



Empowering Future Leaders Through Athletics

STUDENT-ATHLETE/PARENT MANUAL



STUDENT ATHLETE & PARENT MANUAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
a. Mission	
b. Vision	
GENERAL INFORMATION	4-5
a. CPS High Schools & Junior High Schools	
b. Sports Offerings	
c. District Athletics Directory	
d. Important Links	
REQUIRED ATHLETIC FORMS	6
a. Online Final Forms	
ELIGIBILITY	7-11
a. Academic And Athletic Accountability Pathway (AAA Pathway)	
b. OHSAA/CPS Academic Standards	
c. Non-Enrolled/Non-Traditional Student-Athletes	
d. Transfer/Change of Program	
e. Physical Education Requirement	
f. Recruiting	
g. Changing Sports	
h. Attendance	
i. Equipment	
ATHLETIC INJURY GUIDELINES	11-12
a. Injury/Return to Play Protocol	
b. Concussion Protocol	
c. Athletic Trainer Support	
FAMILY/SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS	12-13
a. Purchasing Tickets	
b. Code of Conduct	
c. Chain of Command	
STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT	14-18
a. Responsibilities as a Student	
b. Responsibilities as an Athlete	
c. Leadership & Sportsmanship	
d. Responsibilities as a Community Member	
e. Hazing/Bullying	
f. Keys to Success	

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the athletics team of the Cincinnati Public Schools. We hope that your experience as a student athlete in our schools is a rewarding one. The Athletic Department stands ready to assist you and your school in any way possible to help provide the material and personal support necessary to conduct a successful program.

The purpose of this manual is to provide you with the important elements associated with being a student athlete/parent in this school district. You are advised to read it carefully so that there will be no confusion or misunderstanding regarding the responsibilities and expectations as a student-athlete/parent.

It should be understood by the student-athletes and their parents or guardians that it is a privilege, not a right, to participate in the interscholastic athletic program sponsored by the Cincinnati Public Schools. An important condition of a successful implementation of our district-wide extracurricular athletic program is a commitment by the school administration, coaches, team members and parents and guardians to carefully follow the rules, regulations, policies and procedures established by the school district as well as those rules established by individual coaches governing conduct on their specific team. It must also be clearly understood that student-athletes/parents or coaches who violate the rules, regulations, policies and procedures outlined in this manual shall be held accountable and face appropriate disciplinary action.

CPS ATHLETICS MISSION

Our core business is improving overall student academic achievement district-wide by providing a comprehensive program of school-sponsored extracurricular activities administered by committed, competent and caring coaches, advisors and sponsors. Our mission is complete customer satisfaction.

CPS ATHLETICS VISION

CPS Athletics will be a vehicle for transforming youth's lives through athletic participation. Our department will remain organized, driven and dedicated to our mission of academic and athletic accountability. We will exemplify leadership qualities to educate our students, staff and parents toward a better tomorrow.

SCHOOLS

Academy Of Multilingual Immersion Studies
Preschool-8th Grade
1908 Seymour Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45237

Academy of World Languages
Preschool-8th Grade
2030 Fairfax Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45207

Aiken High School
7th-12th Grade
5641 Belmont Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45224

Clark Montessori
7th-12 Grade
3030 Erie Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45208

Hartwell School
2nd-8th Grade
8320 Vine St, Cincinnati, OH 45216

Hughes High School
7th-12th Grade
2515 Clifton Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45219

James N. Gamble Montessori
7th-12th Grade
3036 Werk Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45211

Oyler School
Preschool-12th Grade
2121 Hatmaker St, Cincinnati, OH 45204

Riverview East Academy
PreK-12th Grade
3555 Kellogg Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45226

Robert A Taft High School
7th-12th Grade
420 Ezzard Charles Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45214

Roberts Academy
Preschool-8th Grade
1702 Grand Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45214

Roselawn Condon School
Preschool-8th Grade
1594 Summit Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45237

Saylor Park School
Preschool-8th Grade
6700 Home City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45233

School for Creative & Performing Arts
K-12th Grade
108 W. Central Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Shroder High School
7th-12th Grade
5030 Duck Creek Rd, Cincinnati, OH

Spencer Center
3rd-12th Grade
2825 Alms Pl, Cincinnati, OH 45206

Walnut Hills High School
7th-12th Grade
3250 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207

Western Hills High School
7th-12th Grade
2144 Ferguson Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45238

Withrow High School
7th-12th Grade
2488 Madison Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45208

Woodward High School
7th-12th Grade
7005 Reading Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45237

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cincinnati Public Schools offers athletics at 14 different high schools and six separate junior high schools, each with their own athletic departments and athletic directors. CPS Athletics also offers athletics at the elementary level.

[Click here to view sports offerings at all schools.](#)

[Click here to view a directory for high school athletic directors.](#)

IMPORTANT LINKS

CPS ATHLETICS WEBPAGE

<https://www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics>

- Athletics Alerts & Memos
- Student-Athlete Code of Conduct
- Required Documents for Participation in Athletics
 - Important Contacts
 - Tickets for Athletic Events
- Special Events Information
 - Athletics Media
 - Additional Resources

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

<https://www.ohsaa.org/>

- Sport Specific Information
- Season Start/End Dates
- OHSAA Sport Bylaws
- OHSAA Change of Program Bylaws
- Information on Eligibility
- Concussion Policy/Additional Injury Information

FINAL FORMS

<https://cps-oh.finalforms.com/>

- Complete/submit required forms for athletic participation

NCAA

<https://www.ncaa.org/>

AAA PATHWAY MANUAL

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1R63by3hM_U5qR3YFWI2a-Zjpbq-h03ptR/view

CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

<https://www.cps-k12.org/schools/policies-guidelines/discipline/code-of-conduct>

CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS NON-ENROLLED/TRANSFER GUIDE

https://www.cps-k12.org/sites/www.cps-k12.org/files/images/ATH_CPS_Transfer_Guide_2020_0.pdf

PURCHASE TICKETS

<https://www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics/tickets>

REQUIRED FORMS FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

ONLINE REGISTRATION–FINAL FORMS

All student athletes will be required to complete online registration for each sport or extracurricular activity that they participate in for the school year. Each of the forms below, excluding the physical form will be consented to online when you register. Both legal guardians and students will need to complete and sign their portion of all required forms.

Final Forms Sign In
Final Forms Parent Playbook

OHSAA PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL FORM & OHSAA AUTHORIZATION FORM

The Pre-Participation Physical Form is required before any participation in an official try-out, practice, or contest. Eligibility requirements for participating in athletic programs must conform to regulations of the OHSAA. Requirements include that a student has the written permission of his/her legal guardian and shall have been determined as physically fit for the chosen sport by a licensed physician. All six pages of this document need to be filled out completely where applicable the physician must sign and date the form. Completed physical forms are turned into the head coach or the Athletic Department prior to participating in any official try-out or practice. Please make a copy for your records prior to turning into the Athletic Department. Participation physicals are good for one full calendar year.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORM

Emergency medical information will be collected when you register your student-athlete online. The form is required to be consented to throughout the online registration process as proof of medical insurance coverage. Checking off on this form gives consent to Cincinnati Public School to act reasonably in the event of an emergency. The form also provides proof of personal medical insurance. All students participating in athletics must be covered by insurance.

LIABILITY FORM

The liability form will be consented to during online registration and is required to release the Cincinnati Public Schools of all liability for injuries while participating in athletics. This also serves as the warning and consent that the student athlete and the legal guardian have been warned and advised that serious injuries, even death, could occur while playing on an athletic team in Cincinnati Public Schools and the school district cannot be held liable for those instances. There are separate liability forms for 7/8 grade students and 9-12 grade students.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONCUSSION INFORMATION FORM

The concussion information form must be read, signed and submitted by student-athletes and their parent/legal guardian. This form is used to educate about the signs and symptoms of a concussion from the perspective of the student and the legal guardian. In addition, this form explains the risks of returning to play too soon after concussion injuries. All stakeholders must acknowledge receiving the form and understanding its content before participating in athletics.

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST FORM (LINDSAY'S LAW)

Parents/legal guardians and student-athletes must read, sign and submit the Ohio Department of Health's Sudden Cardiac Arrest information form prior to the start of each season. This document explains sudden cardiac arrest, its symptoms, warning signs and return to play process.

ELIGIBILITY

Cincinnati Public Schools recognizes the value of interscholastic extracurricular activities for students in grades 7-12 as an integral part of the total school experience. Since participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, students are expected to strive for excellence and perform satisfactory or better in the classroom as a condition of participation. Interscholastic extracurricular activities are defined as school-sponsored student activities involving more than one school or school district.

It is highly encouraged for all student-athletes to review the Important Information on Sports Eligibility form from the district athletics office or their school on an annual basis, which can be found on the district athletics website.

ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC ACCOUNTABILITY PATHWAY

The AAA Pathway is a comprehensive program for student-athletes focused on academic and athletic accountability. This program seeks to support student-athletes with resources to achieve academic success, leadership opportunities (through Student-Athlete Leadership Teams and CPS Athletics Advisory Council), holistic support (through strength & conditioning, mental health and nutrition resources), and district support of AAA coaches, athletic coaches and athletic administrators.

During all seasons of participation, student-athletes' grades will be checked weekly. Any student receiving receiving 2 Ds will meet with a AAA Pathway coach. If they do not meet with the AAA Pathway coach and adhere to the guidelines put in place, he/she will be subject to loss of playing time and subject to intervention until passing.

WHO IS A PART OF THE AAA PATHWAY?

Each student-athlete grades 7-12 is a part of the AAA Pathway and has access to all resources offered through the program. Each school has at least one designated staff member who supports academic development for student-athletes. These AAA coaches check in-season student-athletes' grades on a weekly basis, schedule meetings with students to provide additional academic support/intervention, keep students on track with eligibility and provide mentoring and personal-development resources. These advisors are also in contact with coaches and athletic administrators on a weekly basis to share their team's academic progress and provide support as needed.

Athletic coaches are responsible for providing a study table two times (minimum) per week for student-athletes to complete homework, meet with teachers and work on personal-development lessons if academic work is completed.

Principals are also involved in AAA Pathway and work with the Athletic Director to create equitable and standardized plans for students academically at-risk week over week. These plans are made to holistically support a student's success and never used with a mindset of punishment.

HOW CAN OUR FAMILY SUPPORT THE AAA PATHWAY?

Families of student-athletes can support this initiative by emphasizing the importance of academic success, supporting personal development and taking an active role in post-secondary planning. In addition, families are encouraged to participate in districtwide enrichment such as Facebook Live sessions or other workshops focused on academic achievement and preparation for post-high school opportunities.

[Click here for AAA Pathway manual](#)

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION STANDARDS (9-12 GRADE)

Students participating in any program regulated by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) must also comply with all eligibility requirements established by the Association. In order to be eligible, a high school student must have passed a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent in the immediately preceding grading period. The five courses may be a combination of high school and college courses - ask your AAA Pathway coach and Athletic Director if you're eligible. Eligibility or ineligibility is based solely on quarterly grades from the immediately preceding grading period. Semester, final, rubric, "fifth quarter", or summer school grades have no effect on establishing eligibility.

FIRST QUARTER OF 9TH GRADE

Students entering the ninth grade for the first time may participate in extracurricular activities for the first quarter of the school year provided that they were enrolled in school during the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades. After the first quarter, continued eligibility will be determined by the criteria outlined above pertaining to all high school students.

JUNIOR HIGH (7/8 GRADE)

Incoming seventh graders are deemed academically eligible for all sports for the first academic quarter of the school year. All other student-athletes participating in athletics during any academic quarter must be enrolled in school and receive a passing grade in at least five of those subjects in which the student received grades during the immediately preceding grading period. There is no provision for academic probation for students who do not meet the minimum requirements for academic eligibility during their 7th & 8th grade years. Student eligibility will be established for each of the four quarterly grading periods during the school year. Summer school grades can not be used to determine eligibility.

NON-ENROLLED STUDENTS

Students who attend a community, stem, non-public school or are home schooled may have a participation opportunity at the public school located in the district where they reside. A student who attends a non-public school in Ohio, whose parents reside in Ohio, shall have a participation opportunity - not a guarantee – at the public school the student is entitled to attend pursuant to ORC 3313.64 or 3313.65. A student who attends a non-public school may also have a participation opportunity at the public school located in the school district in which the non-public school is located (if different than the residential district) subject to the mutual agreement between the superintendent of the school district in which the student is entitled to attend and the superintendent of the school district in which the student is seeking to participate.

This participation opportunity applies **ONLY** if his/her non-public school does not sponsor the specific sport. The student must be eligible in all other aspects (scholarship, age, transfer, semesters, etc.). If the public school in either the parents' district of residence or in the district where the non-public school is located does not offer the sport, then the student simply has no participation opportunity. Students who live in a multiple high school district, like CPS, must compete at the school closest to the residence of the parents/guardian.

CPS students who attend a district school that offers any OHSAA sanctioned sports **CAN NOT** participate in athletics for any other school.

[Click here to find more information/required documents for non-enrolled student-athletes](#)

TRANSFERS

Students who change high schools (transfer) are reminded that they must meet all eligibility standards found in Bylaw 4 of the Ohio High School Athletic Association Handbook.

A student is considered to have transferred whenever

- a.) enrollment is changed from one school to another school and the student attends a new school
- b.) enrollment is changed from one school to become home schooled
- c.) the student participates in a practice, scrimmage or contest with a school-sponsored squad of a school in which the student has not been enrolled and attending
- d.) the participation opportunities afforded a student pursuant to state law change

[Click here to view the Transfer Bylaw Resource Center](#)

[-transfer bylaw guidance](#)

[-transfer bylaw flow chart](#)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

In the State of Ohio, students are required to complete one-half unit of physical education for graduation. One-half unit requires a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction. In The Cincinnati Public School District, this graduation requirement is met by student completion of two semester courses, each worth a quarter credit.

EXEMPTION TO THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Students in Cincinnati Public School District who are in grades 9-12 and who successfully complete two full seasons of interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading may be excused from the high school physical education graduation requirement. The "two full season" requirement may be completed within a single school year. According to Ohio Revised Code, Boards of Education may NOT provide for partial completion of the high school physical education requirement. Therefore, the one-half unit requirement cannot be partially exempted.

RECRUITING

Coaches may not under any circumstance recruit students from other 7th-12th grade schools. Note, 9th-12th grade coaches can actively recruit the 7th & 8th grade students in their same school building. There are no rules as it pertains to K-6th grade schools. All 7-12 grade student athletes that attend a particular high school must reach out directly to an Athletic Director if they so choose to change their enrollment. All coaches must be completely hands off in this process until a transfer becomes official. Consequences for breaching this policy to be determined by the District Athletics Manager and the Ohio High School Athletics Association. For any further clarification, make sure you talk to your school's Athletic Director.

CHANGING SPORTS

Before the first scheduled game:

An athlete who drops out of a sport before the first scheduled game will be allowed to join another team with the permission of the coach of the team being joined. Communications between both coaches should occur so there is understanding of the reason for change and so that all obligations toward the original team are discharged.

After the first scheduled game:

An athlete who drops out of a sport after the first scheduled game would be allowed to join another team only with the complete agreement and permission of both coaches as coordinated by the Athletic Director. This restriction can also include conditioning workouts for the next sport's season that the athlete may be interested in joining.

ATTENDANCE

Regular and prompt attendance to all athletic activities, that the student is currently participating in, is necessary for the following reasons:

1. It is vital for safety to the individual in terms of conditioning, strength development and the treatment of injuries.
2. It develops sound habits and discipline.
3. It is vital for team morale.
4. It is vital for continuity in the program in terms of player development and enhancement of the learning process.

In addition, students not attending at least three classes during the day of a scheduled activity will not be allowed to participate in any athletic function during that day unless granted approval by the District Athletics Manager. This includes both excused and unexcused absences.

VALID ABSENCE REASONS

1. Illness – verified by:

- a) doctor's note*
- b) Parent contact/coach approval

*If you are under a physician's care or saw a physician due to an injury, you **MUST** have a written release from the doctor in order to return to practice/games/contests. A verbal release from the doctor is **NOT** acceptable.

2. Death in family or close friend – verified by:

- a) Responsible adult contact
- b) Coaches' awareness

3. Parental needs – verified by:

- a) Parent contact (vacation, religious holidays, needed at home, etc.)
- b) It is to be expected that parents, knowing the time demands and schedule of a sport, will cooperate in keeping these types of absences to a minimum.

4. School related activities, field trips, campus visitations, etc. - verified by:

- a) Responsible adult contact
- b) Coaches' awareness

5. Unusual circumstances or events beyond the control of the student.

a) Validity of such absences will be determined by the principal of that school or the athletic director. This includes practices as well as games. Absences other than the aforementioned are considered invalid and unexcused. Coaches should always refer to their team rules.

EQUIPMENT

An athlete assumes the responsibility of returning issued equipment in reasonably good condition upon request by the coach.

The following procedures can be put into effect should the equipment not be returned:

- a) A bill from either the coach or the athletic department can be presented to the athlete and/or parents
- b) Athletes owing either money or equipment will not be allowed to participate in other sports until their obligation is paid.
- c) If at the end of their athletic career at Cincinnati Public Schools the athlete still owes money or equipment, a copy of the obligation may be attached and become a part of that person's permanent record until such debt is paid. Athletes are subject to not receiving end of the season awards, and/or diplomas if there is an obligation attached to them.

INJURY/RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES

Athletes are to first report practice injuries to the coach and then to the athletic trainer. All injuries and health concerns must be reported to the athletic trainer. Medical referral will be coordinated through the training staff.

In the absence of the trainer, the first aid & health/safety certified coach will initiate early first aid care. The coach will notify the trainer of all injuries.

A team physician whose specialty is sports medicine and sports injuries is available for athletes to be referred to.

Injured athletes are expected to continue attendance to practice and games during the treatment and recovery period. All athletes missing practices or games due to injury or illness must notify the coach directly prior to that practice or game.

Parents are encouraged to contact the athletic training staff regarding any questions or concerns relating to their child's injury and care.

Written release from a physician must be provided before the athlete is to return to play. Any athlete who has been denied participation by a physician will not be permitted to practice or play in a game/event until a physician's release has been granted in writing. The Board of Education contracts Athletic Trainer has the authority to deny participation to an injured athlete. A coach, parent, or athlete cannot override a physician's or the Athletic Trainer's denial of participation for injury.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

Ohio Department of Health Concussion Information Sheet for Interscholastic Athletics (see cps athletics web page for updated form)

The concussion information form must be read, signed and submitted by student-athletes and their parent/legal guardian. This form is used to educate about the signs and symptoms of a concussion from the perspective of the student and the legal guardian. In addition, this form explains the risks of returning to play too soon after concussion injuries. All stakeholders must acknowledge receiving the form and understanding its content before participating in athletics.

OHSAA CONCUSSION POLICY

1. Returning to play is specific for each person, depending on the sport. Ohio law requires written permission from an incident-specific, district-approved health care provider before an athlete can return to play. Follow instructions and guidance provided by a health care professional. It is important that you, your child and your child's coach follow these instructions carefully.
2. Your child should NEVER return to play if he/she still has ANY symptoms. (Be sure that your child does not have any symptoms at rest and while doing any physical activity and/or activities that require a lot of thinking or concentration).
3. Be sure that the athletic trainer, coach and physical education teachers are aware of your child's injury and symptoms.
4. Your athlete should complete a step-by-step exercise-based progression, under the direction of a qualified healthcare professional.
5. A sample activity progression is listed below. Generally, each step should take no less than 24 hours so that your child's full recovery would take about one week once they have no symptoms at rest and with moderate exercise.

The contracted training staff for Cincinnati Public Schools Athletics has a required protocol that they must follow.

Step 1: Low levels of non-contact physical activity provided NO SYMPTOMS return during or after activity. (Examples: walking, light jogging, and easy stationary biking for 20-30 minutes).

Step 2: Moderate, non-contact physical activity, provided NO SYMPTOMS return during or after activity. (Examples: moderate jogging, brief sprint running, moderate stationary biking, light calisthenics, and sport-specific drills without contact or collisions for 30-45 minutes).

Step 3: Heavy, non-contact physical activity, provided NO SYMPTOMS return during or after activity. (Examples: extensive sprint running, high intensity stationary biking, resistance exercise with machines and free weights, more intense non-contact sports specific drills, agility training and jumping drills for 45-60 minutes).

Step 4: Full contact in controlled practice or scrimmage.

Step 5: Full contact in game play. *If any symptoms occur, the athlete should drop back to the previous step and try to progress again after a 24 hour rest period. www.healthyohioprogram.org/concussion

SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS PURCHASING TICKETS

Tickets for all high school athletic events/contests can be purchased online through HomeTown Ticketing. Some schools may use cash upon entry for lower-level events but all varsity level tickets must be purchased online and prior to entering a facility. You can find out more information about your schools schedule and ticket sales process through the athletic director.

All CPS athletic events will have purchasable tickets through the district athletics website.

<https://www.cps-k12.org/schools/athletics/tickets>

SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board of Education of Cincinnati Public Schools believes that teaching children lessons of good sportsmanship is one of the most important aspects of sponsoring interscholastic athletics and extra-curricular activities. Good sportsmanship includes winning and losing gracefully, playing fair and according to the rules, and respecting teammates, opponents, and officials. Cincinnati Public Schools promotes good sportsmanship in all interscholastic athletic and extracurricular events (e.g., band, mock trial, academic

competitions, etc.). Good sportsmanship is an essential part of any athletic competition or extra-curricular event and is expected from participants, adult coordinators and coaches, officials, and spectators. As a spectator (student or adult) of Cincinnati Public Schools we want you to be an example of positive encouragement while supporting our student athletes and participants. Our behavior should be positive, respectful and encouraging of the athletes and participants, adult coordinators and coaches, officials, and the game, activity or event.

Failure to follow this Spectator Code of Conduct may result in your immediate removal from the event and the following:

First Offense: The spectator will schedule a meeting with the athletic director or principal with resulting action that may include removal from the next two home athletic contests or events. A letter will be sent by the athletic director and principal to the spectator in question confirming the dates of removal.

Second Offense: The spectator will be removed from all home athletic contests or events and other school activities for the remainder of the school year of the infraction. A letter confirming the removal will be sent from the Principal notifying the spectator of the dates of the removal.

Third Offense: The spectator will be removed from all home Cincinnati Public Schools District athletic contests and other school events and activities for the remainder of the school year of infraction and potentially the following year. A letter confirming the removal will be sent from the District Athletic Manager and/or the Office of General Counsel. Any athletic or event official, including but not limited to, contest officials, the athletic director or activities coordinator, principal, assistant principals, police officers, security, site supervisors and anyone else in an administrative role on the site, may uphold enforcement of an ejection. While the Spectator Code of Conduct encompasses behavior expectations and consequences for both student and adult spectators, Cincinnati Public Schools administrators may apply further consequences to a student ejected from a contest due to the student violating the CPS Code of Conduct.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

To handle any conflicts or incidents, please connect with the appropriate people as listed below. If there is no resolution to the incident/conflict, continue through the proper chain of command.

1. Coach & Athlete
2. Coach & Athlete add Parent
3. Parent, Coach, & Athlete add Athletic Director
4. Athletic Director, Parent, Coach & Athlete add Principal
5. Principal, Athletic Director, Parent, Coach & Athlete add District Athletics Manager

★ STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT ★

The Student-Athlete Code of Conduct explains the responsibilities of student athletes and serves as a guide for their conduct. If there are questions about this Code of Conduct or other policies of Cincinnati Public Schools, students should consult with their coaches, or school or district administrators.

★ RESPONSIBILITIES AS A STUDENT ★

Your responsibility as a student in Cincinnati Public Schools is to make progress toward a high school diploma.

Your primary goal as a student is to obtain an education and earn a highschool diploma. While time commitments are demanding during your athletic season, you should never lose sight of the goal of completing the requirements needed to graduate. After graduation, we want you to be proud of your academic achievements, which will allow you to pursue a college education, enlist in the military or begin a satisfying career.

To carry out your responsibilities as a student, you must:

Maintain quarterly academic eligibility.

- ★ To participate in athletics, you must have passing grades from the previous academic quarter in a minimum of five one-credit equivalent courses that count toward graduation and must maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA).*
- ★ Students with a cumulative GPA between 1.0 and 2.0 may participate in athletics if they take part in academic intervention programs through the AAA Pathway set up by the school, such as tutoring sessions, weekly eligibility checks, etc.
- ★ In-season athletes are subject to weekly grade checks. If a student-athlete has any f's or two or more d's they must participate in academic intervention programs through the AAA pathway set up by the school.

*** Note: Our GPA standards are higher than the minimum GPA (1.0) required by the Ohio High School Athletic Association.**

★ RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN ATHLETE ★

Your responsibility as an athlete is to represent with integrity the people and values associated with Cincinnati Public Schools.

The athletic program is a highly visible part of Cincinnati Public Schools. As a student athlete, your attitudes, actions and statements constantly are in the public eye and reflect directly on your school and the district. Because of this, you have a special responsibility to represent them well.

As an athlete, you are responsible for promoting the following core values:

RESPECT

Show respect by treating yourself, other people and your sport according to the highest standards of conduct. Respect calls for civilized and gracious behavior towards players, coaches, fans and parents.

RESPONSIBILITY

Show responsibility by making academic progress towards graduation. Solve problems rather than make excuses, and be a reliable team player. Students will be held accountable for their actions and personal decisions. Coaches and administrators will maintain high standards of student conduct and behavior.

INTEGRITY

Show integrity by honoring your commitments and exhibiting honest behavior in your dealings with others. Displaying a high degree of personal integrity means one always does the right thing, even if no one else is watching.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Show servant leadership by putting the group first and being responsible for personal and team goals while performing at your personal best. Student athletes exhibit servant leadership by responding to the needs of others. Servant leaders provide the great gift of being a good example to others around them.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Show good sportsmanship by always following the highest standards of fair play. Administrators, coaches, student athletes, spectators and parents are expected to act correctly even when others do not, and to demonstrate fairness and equity at all times.

To carry out your responsibilities as an athlete, you must:

1. Display good sportsmanship. You are expected to conform to established guidelines of sportsmanlike conduct, both on and off the playing field. Sportsmanlike conduct includes showing respect towards all who are in attendance at an athletic event: officials, coaches, athletes, opponents, spirit squads, spectators and the media. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes inappropriate behavior in language, gesture or action that demeans, physically intimidates or endangers others.

2. Protect your health. In addition to fulfilling the training requirements of your sport, you must take special care to avoid the use of non-therapeutic drugs and the consumption of alcohol, which can be harmful to you and others. Do not take drugs that have not been prescribed for you by a physician.

3. Abide by team rules and policies. Your coaches have established rules and policies for guiding your success. You are expected to follow their guidance and develop the ability to work well with others on your team.

★ RESPONSIBILITIES AS A COMMUNITY MEMBER ★

Your responsibility as a community member is to respect and abide by the policies, rules and laws of the community.

Like all students in Cincinnati Public Schools, you are a member of the Cincinnati community. This community expects its members to exhibit respectful and lawful behavior. You have no special rights or privileges that exempt you from penalty.

★ If you violate policies, rules and laws, you will be held accountable for your actions.

To carry out your responsibility as a member of this community, you must:

★ Abide by all federal, state and city laws. Any student in Cincinnati Public Schools who violates the law may incur penalties imposed by civil authorities.

★ Remember that as a student athlete, you are visible within the community. You should make a conscious effort to avoid "being in the wrong place at the wrong time." Use good judgment at all times.

BULLYING AND HAZING POLICY

“Hazing” means committing an act that causes or creates a substantial risk of mental or physical harm to a student as a part of pressuring that student into joining or remaining on, or as a requirement for joining, an athletic team, school organization, or other school group. Hazing can occur on or off school grounds, or not within school hours.

Bullying, harassment or intimidation means any repeated written, verbal, graphic or physical act that a student or group of students exhibit toward another particular student or students, including within a dating relationship, or toward school personnel; and the behavior both:

Causes mental or physical harm to the other students/school personnel including placing an individual in reasonable fear of physical harm and/or damaging of personal property, and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other students/school personnel.



ENFORCEMENT OF CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Like all students, athletes are expected to abide by CPS’ Code of Conduct and Positive School Culture Plan. You are subject to consequences, including the possibility of being removed from the team or activity, for failure to do so. Various CPS officials will enforce the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, including coaches, school administrators and other authorities of Cincinnati Public Schools.



KEYS TO SUCCESS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

- **Take pride in what you do** – Finish each job you start, and do it well.
- **Take setbacks in stride** – Learn from mistakes and always try to improve.
- **Set new goals** – You don't know what you can do until you try.
- **Work hard** – Talent alone never is enough. Only in the dictionary will you find "success" before "work."
- **Be committed** – Make a total commitment to achieve goals.
- **Be consistent** – Set a regular schedule and stick with it.
- **Always give 110%** – Do more than what is expected.
- **Be prepared** – To get ahead, plan ahead.
- **Be enthusiastic** – Be positive, enjoy what you do, and do it well.
- **Be confident** – To succeed, believe that you can.

Produced by CPS' Office of Communication & Engagement
in cooperation with CPS' Athletic Department

The Cincinnati Public School District provides equal educational, vocational, and employment opportunities for all people without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, color, age, disability, religion, national origin, creed, sexual orientation, or affiliation with a union or professional organization. The district is in compliance with Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act. For additional information, contact the Title IX Coordinator or Section 504 Student Coordinator at 363-0000. TDD# 363-0124.

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