



Stockton Unified School District
Since 1852

COACHES HANDBOOK

SECTION V

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

STUDENT ATHLETIC RESPONSIBILITIES

NOTE: ALL COACHES ARE EXPECTED TO REVIEW THE STUDENT ATHLETIC RESPONSIBILITIES WITH ALL TEAM MEMBERS

Athletics within Stockton Unified School District (SUSD) shall be governed by the CIF, SJAA, and SUSD Rules and Regulations, and the Athlete's Code of Ethics (attached). Athletes shall be directly responsible to the head coach and his/her assistants. The athlete participates in a sport as a privilege and because of this, he/she wishes to do whatever is necessary to make the team more successful. The following are general responsibilities of the athlete:

I. Applicability

- A. Athletes shall follow all team rules set forth by the coach and the Athlete's Code of Ethics.
- B. Prior to participation, an athlete MUST:
 - 1. Complete proper athletic clearance procedures, which include:
 - a. Athletic Contract
 - b. Emergency Medical Card
 - c. Physical Examination
 - d. Academic Eligibility

II. Conduct and Behavior

As an athlete, you are representing yourself, parents, school and community and are expected to conduct yourself properly at all times. Because of this, misconduct by the athlete shall be condoned. For example, conduct which is criminal or socially unacceptable, and for which criminal penalties might result, is cause for action under this code.

The Athlete's Code of Ethics is in effect from the first CIF sanctioned practice (August) through the last contest of the school year. Athletes are responsible for compliance whether they participate during one or all seasons of sport: Fall, Winter, and/or Spring.

- A. Training Rules. It is generally accepted that good training includes adequate rest, diet, health habits, and self-discipline. Athletes should show support for this concept by being home and in bed no later than 10:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight Friday and Saturday.
- B. Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco. One of the most rigid training rules is the "No smoking-No drinking" rule. Mere possession, consumption, or other use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco in any form constitutes a violation of the Code. Illegal drugs are defined as behavior modifying chemicals not duly prescribed by a physician.
- C. Criminal Acts. Athletes who conspire to become involved in acts defined as criminal by statute are subject to discipline under this Code.
- D. Violation of School Discipline Policy. Athletes are expected to display behavior, in the classroom and on campus that is exemplary for all students to follow. Therefore, serious violations of school discipline, like fighting, may be considered a violation.

- E. Penalty Phase for Above Violations (A, B, C and D) of II. Athletics afford a unique opportunity to modify behavior and lend a helping hand to students in need of such attention. Rule infractions shall be dealt with in the following manner by the Athletic Department, keeping the "rights" and "due process" of the student-athlete of supreme concern:

First Violation:

A conference involving the athlete, parent, head coach, and the Athletic Director shall be held as soon as practical. Penalty or discipline will be determined based upon the severity of the violation. The range of penalties includes, but is not limited to, detention, temporary suspension from the squad, possible removal from the team or other reasonable disciplinary actions.

Second Violation:

A conference, as stipulated in the first violation, will be held. If the athlete is in-season, he/she may be removed from the team and forfeit all privileges of team membership including, but limited to, awards, honors, or team functions.

III. **Miscellaneous**

A. **Attendance**

1. An athlete must be in attendance in all his/her regularly scheduled classes on the day of a contest to be eligible for participation. Any exception to this rule must be by administrative approval.
2. If the student is in school, he/she will be expected to be at practice unless excused by the coach. A student cannot send word by way of another student or player that the student cannot make practice. The student must personally see the coach and get permission to be absent or late.

B. **Appearance**

As a member of our teams, we want to be proud of our appearance. Athletes are expected to dress neatly and keep well-groomed. Haircuts shall be as prescribed by the team coach. The coach may determine dress on the day of a contest.

C. **Dedication**

An athlete must be willing to dedicate himself/herself to sports. The athlete should be aware that nothing worthwhile is accomplished without hard work, application, and a sincere desire to succeed. The athlete must also realize that he/she must work out of season as well as during the time he/she competes. He/she must also be willing to sacrifice his/her own personal desires for the good of the group or team.

D. **Insurance**

The District provides secondary coverage for athletic injuries. Parents or guardians should be aware that his/her insurance is excess or secondary coverage and will pay only that amount which other insurance companies will not pay.

- E. Language
Anyone associated with SUSD's athletics shall use language that is socially acceptable. Profanity or vulgar talk will not be tolerated on or off the playing field at any time.
- F. Letter Requirements
The Athletic Department imposes two requirements that an athlete must meet to qualify for a letter:
1. The athlete must complete the season in good standing as determined by the head coach.
 2. The athlete must have turned in or accounted for all equipment checked out to him/her. The athlete is urged to attend the awards ceremony. If he/she is unable to attend due to prior commitment, it is considered good manners to inform the coach of that fact.
- G. Quitting a Sport
The head coach may or may not allow a player who has quit the team to return. Athlete(s) who quit a team or athlete(s) who may be reinstated after quitting may lose all rights of a team member including, but not limited to, awards or post-season honors. These athletes may not go out for another sport until the season of sport that they quit is completed.
- H. Residence Eligibility
Any student who is planning to move, or has recently moved, or whose parents or guardians have moved, should notify the Athletic Director's (AD) Office for CIF information on his/her status of eligibility.
- I. Respect
The athlete is to show respect for all coaches, teachers, officials, spectators, school facilities, and equipment at home and especially when playing away from home.
- J. Responsibility for Equipment
Athletes shall assume responsibility for athletic equipment issued to them and will be expected to pay for equipment not returned. An athlete who has equipment stolen through no fault of his/her own must report this to his/her coach and to the AD as soon as possible following discovery of the theft. He/she must complete a theft report within two days of the theft and return it to the AD. If the above procedure is met and the theft report is filled out, the athlete may be relieved of financial responsibility. An athlete will not receive team awards or letters unless he/she has:
1. Checked his/her equipment in and been cleared by the AD.
 2. Paid for lost, stolen or damaged equipment. Any athletic equipment not officially checked out to an athlete will be confiscated whether it has been paid for or not.
- K. Seasonal Participation
An athlete may, except in special situations, participate in only one sport per season.

Athletes cannot change from one sport to another except with the approval of both coaches and the AD. When an athlete quits or is dropped for disciplinary reasons, he/she may not go out for a sport until the previous sport season is ended. If an athlete quits or is dropped during the latter part of a season, he/she must wait a minimum of three weeks before going to the next sport.

L. Transportation

Athletes shall ride to and from all contests on school approved transportation. In special instances, athletes may travel to and return home from games with their parents or guardians only. The coach and administrator in charge must be notified by the appropriate parent/guardian in writing on an approved form in the correct time frame prior to the contest.

M. Student Parking

All students must park in areas designated as student parking lots.

IV. Student Athlete Standards

If an athlete violates the letter or intent of this Code, he/she shall be liable for punishment under this Code as it affects him/her athletically. The AD shall inform the administration in writing of all actions taken under this Code. If an athlete violates school rules or exhibits behavior or conduct that is criminal or socially unacceptable while in the student environment, the administration shall notify the AD of possible actions under this Code.

V. Acknowledgment

Students who wish to participate in athletics must sign a card and have his/her parent or guardian sign a contract as well, indicating they have read and understood this contract. If further explanation is desired, the AD needs to be contacted. The student and his/her parents or guardian thereby acknowledge responsibility for their actions under this contract.

VI. Complaint Procedures

When a situation arises that is of concern to a parent/athlete in regards to any team or activity, the following procedure should be adhered to:

First Level: Meet with coach cited in complaint.

Second Level: Meet with head coach. Parents should address the coach directly about problems or concerns. In sports with multiple levels (Frosh, JV, Soph, and Varsity), parents should next contact the varsity-level coach.

Third Level: Meet with the AD

Fourth Level: Meet with the Principal or his/her designee.

If these meetings fail to result in resolution of the issue, the complaint may be issued on a SUSD Uniform Complaint form for resolution by the Compliance Services Division of the District.

BASEBALL TEAM RULES

1. No alcohol, tobacco or drug use will be tolerated. Any team member who chooses to partake will be disciplined accordingly. Dismissal from the team.
2. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. If you are ill, you must call your coach by 12 noon. Unexcused absences will result in a two (2) game suspension. A second offense will result in dismissal from the team. Unexcused tardiness will not be tolerated either. First offense – conditioning period after practice. Second offense – one game suspension. Third offense – dismissal from the team.
3. Stretching will begin 15 minutes before practice is to start. All stretching will commence when all players are present.
4. No fighting will be tolerated between teammates or opponents. Failure to comply will result in a one (1) game suspension. A second offense will result in dismissal from the team.
5. No trash talking to opponents or umpires will be allowed.
6. The game day dress code will be as follows: Team jersey and appropriate pants and shoes. Failure to comply will result in a loss of a start that day.
7. Any behavior unbecoming of a mascot baseball player will result in a one (1) game suspension. The second offense will result in dismissal from the team.
8. Throwing of helmets or other equipment will not be tolerated. First time offenders will be pulled from the game, and a second offense will result in a one (1) game suspension.
9. Lack of hustle will be dealt with accordingly. This will most likely result in removal from the game.
10. All coaches will be addressed as coach, not by their first names.

BASKETBALL TEAM RULES

1. No alcohol, tobacco or drug use will be tolerated. Any team member who chooses to partake will be disciplined according to school and district policies.
2. You must be cleared by the school before you can attend or try out for the team.
3. You will be required to attend all practices on time. If practice is to begin at 3:00 p.m., you must be in the gym at 2:45 p.m. to start stretching.
4. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. If you are ill or have a problem, you must contact the coach by 12 noon of that day. Unexcused absences will result in a two-game suspension. A second offense will result in removal from the team. Tardiness will not be tolerated, and will be dealt with by the coach. If you are late to practice, without permission, you will not be allowed to practice. The second offense will be a one-game suspension, and the third offense will be removal from the team.
5. You must attend all classes, have good citizenship, and make an effort in these classes.
6. Any behavior unbecoming of a mascot basketball player will result in a one-game suspension. A second offense will result in dismissal from the team. This rule pertains to all games home or away.
7. All coaches will be addressed as "coach," not by their first names.

GOLF TEAM RULES

TRY OUTS

- Try outs will last five (5) days beginning at 3:15 p.m. each day.
- The varsity team will be selected by the try out period. The “ladder” will be determined by five (5) nine (9) hole, qualifying rounds. Each player can throw out one of the five day scores. The person with the best average of those four (4) rounds will be #1 on the ladder, etc.
- Everyone on the team can challenge up to two places on the ladder. We will hold challenge matches at least once every two weeks.
- You are expected to be at practice, on time, every day. If you are not able to attend practice, you must notify the coach. If you miss practice the day before a match, without the coach’s permission, you will not play in the match.
- The coach will ultimately decide the players that will play in a match or tournament. He may replace someone for the match or tournament when challenge matches can’t be played and/or players demonstrate a lack of effort, discipline or poor attitude.

ATTIRE

- Golf shirts and appropriate golf pants are required. Shirts must be tucked in and hats worn with the bill forward.

TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

- The use of any of these substances on or off the golf course will be considered a violation of the Athlete’s Code of Ethics and will lead to the termination of your participation on the team.

ETIQUETTE/COURSE BEHAVIOR

- Our philosophy is to have a great attitude daily. Although golf can be frustrating at times, it does not give you the opportunity to use foul language, disrespect teammates, opponents, coaches, volunteers, golf professionals, parents or anyone else associated with the course, program or school. Replacing every divot, repairing every ball mark you see, raking the bunker every time is required. Our goal is to set the standard for exemplary etiquette at all times.

ATTITUDE

- Bring your best attitude every day! Profanity is not acceptable.

By signing the Athlete’s Code of Ethics you are indicating a desire to keep the great game of golf a great game and to abide by and accept this Code.

You further understand that any serious breach of the Athlete’s Code of Ethics may result in the termination of your privilege to be a member of the team.

STOCKTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ATHLETE'S CODE OF ETHICS

Athletics is an integral part of the school's total educational program. All school activities, curricular and extracurricular, in the classroom and on the playing field, must be congruent with the school's stated goals and objectives established for the intellectual, physical, social and moral development of its students. It is within this context that the following Code of Ethics is presented.

As an athlete, I understand that it is my responsibility to:

1. Place academic achievement as the highest priority
2. Show respect for teammates, opponents, officials and coaches
3. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials
4. Exhibit fair play, sportsmanship and proper conduct on and off the playing field
5. Maintain a high level of safety/awareness
6. Refrain from the use of profanity, vulgarity and other offensive language and gestures
7. Adhere to the established rules and standards of the game to be played
8. Respect all equipment and use it safely and appropriately
9. Refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids or any substance to increase physical development or performance that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, Surgeon General of the United States and the American Medical Association
10. Know and follow all state, section and school athletic rules and regulations as they pertain to eligibility and sports participation
11. Win with character, lose with dignity

Parent Signature

Date

Athlete's Signature

Date

Athlete's Name Printed

A copy of this form must be kept on file in the Athletic Director's Office.