

16-17
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Protect Your Eligibility; Know the Rules: To represent your school in athletics, YOU:

- Must be a properly enrolled student at the time you participate, must be enrolled no later than the 15th day of the present semester, and must be in regular attendance at that school.
- Must not be convicted of a felony in this or any other state, or adjudicated as a delinquent for an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult in this or any other state.
- Must not have more than 13 total absences (85% attendance requirement) in the semester prior to athletic participation.
- Must not have exceeded eight (8) consecutive semesters of attendance or have participated in more than four (4) seasons in any sport (one season per year) since first entering grade nine (9).
- Must be under 19 years of age on or before October 16.
- Must be present 50% of the student day on the day of an athletic contest in order to participate in the event. This includes games and practices.
- Students serving an out-of-school suspension or assigned to in-school suspension or participating in an alternative program (Turning Point Academy) shall not participate in interscholastic activities or practices during the assigned time and may regain eligibility after completion of the suspension (Policy # 4500).
- Must meet promotion requirements at their school to be eligible for Fall semester.
- Must have passed a minimum of five (5) courses during the previous semester in a traditional schedule or three (3) in a block schedule.
- Must have received a medical examination by a licensed physician within the past 365 days; if you miss five (5) or more days of practice due to illness or injury, you must receive a medical release from a licensed physician before practicing or playing.
- Must not accept prizes, merchandise, money, or anything that can be exchanged for money as a result of athletic participation. This includes being on a free list or loan list for equipment, etc.
- Must not have signed a professional contract, have played on a junior college team or be enrolled and attending a class in college. This does not affect a regularly enrolled high school student who is taking a college course(s) for advanced credit.
- Must not participate in unsanctioned all-star or bowl games.
- May not participate at a second school in CCS in the same sport.
- May not receive team instructions from your school's coaching staff during the school year outside your sports season. Instruction is limited to the coach and one or multiple participants in small group settings.
- May not, as an individual or a team, practice or play during the school day.
- May not play, practice, or assemble as a team with your coach on Sunday.
- May not dress for a contest, sit on the bench, or practice if you are not eligible to participate.
- Must not play more than three (3) games in one sport per week (exceptions: Baseball, Softball, Cheerleading and Volleyball); and not more than one (1) contest per day in the same sport (exceptions: Baseball, Softball, Cheerleading or Volleyball).

Hazing: According to CCS Board Policy, hazing is prohibited. No group or individual shall require a student to wear abnormal dress, play abusive or ridiculous tricks on him/her, frighten, scold, beat, harass, or subject him/her to personal indignity.

Code of Sportsmanship: It is recognized that public school interscholastic athletic events should be conducted in such a manner that good sportsmanship prevails at all times. Every effort should be made to promote a climate of wholesome competition. Unsportsmanlike acts will not be tolerated. A player is under the coach's control from the time he/she arrives at the athletic field until he/she leaves the field. The penalties listed in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Handbook will be adhered to for any athlete ejected from an athletic contest.

NCHSAA Regulations Student Athlete Pledge— As a student athlete, I am a role model. I understand the spirit of fair play while playing hard. I will refrain from engaging in all types of disrespectful behavior, including inappropriate language, taunting, trash talking, and unnecessary physical contact. I know the behavior expectations of my school, my conference, and the NCHSAA and hereby accept the responsibility and privilege of representing this school and community as a student athlete.

Parent Pledge— As a parent, I acknowledge that I am a role model. I will remember that school athletics is an extension of the classroom, offering learning experiences for the students. I must show respect for all players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. I will participate in cheers that support, encourage, and uplift the teams involved. I understand the spirit of fair play and the good sportsmanship expected by our school, our conference and the NCHSAA. I hereby accept my responsibility to be a model of good sportsmanship that comes with being the parent of a student athlete.

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NCHSAA Sportsmanship/Ejection Policy—We acknowledge that we, both the student and parent whose names appear below, have read and understand the NCHSAA Sportsmanship/Ejection Policy. We understand that the following types of behavior will result in an ejection from an athletic contest: fighting, taunting or baiting, profanity directed toward an official or an opponent, obscene gestures, disrespectfully addressing an official.

- 1st ejection: 2 game suspension in all sports *except* 1 game for football.
- 2nd ejection: Suspended for remainder of sport season.
- 3rd ejection: Suspended from ALL athletic competition for 365 days from date of 3rd ejection.

Exception: Fighting will carry a 2 game suspension for football and 4 game suspension for other sports.

Transportation for Athletic Events—All athletes must be transported to athletic events on CCS activity buses. The coach or school can allow athletes to ride home from an athletic event with the parent/legal custodian. Student athletes are not to ride home from athletic events with any other person other than their parents/legal custodian.

Medical Authorization—As the parent or legal custodian of this student athlete, I grant permission for treatment deemed necessary for a condition arising during or affecting participation in sports, including medical or surgical treatment recommended by a medical doctor. I understand that every effort will be made to contact me prior to treatment. Also, permission is granted to release medical information to the school and athletic trainer or first responder.

Risk of Injury – We acknowledge and understand that there is a risk of injury involved in athletic participation. We understand that the student-athlete will be under the supervision and direction of a CCS athletic coach. We agree to follow the rules of the sport and the instructions of the coach in order to reduce the risk of injury to the student and other athletes. However, we acknowledge and understand that neither the coach nor CCS can eliminate the risk of injury in sports. Injuries may and do occur. Sports injuries can be severe and in some cases may result in permanent disability or even death. We freely, knowingly, and willfully accept and assume the risk of injury that might occur from participation in athletics.

Residency Requirements – The NCHSAA residency requirements state, “the residence of any student shall be deemed to be that of his or her parents or sole surviving parent. In the event the parents are separated or divorced, the residence of the student shall be that of the parent to whom custody has been awarded by a court of competent jurisdiction....No non-parental guardianship will be recognized where a student has a living parent....Any student proposed for a contest is eligible at the school to which the local board of education assigns him or her within the unit of residence of a parent or legal custodian within this state.” According to CCS Board Policy 4050 a “legal custodian” is a person or agency awarded legal custody of a child by a court of law. The athletic director of the school must be notified of any student not living with a parent or legal custodian. No person other than a parent or legal custodian may sign off on this document.

We, the undersigned student and parent/legal custodian, certify that the home address shown on this document is our sole, bona fide domicile as provided to the Cleveland County School System. We also agree that we will notify the high school principal immediately of any change in domicile, since such a move may alter eligibility status. We have read this document and understand all of these requirements for athletic participation and agree to comply with the requirements set forth in this document. All information contained in this form is accurate and correct.

Providing false information on this form may cause the student athlete to lose athletic eligibility for 365 days.

Student (Signature): _____ Date _____

Parent (Print): _____ Date _____

Parent (Signature): _____ Date _____

*Legal Custodian (Print): _____ Date _____

*Legal Custodian (Signature): _____ Date _____

*Please note the residency requirements and definition of legal custodian on page 4 of this document.

