the AISA office a **MASTER ELIGIBILITY LIST BY GRADE AND ALPHABETIZED**, listing all students enrolled in grades 7-12. Forms for this requirement will be provided by the AISA annually.

NOTE: Additions and/or deletions may be made on an annual or need basis.

5. Each member school's Sports Eligibility Master List must be on file in the AISA office at least ten (10) days prior to the opening of the fall sports season. There will be a \$250.00 fine for a late report. **Note:** A copy of a new student's transcript must accompany the New Students' List for AISA Sports Eligibility for each transfer student-athlete listed.

XVI. Birth Certificate

XVII. All student-athletes participating in interscholastic athletics must have a **CERTIFIED, STATE-NUMBER BIRTH CERTIFICATE** and **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER** on file in the Athletic Director's or Headmaster's office.

XVIII. Penalty

XIX. Any member school using an ineligible student-athlete in interscholastic competition will have all its wins while that individual was participating forfeited to its opponents. The ineligible player shall be dropped from the team, and the school will be fined a minimum of \$500.00. The school will be banned from post season play in the sport concerned if violation is deemed intentional. The school may be subject to further disciplinary action, if deemed necessary by the AISA State Office and the AISA Athletic Committee. No ineligible player is allowed to dress in uniform or participate in an AISA interscholastic event.

XX. Procedure Statement

XXI. **IF THERE IS A QUESTION ABOUT AN INDIVIDUAL'S ELIGIBILITY STATUS, HE OR SHE IS INELIGIBLE.**

XXII. If an athletic member school discontinues or does not sponsor a sports team (i.e., varsity Football, junior high basketball, etc.), a student may transfer to another member school and play on the sports team that the student's former school discontinues, or does not sponsor, as of the opening date of that sport's season, according to the AISA Calendar of Events. If a student transfers prior to the school's official discontinuation of a sports team, that student will be ineligible for one calendar year in their new school. All other eligibility and transfer rules apply for the transferred student.

XXIII. Reinstatement of Former Students returning to an AISA Member School:

XXIV. Student-athletes who have transferred to a non-member school may return to their original member school and become eligible immediately if the following conditions are met:

20

6. Student-athlete was on the AISA member school's eligibility list at the end of the prior school year.

7. Student must be on roll no later than the first Wednesday after the 2nd week of the regular AISA football season for first semester or the first Wednesday in January for second semester eligibility in accordance to the AISA Calendar of Events.

8. Student-athlete participation in the non-member school's sport practice or games prior to the above dates will not prohibit the student-athlete's participation at the AISA member school.
9. Student-athlete must meet all eligibility requirements and submit appropriate forms for approval to the AISA Athletic Director prior to participation.

Eligibility for athletes below 7th grade

In the past, Chambers Academy has allowed students in the 6th grade to participate in Jr High sports. This eligibility was allowed when teams did not have enough available participants in grades 7-9. A team may only allow 6th grade students to participate when a team does not have enough participants to field starters. Students in the 6th grade may be allowed to participate in athletics at the coaches' discretion.

Attendance Eligibility

Daily attendance at school and practice is expected. **For an athlete to be eligible to participate in any after-school activity he/she must be present in school on the day of the activity. If the activity is to be held on a Saturday, then the student must be in attendance in school on the preceding Friday. Allowable excuses must be a medical excuse from a doctor's office for appointment or coach approved.**

To be considered in school a student may be in school at least one-half of the school day. Students are required to be in school a minimum of 3 hours and 30 minutes on said day. If he/she is not in school from that time until the end of the school day, then he/she is not to participate or be involved in any way with the activity. Practice is considered an activity. Any exceptions must have the approval of the coach. An athlete must be in school on a regular basis to be eligible to participate in athletics. An athlete who accumulates an excessive number of absences or tardies as designated in the student handbook will be placed on probation for a specified time period. If absences continue during this time, the athlete will then be suspended from athletic participation until the attendance problem is resolved. An athlete who has excessive tardies to school and/or classes will be subject to restriction from athletic participation

AISA RULES OF ATHLETE CONDUCT:

Players:

- (a) First Ejection – a warning or reprimand and \$100 fine.
- (b) Second Ejection – a suspension for one game and \$250 fine.
- (c) Third Ejection – a suspension for the remainder of the season and \$500 fine
- Athletes who violate the AISA Rules of Athletic Conduct are also subject to other means of disciplinary action by Chambers Academy. These actions could result game suspensions or removal of a team. In the event of a student fine, Chambers Academy will pay and mail the fine to the AISA. The guardian or parents of the student-athlete will reimburse Chambers Academy for the payment.

Fan Ejections Policy - Below are spectator sanctions concerning ejections / unsportsmanlike behavior while attending an AISA athletic contest.

1. A \$300 fine and a 2 (two) game dates suspension for football • A \$300 fine and a 4 (four) game dates suspension for other sports • If less than the above minimum games remain, the fine will be \$500 in addition to the remaining game dates.
2. 2nd ejection: spectator is suspended until he/she meets with the Athletic Committee during the next scheduled meeting.

-Any ejection by a fan of Chambers Academy is subject to conference, and restriction of athletic events by headmaster and athletic directors.

-All fines are due to the AISA office within thirty (30) days. Schools are responsible for all fines levied.

CONDUCT ELIGIBILITY at CHAMBERS ACADEMY

Rule 1. Student athletes shall not possess, use, transmit, or be under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, and/or other drugs such as marijuana, controlled drug substances (hallucinogens, stimulants, depressants, or any other narcotic or controlled drug) or possess, use, or transmit paraphernalia for use of such substances. (Use of an authorized drug as prescribed by a registered physician will not constitute a violation.)

Consequence: A student violating the substance abuse rule, **on the first offense**, will be required to meet with the head coach and athletic director to evaluate the situation. The head coach must inform the athletic director of the situation and arrange a meeting to determine the consequences of the violation. With approval of the athletic director, the head coach will administer appropriate penalty.

A student violating the substance abuse rule, **on the second offense**, will be placed on suspension from athletic competition for a minimum of two weeks or 25% of their scheduled contest playing dates for the season, whichever is greater, and may be required to complete a professional drug assessment. Circumstances may warrant a longer suspension. Any **succeeding offense** may result in permanent dismissal from athletics.

Rule 2. Violation of school rules, disruptive behavior, showing disrespect toward school staff, unsportsmanlike conduct, and/or committing any act that reflects negatively on the Athletic Department will not be tolerated and such action(s) will lead to eligibility restrictions. If the behavior is serious enough, the athlete may be placed on probation or suspended. An athlete who continues such behavior will be suspended from all athletic participation.

Student Athletes are expected to leave situations immediately where drugs and/or alcohol are being used. Failure to do so implies guilt and violators will be dealt with accordingly.

Rule 3. Specific team rules may be set forth by the coach of each sport. These rules and the penalties for breaking them will be given to the student athletes by the coach at the first parent/athlete meeting of that sport.

The rules under this section are enforced twelve (12) months of the year, grades seven through twelve (7-12).

A student who is uncooperative, i.e., sleeps in class, disrupts, refuses to complete work, etc., will be considered a discipline problem which could result in suspension from athletic competition and/or removal from athletics as possible punitive options.

AWARDS

An athletic award is a symbol of athletic accomplishment, good sportsmanship, and observance of athletic policies. Student athletes, managers and cheerleaders are eligible to earn awards. Candidates must complete the season's play; however, this requirement may be waived in cases of physical injury. **No awards will be issued to an athlete until all equipment for his/her sport is turned in to the coach.**

Changing a Sport/Quitting a Team

A student athlete cannot quit one sport to join another sport until that sport season is concluded. For example, one cannot quit football to go out for basketball until football season is completed. However, athletes will be allowed to transfer from one sport to another during a given season upon mutual agreement of both coaches. Appeal can be made to the athletic director if circumstances warrant consideration.

If an athlete at the high school level quits a sport, they may not practice or play another sport until the season of the sport they quit is completed, including playoffs.

If the student athlete leaves the team, the following procedure must be followed

1. The student athlete must talk with his or her coach, head coach of the sport, and athletic director.
2. The student athlete must return all equipment issued.

Conflicts Between Activities

Students are sometimes involved in concurrent activities, and there may be conflicts in schedules. Communication between coaches and sponsors of conflicting activities is vital. Consideration must be given to the importance of the event and the role the student athlete will play in it.

Doctor Visits

Medical expenses are the responsibility of the athlete/family. Written verification from the doctor is required when a physician removes an athlete from practices or games. Written verification from the doctor is required to return to athletic competition.

SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES:

Student-athletes are responsible for information contained in written or electronic transmissions (e.g., e-mail) and any information posted on a public domain (e.g., internet, chat room, blogs, Face book, You Tube, My Space). Inappropriate or embarrassing information or pictures should

not be posted in any public domain. Student-athletes are not precluded from participation in such online social networks; however, student-athletes should be reminded that they serve as representatives of their team, the athletic program, and Chambers Academy.

Texting, tweeting and uses of other social networks to disparage or criticize the team, other students, opponents, coaches, or other school personnel is inappropriate behavior and unbecoming of a Chambers Academy student-athlete. Any individual identified on a social networking site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior, due to the Honor Code or other policy, will be considered in violation and subject to athletic discipline or suspension per policy guidelines.

Transportation

Transportation to athletic events is provided by the Athletic Department when appropriate. Parents may be called upon, at times, to help transport athletes to a contest. Parents should see the coach or the Athletic Director for a permission form to transport students in privately owned vehicles.

Parent Pickup

A coach or designated adult will remain with athletes until all are picked up after practices and games. Please respect the time of our coaches by picking up your student-athlete immediately following practices and/or games. If you are not able to transport your student-athlete home, please make other arrangements prior to the event.

The Parent/Coach Relationship

Parents should discuss any concerns they may have about their student-athletes emotional or physical status. Parents should also request from the coach any information about ways the athlete might improve his or her performance.

Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe is best for the team and all student-athletes involved. Sometimes it is difficult to accept that a student is not playing as much as he or she or the parent desires. However, the judgment and authority of the coach to make decisions regarding playing time must be respected. It is also not appropriate for a parent to question or challenge a coach's decisions regarding play calling or strategy. It is never appropriate for a parent to discuss with a coach the status of another student-athlete.

There are situations that require a conference between the coach and the parent. These meetings are encouraged. If a parent has a concern and would like to discuss it, he or she should call to schedule an appointment with the coach. If the coach cannot be reached, please feel free to call the athletic director to arrange a meeting for you. If a parent has an unresolved concern and would like to discuss it further, he or she should call to schedule an appointment with the athletic director.

When a student athlete begins a sport, we ask that they fulfill their obligation to themselves and their teammates by finishing the season. Before a parent decides to remove their child from a team during the season for any length of time due to grades, discipline, or any other reason, please schedule a conference with the coach and athletic director in advance to go over the impact that will be created. Many situations may be avoided if effective communication has taken place prior to removing a child from the team.

Athletic Lines of Communication

As students become involved in athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand at times students may experience disappointment and frustrations. At these times, student-initiated discussions with the coach are recommended and encouraged. Parent involvement should be secondary but if it is necessary, the following steps should be taken:

The first step is talking to the coach directly about the concern. Make an appointment with the coach. Never approach the coach immediately after a game unless the coach requests this.

If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic director to set up a meeting with the appropriate coach.

If the meeting with the coach does not result in resolution of the problem, call, and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director.

