

# **Holt High School**

## **Athletics**

### **Code of Conduct**

**Student and Parent/Guardian**



**Holt High School  
5885 W. Holt Road  
Holt, MI 48842**

**Home of the Rams**

**Colors - Brown and Gold**

**Capital Area Activities Conference**

**Blue Division**

**Class A**

**Athletic Office – 517-694-2383**

**Athletic Office (FAX) – 517-699-3439**

**High School Office – 517-694-2162**

**High School (FAX) – 517-699-3451**

**Director of Athletics, Renee Sadler**

**Assistant to the Athletic Director, Kim Bails**

**Superintendent, David Hornak**

**Principal, Michael Willard**

**Asst. Principal, Chris Billingslea**

**Asst. Principal, Nick Johnson**

**Asst. Principal, Erin Quinlan**

## MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Your student has indicated a desire to participate in the high school interscholastic athletic program. Parents of student athletes also commit themselves to certain responsibilities and obligations, which are outlined in this athlete-student-parent handbook. Your signature on the Athletic Code, along with the signature of your student athlete, indicates that you understand and accept those responsibilities and obligations, and agree to cooperate with school personnel in enforcing the athletic code.

Parents are encouraged and expected to model good sportsmanship at all times during athletic events. Input is encouraged when done properly (see parent-coach communications). Adults must adhere to acceptable standards. Failure to lead by example may result in removal from the event and/or future events. All parents and guardians are invited to join the Holt Ram Boosters to help promote and support the tradition of excellence associated with Holt Athletics.

## MESSAGE TO ATHLETES

Holt has a long history and tradition of athletic excellence. This tradition was not built overnight. It took years of dedication, commitment, and hard work by countless individuals. As a Holt Athlete you must continue to maintain this standard of excellence.

Your participation in athletics is a privilege and should be treated as such. Anytime you wear the brown and gold, you are representing yourself, your family, your school, and all those that have worn these colors before you. Your behavior should be above reproach in all areas. Other students, staff, coaches, administrators, parents, and the community will closely observe your conduct.

Failure to follow the rules established by the team and the Athletic Code will result in disciplinary actions up to and including suspension from school, suspension from athletics, expulsion from school and/or denial of future participation in athletics.

Behavior unbecoming of a student-athlete will be dealt with and consequences given on an individual basis.

## PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

The Holt Public Schools District believes that interscholastic sports:

- Are an integral part of the total educational experience for all students.
- Provide opportunities and experiences which assist students in their personal adjustment and development.
- Help meet the students' needs.
- Provide good training habits necessary to learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, leadership and teamwork.
- Provide the spirit of competition and sportsmanship for athletic teams.

A quality athletic program is the shared responsibility of the students, staff, parents and community. It requires a supportive environment that allows for participation among students, staff, and parents. It is our expectation that our athletes hold themselves to the highest standards whether they are in the classroom, on the playing field, or in the community. It is our expectation that our staff, coaches, parents and guardians, also, represent themselves and the school in a positive way when they attend any athletic event, home or away. As with any successful team, we must all work together to ensure that Holt athletics continue our tradition of excellence.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

Athletes as well as parents can help establish an outstanding reputation for good sportsmanship. We must all work hard in conducting ourselves in a commendable manner. Displays of unsportsmanlike conduct can result in sanctions against the offending athlete, parent, and/or school. Always observe the following guidelines for good sportsmanship:

- The good name of our school is more important than any contest won by unfair play.
- Be supportive of all athletes, coaches, and officials before, during, and after all contests.
- Accept decisions of officials without dispute. They are seldom responsible for your success, so do not blame them for your circumstances.
- Recognize and show appreciation for the fine play of your opponent.
- Be proud of our school's reputation and work hard to protect it.
- Cheer for your team, not against their opponent.
- Avoid allowing others' negative sportsmanship to become an excuse to do the same.

## PARENT/GUARDIAN - COACH RELATIONS

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the others and provide greater benefit to the student. As parents, when your son or daughter becomes involved in our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your student-athlete. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your student-athlete's program.

## COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR SON/DAUGHTER'S COACH:

1. Expectations the coach has for your daughter/son and the team.
2. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, team/individual camps.
4. Procedures to follow should your student-athlete become injured during participation.
5. Team rules, guidelines, and requirements for earning awards.

## COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM STUDENT-ATHLETES:

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
2. Special concerns in regards to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Illnesses, injuries or circumstances that may endanger the athlete when participating.

As your son/daughter becomes involved in the athletic programs at Holt High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your student-athlete wishes. At these times discussions with the coach is encouraged.

## APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

1. The treatment of your student-athlete, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your student-athlete to improve.
3. Concerns about your student-athlete's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your son/daughter is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your student-athlete's coach. Other things, such as the following, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

## ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. However, if you have a concern, you may want to discuss the issue with your son/daughter first. You may find through this communication an answer, resolution, or understanding of the situation before contacting others. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

## HERE ARE THE STEPS TO FOLLOW WHEN THERE ARE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH:

1. The student athlete should set up a meeting with the Coaches to discuss the concern.
2. If step #1 does not resolve the issue, the parent can call the coach to set up an appointment with parents, the student-athlete and coaches.

Please give yourself time to understand your concern before approaching a coach. Attempting to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice is not acceptable. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution. We fully support the use of the 24-hour rule.

## WHAT CAN A PARENT DO IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DID NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION?

1. If a positive resolution is not reached, please contact the Athletic Director and a meeting with the Athletic Director, coach, the student-athlete and the parent will be scheduled.
2. If a positive resolution is still not reached, a meeting with the Principal, the Athletic Director, the coach, the student-athlete and the parent will be scheduled.

## TEAM MEMBERSHIP

Holt offers numerous athletic programs to accommodate the interests and skills of interested students. Some teams have limited numbers of players and students must try-out for a position on the team while other programs can accommodate unlimited numbers of team members.

## PARTICIPATION

Participation in interscholastic athletics is voluntary. Each student must accept the responsibility of self-discipline as it relates to studies, conditioning, sportsmanship, and personal conduct. Each participant must agree to abide by sport, program, school training, and Michigan High School Athletic Association rules.

Athletes must agree to abide by:

- Student-Athlete-Parent Handbook
- Athletic Code - signed by athlete and parents
- Team rules
- Rules and regulations of MHSAA

## TRY - OUTS

Students wishing to participate on athletic teams must:

- Have completed the online registration form found on the athletic department website
- Meet the residency requirements set forth by the MHSAA
- Meet academic requirements
- Show proof of a physical exam and have it on file in the athletic office – annually
- Sign the athletic code annually

Students who join a team after the first official practice (date set by coach, which cannot be earlier than the MHSAA beginning date) must practice with the team for at least two (2) weeks before being allowed to participate in an athletic contest. Students who participate in a fall or winter sport with an extended season (districts, regionals, etc.) will be able to participate in winter or spring seasons as soon as the previous season ends. This conflict must be communicated to the coach of the new sport prior to the beginning of the season.

## CUTS

The district cannot provide a team for every student who wants to play interscholastic sports. Therefore, in some situations students will not make the team. The coach will provide information as to what criteria will be used to select team members. Participation in off-season or preseason camps or meetings is not a determining factor.

Factors that may determine team members include: manageable number of participants, skills of individuals, and team requirements by position. The athletes not making the team will be notified through a meeting with the coach. This can be a very emotional and difficult time, please be supportive of your athlete.

Prior to cuts, any athlete has the right to try-out for any team but must be aware that they will not be given special extension to the cut dates. Teams that do not make cuts may be willing to accept athletes who have tried out for another team but were cut. This will allow students some flexibility in choosing sports.

Athletes will not be able to change to a sport that has made their cut unless consent is granted by the coach of the new sport. (The exception to this would be a new student to the school.)

## TEAM ADVANCEMENT

The intent of advancing an athlete to a level beyond that at which he/she would normally play (9th grade athletes on the freshmen level, 10th grade athletes on the junior varsity level and 11th and 12th grade athletes on the varsity level) is to provide an exceptionally talented athlete the opportunity to enhance his/her experience and skill development. In addition, this will allow the advancing athlete the opportunity to contribute to the team, by participating at a more challenging level.

The head varsity coach is responsible for making the initial recommendation regarding who should be considered for team advancement in the program. The proposed team advancement must be discussed and approved by the Athletic Department, the Head Varsity Coach and the parent(s) prior to any discussion with the athlete. Academic progress, emotional maturity, and peer relationships, as well as athletic ability, will be considered as part of these discussions. If the athlete is advanced, he/she must be assured of an opportunity to improve his/her skills through playing time similar to what he/she would have had at the lower level. The team advancement decision must be assessed regularly by the coach. The placement decision may be reversed.

## LEAVING A TEAM

An athlete desiring to drop from a team within the first two weeks of practice shall notify the coach immediately to obtain a release without penalty. The coach is required to notify the Athletic Director.

An athlete desiring to drop from the team after the first two weeks of practice or after team selection has been made may be subject to a penalty during the next season in which the athlete

participates. A meeting between the Athletic Director, Coach, student-athlete and parent will be held to decide the validity of a release or penalty.

### EQUIPMENT

Athletes will be issued equipment with the provision that it will be returned at the end of the season. Athletes will be held accountable for the cost of lost equipment. Game uniforms, which will be issued prior to the first contest, are not to be worn at any time other than an athletic contest. At the end of the season, no awards or certificates will be given to the student athlete until all equipment is turned in or compensated for.

### TRANSPORTATION

School-owned vehicles are provided for each athletic contest, whenever possible. **ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO RIDE TO AND FROM EVENTS IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION, UNLESS PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED BY THE COACH AND ATHLETIC OFFICE** and parents/guardians have completed the Alternate Transportation Consent Form. Transportation will not be provided to weekend events for Holt High School Athletic Programs. Student athletes may drive themselves and/or other students to events when transportation is not provided **as long as written consent is given by all student athlete's parent/guardian that are involved via the Alternate Transportation Consent Form and given to the Coach at least 24 hours prior to the event.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** Student will be barred from competition in the next athletic contest.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** The penalty for a repeated violation, which may include immediate suspension from the athletic team for the remainder of the season, will be determined by the Athletic Director after consultation with the coach.

### MHSAA REGULATIONS

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) has been the governing body of high school athletics in our state since 1924, and the Holt School District is part of more than 700 public, parochial and private schools that have agreed to follow the rules and regulations MHSAA helps enact. The following is a summary of the high school MHSAA Ten-Point Checklist for Student eligibility:

1. Age - High school students become ineligible if they reach their nineteenth birthday before September 1 of a current school year.
2. Undergraduate Standing - Students involved with high school sports are NOT to be a high school graduate.
3. Physical Examination - Students must have on file, in the athletic office, a physician's statement for the current school year (after April 15th) certifying that he/she is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests.
4. Enrollment - Students must be enrolled in school prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day or the fourth Friday of February. A student must be enrolled in the school for which he or she competes.
5. Semesters of Enrollment - Students cannot be eligible in high school for more than eight semesters and the seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive. Students are allowed four first semesters and four second semesters or trimester equivalents of

competition and cannot compete if they have graduated from high school. When two seasons leading to a state championship of the same sport are offered, an athlete may participate in only one.

6. Transfer Students - A student in grades nine through twelve who transfers to another high school prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day and does not meet one or more of fifteen published exceptions for immediate eligibility becomes eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest on Martin Luther King Day. A student who does not qualify and has transferred by the fourth Friday of February becomes eligible following August 1.
7. Undue Influence - The use of undue influence by any person directly or indirectly associated with a school to secure or encourage the attendance of a student for athletic purposes will cause the student to become ineligible for a minimum of one semester.
8. Limited Team Membership - After practicing with or participating with high school teams, students cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same season. Students in individual sports may participate in a maximum of two non-school individual meets or contests during the school season while not representing their school.
9. All - Star Competition - Students shall not compete at any time in any sport under MHSAA jurisdiction in All - Star Contests or national championships regardless of the method of selection. Participation in such a contest shall cause that student to become ineligible for a maximum period of one year of school enrollment.
10. Awards and Amateurism - Students cannot receive money or other valuable considerations for participating in MHSAA sponsored sports or officiating in interscholastic athletic contests, except as allowed by the HANDBOOK. Students may accept, for participation in MHSAA sponsored sports, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a value over \$25.00. Banquets, luncheons, dinners, trips and admission to camps or events, are permitted if accepted "in kind". Awards in the form of cash merchandise, certificates, or any other negotiable document are not allowed.

Any other specific rules or regulations can be found in the athletic office.

#### ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

1. Students must meet MHSAA rules regarding previous semester and current semester academic requirements:
  - a. Previous Semester – No student shall compete in any athletic contest of scrimmage who does not have to his or her credit in the official records of the school to be represented, at least 66% of full credit load potential for a full-time student for the last semester during which he or she shall have been enrolled in grades 9-12 inclusive.
  - b. Current Semester – A student must be passing 66% of full credit load when checked during the current semester (checks will be made a minimum of once every 10 weeks) in order to participate in a game or scrimmage. Students who do not meet this requirement will be required to turn in weekly progress reports and will be ineligible until they are passing at least 66% of a full credit load potential.
2. Credit Status – Students must be on track to graduate with their class. Students must have earned 4 credits by the start of their sophomore year, 10 credits by the start of their junior year, and 16 credits by the start of their senior year.

3. Students must have a cumulative 1.67 GPA or higher as of the most recent semester grades. If a student meets requirements 1 and 2 but does not have a 1.67 GPA they must be participating in team organized, monitored and documented academic interventions in order to participate.

### ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students have a responsibility and agree to attend all practice sessions and contests, unless excused by the coach. **Students further agree to report all injuries and illnesses to the coach.** Injured players who are in attendance at school agree to attend practices or a contest as an observer, even though they are not physically fit to participate, unless the coach excuses them.

Students must be in attendance for at least half of the school day in order to participate in an athletic practice or contest. Personal illness or injury which necessitates absence from school for one-half of the school day or longer, shall disqualify an athlete from participation in practice or a contest on that day, unless prior approval to participate has been given by the Athletic Director. Students who have been granted an excused absence from school for non-health related reasons and are physically fit to participate may be permitted to practice or compete provided prior approval is given by the Athletic Director.

Attendance during instructional time is the priority for student athletes. Student athletes in violation of the tardy policy and/or in violation of skipping a class will be held accountable. Student athletes will be expected to complete all detention consequences within 1 week from notification of consequence. Violations of this agreement are as follows:

**1st offense:** Student athlete will be withheld from all athletic activities until detention consequence is completed or scheduled to be completed.

**2nd offense:** A meeting with the Athletic Director, Assistant Principal and Coach will be held to determine appropriate consequence which may include removal from athletic team.

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Athletes must obtain a physical exam, signed by an M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner who administered the physical exam, stating that the student is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests. Forms are available at the high school athletic office, on the Holt Athletics website as well as the MHSAA website. The physical must be dated after April 15, 2017 for this school year. Athletes must have a copy of their physical on file in the school athletic office before they may participate in any practice or game.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

The Athletic Department recognizes and supports its student-athletes' rights to freedom of speech, expression and association, including the use of social networks. The Athletic Department does not monitor student-athletes' social media accounts. However, administrators and coaches may conduct random checks of student-athlete social media sites or when such sites

are brought to their attention. Student-athletes are expected to monitor their own sites and post only information and images that appropriately represent Holt High School to the public. All online postings must be consistent with federal and state laws, as well as team, Athletic Department, Holt Public Schools and MHSAA rules and policies, including, but not limited to, the guidelines listed below:

If you participate on a social networking site, you should keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Everything you post is public information – any text or photo placed online is completely out of your control the moment it is placed online – even if you limit access to your site. Information (including pictures, videos, comments and posters) may be accessible even after you remove it.
- Use caution when adding someone or inviting someone to be a friend. Many individuals are looking to take advantage of student-athletes, to get close to student-athletes, to give themselves a sense of membership or to gain information about you, your teammates or your team for negative purposes.
- Limit information about your whereabouts or plans to minimize the potential of being stalked, assaulted or the victim of other criminal activity.
- Remember that what you post may impact your future. Many employers and graduate school admissions officers review social networking sites as part of their overall evaluation of an applicant. Carefully consider how you want people to perceive you before you give them a chance to misinterpret your information (including pictures, videos, comments and posters).

Student-athletes may not use social media sites to engage in conduct that would inappropriately represent Holt Public Schools. Examples of inappropriate conduct include:

- Posting photos, videos, comments or posters showing underage drinking or personal use of alcohol or tobacco (e.g., no holding cups of alcohol, beer cans, shot glasses, e-cigarettes, etc.).
- Posting photos, videos and comments that are of an obscene or sexual nature. This includes obscene gestures or links to websites of a pornographic or sexual nature.
- Posting pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug related activity. This includes, but is not limited to, images that portray the personal use of marijuana or drug paraphernalia.
- Using inappropriate or offensive language in comments, videos and other postings. This includes threats of violence and derogatory comments about race and/or gender.
- Making comments about team activities (e.g. practice, games or travel) or making comments about an opponent.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** Student will be barred from competition in the next athletic contest.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** The penalty for a repeated violation, which may include immediate suspension from the athletic team for the remainder of the season, will be determined by the Athletic Director after consultation with the coach.

## INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

*Policy*

A5039

Interscholastic athletics is a part of the total development of students. The goal of the Holt Public Schools athletic program is to build character in our youth by teaching the importance and meaning of commitment, loyalty and sacrifice, by developing healthy attitudes about winning and losing, and by fostering positive interpersonal relationships among team members as well as competitors.

This athletic code of conduct constitutes the agreement between the district and each athlete concerning the terms and conditions of participating in interscholastic athletics. It should be noted that the agreements set forth in this athletic student code of conduct are supplemental to the agreements, expectations and rules of conduct, proposed penalties and the student due process procedures set forth in the student handbook code of conduct.

A student's participation in athletics may be suspended or be subject to other action by the district for conduct which may not specifically violate this athletic student code of conduct, but otherwise violates the student handbook code of conduct or other agreements between the district and the student. In addition, a student may be subject to disciplinary action under the student handbook code of conduct and in areas such as school attendance, grades or other privileges, for violating this athletic student code of conduct. Finally, students may be subject to action under both this athletic student code of conduct as well as under other provisions of the student handbook code of conduct.

### *Use or Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco or Drugs, Hazing, and Misdemeanor Offenses*

The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco or drugs (including performance enhancing drugs and e-cigarettes) will not be tolerated **at any time**. Students who use marijuana for medicinal purposes are not eligible to participate in athletics.

Hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation, membership, or affiliation with any athletic team. Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or by a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity even if a student-athlete willingly participates. The Holt School District does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any school sponsored activity. No student-athlete, coach, volunteer, or district employee shall plan, direct, encourage, assist, or engage in any hazing activity.

Nor will acts that result in the student-athlete being arrested by law enforcement be condoned. As it has been determined that athletic participation is a privilege and not a right, it is to be understood that there will be no obligation on the part of the administration, in response to the arrest of a student-athlete, to wait for the judicial process to run its course. Therefore, even while misdemeanor charges are pending and adjudicated, the athlete can be suspended and participation may be denied.

***1<sup>st</sup> Offense*** – Using the number of regular season contests scheduled, the student-athlete will be ineligible to participate in 25% of that sport's regular or post-season contests. Scrimmages are not considered scheduled contests. The exclusion shall be consecutive, starting with the

first scheduled event. Exclusion will carry over to the next season the student-athlete participates in should the penalty not be completed during the initial season of ineligibility. The student-athlete is expected to continue to practice with his or her team while serving this penalty.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense** - Using the maximum number of regular season contests scheduled, the student-athlete will be ineligible to participate in 50% of that sport's regular or post-season contests. Scrimmages are not considered scheduled contests. The exclusion shall be consecutive, starting with the first scheduled event. Exclusion will carry over to the next season the student-athlete participates in should the penalty not be completed during the initial season of ineligibility. In addition, the student athlete forfeits all school athletic awards for that sport, The student-athlete is expected to continue to practice with his or her team while serving this penalty.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense** – Termination on participation in the athletic program for the remainder of that student's high school career.

**Self-Disclosure** – An athlete who voluntarily discloses violation of the substance abuse policy prior to any reports, charges or complaints of violations shall be required to follow the chemical assessment/treatment procedures provided by the district. The athlete will be charged with a first offense of the policy, but will not be suspended pending completion of the assessment/treatment requirements. The self-disclosure exemption is available to an athlete only once during his/her high school career.

The athletic director, along with the high school administration, has the ability to review each violation on a case-by-case basis. It should be noted that the athletic director or administration will not go back more than one calendar year to review allegations of athletic handbook violations.

### ***Distribution of Alcohol or Drugs and Felony Offenses***

The distribution or sale of alcohol or drugs (including performance enhancing drugs) is viewed as more serious than the use or possession of those substances. Similarly, acts that result in a student-athlete being arrested by law enforcement for felony offenses are viewed as acts that require immediate and/or permanent suspension from participation. As previously stated, athletic participation is a privilege and not a right; it is to be understood that there will be no obligation on the part of the administration, in response to the arrest of a student-athlete, to wait for the judicial process to run its course. Therefore, even while felony charges are pending and adjudicated, all forms of participation may be denied.

A student-athlete who has been found guilty of distribution of alcohol or drugs or a felony is ineligible to participate in athletics in the Holt School District for the remainder of his or her high school career.

### **Special Circumstances and Greater Magnitude of Consequences**

The athletic director has, at his or her discretion, the ability to impose a greater magnitude of consequences if he or she feels a student-athlete has been belligerent or defiant, shows no remorse, or has behaved in ways to significantly hinder the investigation of a violation.

## **State of Michigan's MIP (Minor In Possession) Law and Holt High School Policy**

- Being under the influence of or in possession of drugs or alcohol, narcotics or controlled substances.
- Application of the terms and conditions of this handbook – *see pg. 4 of the student handbook*
- Failure to take a breathalyzer test and/or a field sobriety test is considered an admission of guilt.
- Parents and the Director of Human Resources will be notified immediately and a conference will be held with an administrator.
- The incident will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency. (Drug free school zone constitutes a doubling of legal penalties.)
- A suspension of up to ten (10) days will occur. A recommendation for expulsion may be made to the Superintendent.
- Persons responsible for destruction of property will make restitution.

### **Acts of Misconduct**

Students agree not to be involved in theft, destruction of property, defiance of authority, fighting, and/or similar acts of misconduct during the period of participation in sports.

**VIOLATION:** The penalty for a violation of this agreement will be determined by the coach and Athletic Director, taking into account all relevant considerations. Such penalty may include, even in the case of a first offense, immediate suspension from the athletic team for the remainder of the season.

Students who are suspended or expelled from the regular academic program may not participate in the athletic program during the suspension period or expulsion.

Students who are suspended from an interscholastic team for disciplinary reasons during the last third of an athletic season may also be barred, at the discretion of the athletic director, from participation in the athletic season that immediately follows. For example, a student suspended from participation in a spring sport during the last third of the season would not be allowed to participate in any interscholastic sport the next fall. The last third of an athletic season shall be determined by counting the total number of days in a season, starting with the first day of full practice and ending with the last regular season game.

### **DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE**

In the event of an allegation of a violation of this code of the student handbook code of conduct, the charges shall be referred to the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director has the discretion to temporarily suspend the athlete pending completion of an investigation after consultation with the coach.

The coach of a team also has the discretion to temporarily suspend an athlete for a violation of this athletic code or the student handbook code of conduct when the coach has personal knowledge of the violation, pending completion of an investigation. The coach shall promptly report such a suspension and the charge upon which it is based to the Athletic Director.

The Athletic Director shall promptly conduct an investigation of the alleged violation, including a consultation with the athlete, the parents or guardian, the charging party, any witnesses, and/or members of the athletic department staff involved as the Athletic Director deems appropriate.

If a violation is found to exist, the athletic director shall consult with the coach to determine the appropriate penalty.

If the athlete denies the charges or believes the penalty is too severe, the athlete and/or the athlete's parents or guardian will be informed of the nature of the violation, the evidence in support of the charges, and the penalty.

The student and/or parents or guardian may request a review as follows:

1. The appeal shall be to the building Principal. The student and/or parents or guardian, after being presented with the evidence supporting the charges, shall have the opportunity to submit any explanation or evidence they want considered and to present any evidence concerning extenuating circumstances or in mitigation of the penalty. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the Principal may affirm, modify or vacate the violation and/or penalty, completely or in part.
2. The student and/or parents or guardian may bring an advisor or legal counsel, and shall have the right to confront the charging party and request the presence of a witness.
3. The athlete and/or the athlete's parents or guardian shall have the right to appeal from the decision rendered to the Superintendent of schools or designee. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

## **POTENTIAL DANGERS IN ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION**

1. **Informed Consent:** By its nature, participation in interscholastic athletics includes risk of injury which may range in severity. Although serious injuries are not common in supervised school athletic programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants have the responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Players must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems to their coaches, follow a proper conditioning program, and inspect their own equipment daily. Also due to the nature of athletics, the possibility of the exchange of body fluids is present in sports. Regardless of how remote the possibility of transmission of diseases such as HIV/HBV is, all athletes should be aware of the inherent risks associated with athletic competition.
2. **Risk taking:** Participation in athletics is a voluntary extra-curricular activity in which the student participates at the risk of injury. Athletic activities can be hazardous and participation in such activities is a calculated risk on the part of the student and parents.

## **INSURANCE**

Parents or guardians of athletes are required to obtain adequate insurance coverage for their children in the event of injury. All students participating in athletic events must carry some type of health and accident insurance.

Holt Public Schools does not assume liability for injuries suffered by students while participating in athletic activities. The responsibility for the expenses incurred in athletics for doctors, ambulance, or medical expenses for injuries must be assumed by the parent or guardian.

The athlete's family or the athlete's family's employer's insurance must provide coverage in the case of any injury suffered while participating in athletics in the Holt Public School system.

### DISQUALIFICATION FROM A CONTEST

Michigan High School Athletic Association Regulation V Section 3(D)

- The following policies for disqualification shall apply in all sports: When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for at least the next contest/day of competition for that team.
- When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach's team.
- Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season; any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season; and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport, that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament.
- Failure of the school, for any reason, to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular season contest/day of competition.
- Disqualification from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next season in any sport for seniors.
- If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply.

Violation of Michigan High School Athletic Association Rules will be reported to the Michigan High School Athletic Association. The Coach and Athletic Director will review each student athlete ejection on a case by case basis and could possibly impose a more severe punishment.

### HOLT RAMS BOOSTER CLUB

The Holt Ram Booster Club exists for the purpose of promoting the involvement of students, student families, the community and the school through support of the interscholastic athletic program. The club works to achieve this through active participation of as many parents as possible in the club programs and in concentrated support for individual sports, working closely with coaches, athletic director and the principal.

All parents and supporters are encouraged to become a member of the Holt Ram Boosters. They meet the first Monday of the month. Everyone is welcome.

PARTICIPATION FEES  
**ATHLETIC INFORMATION 2017-18**

Per student	Free & Reduced Lunch Per student	Total Family Cap Fee(1,2) Includes Junior & Senior High School- sponsored Athletic AND Non-Athletic activities
Grades 9-12 = \$170  Grades 7-8 = \$100	Grades 9-12 = \$85  Grades 7-8 = \$50	\$340 per family  (Free & Reduced Total Family Cap Fee \$220)

These are one-time per year fees. **All fees are non-refundable.**

Once Total Family Cap Fee (\$340/\$220 Free & Reduced) is reached, Non-Athletic participation fees are waived.

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Any student interested in playing sports has a wide variety of sports to choose from. Every season (fall, winter, and spring) has a number of different events available. For people who do not wish to compete at the reserve and varsity levels, there are also many intramural programs that offer something to do after school or on weeknights. These programs are run through the Delhi Parks & Recreation Department (694-1549). The CAAC has many fine teams and plenty of good competition, so enjoy some of the extra hours by taking advantage of Holt's fine athletic program.

**CAPITAL AREA ACTIVITIES CONFERENCE**

**Blue Division**

East Lansing  
 Grand Ledge  
 Holt  
 Jackson  
 Lansing Eastern  
 Lansing Everett  
 Lansing Sexton  
 Okemos

**Red Division**

DeWitt  
 Haslett  
 Mason  
 Charlotte  
 St. Johns  
 Waverly

**White Division**

Eaton Rapids  
 Fowlerville  
 Ionia  
 Lansing Catholic  
 Portland  
 Williamston