

ASSABET VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

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“Home of the AZTECS”

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

Contact Information

School website: <http://assabet.org/home>

High School Office	508 485-9430
Athletic Office	508 485-9430 x1412
Athletic Trainers Office	508 485-9430 x1103

School Administration

Superintendent-Director	Ernest Houle
Director of Business Operations	Kris Luoto
Principal	Mark Hollick
Dean of Students	Gerald Gahagan
Dean of Students	Patrick O'Rourke
Athletic Director	Josh MacCreery
Assistant Athletic Director	Melissa Couture
Athletic Trainer	Laura Hilliger

Athletic Department Information

Athletics Website: <http://ma.8to18.com/Assabet/>
Twitter - @AztecAthletics

School Colors	Blue & Gold
School Mascot	"Aztecs"
Athletic Conference	Colonial Athletic League

The Colonial Athletic League

Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School is a proud member of the Colonial Athletic League (CAL). The league consists of 11 schools and is governed by the MIAA and its own constitution. The Colonial Athletic League consists of the following schools.

Abby Kelley	AMSA	Assabet Valley	Bay Path
Blackstone Valley	Keefe	Main South	Monty Tech
Nashoba Tech	Parker School	Worcester Tech	

Welcome to the Assabet Valley Athletic Program

Assabet Valley is a member of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA), Colonial Athletic League (CAL) and Massachusetts Vocational Athletic Directors Association (MVADA). The Athletic Program at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School is an integral part of the school's educational program that provides a wide range of opportunities and experiences which will assist the student-athlete in personal achievement. Our Goal is to promote participation in athletics that encourage lifelong learning experiences that serve to enhance the achievement of our educational goals and cultivate healthy lifelong habits to become productive citizens

The material presented in this booklet has been compiled to act as a guide for student-athletes, parents, and coaches, in the order of which that each may understand the accepted procedures and policies of Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School and its athletic department in conjunction with the MIAA. Each student-athlete and coach is required to read this handbook before participating in a sport. Students-athletes are also required to review this handbook with their parent/guardian before each sport season.

Mission Statement – The mission of the Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School Athletic Department is to provide for its student athletes an outstanding athletic program that enhances their educational experiences by offering opportunities that foster the characteristics of good sportsmanship, value of teamwork, respect for self and others, the sense of pride in working diligently to reach a goal and leadership development.

Objectives-

Many lessons can be learned and attitudes can be developed through a program of competitive athletics. By challenging our students to excel in competition and the classroom, we seek to instill in and demonstrate to all students-athletes the following attitudes and personal characteristics:

- Develop and Improve confidence, self-esteem, decision-making, time management, and communication skills
- Encourage respect for the rights and abilities of others.
- Develop character, team spirit, fair play, and sportsmanship.
- Develop and maintain high academic achievements.
- Encourage winning attitude with the understanding that winning should never be given priority over fair play, sportsmanship, and a concern for the welfare of individuals and the entire team.

The Athletic Program at Assabet offers a diversified choice of sports to each student for his or her participation. [Athletic Offerings:](#)

Fall	Winter	Spring
Football	Boys Basketball	Baseball
Field Hockey	Girls Basketball	Softball
Golf	Ice Hockey	Boys & Girls Track and Field
Boys Soccer	Basketball Cheerleading	Lacrosse Boys
Girls Soccer	Wrestling (Coop)	Boys Volleyball
Girls Volleyball		Lacrosse Girls
Cheerleading		
Cross Country		

[Levels of Play:](#)

Freshman programs: *At the entry level for high school athletics, athletes and their parents should accept the following concepts:* (1) Development of fundamental skills, (2) learning the rules of the game, (3) sportsmanship and fair play, (4) equal practice opportunities for all participants, (5) development of an orientation toward team effort by each athlete, and (6) the development of the ambition to achieve at the next level of competition.

Sub-varsity programs: *This level is a transitional one that emphasizes:*

- (1) Reinforcement and refinement of fundamental skills,
- (2) learning the rules of the game,
- (3) sportsmanship and fair play,
- (4) emphasis on physical conditioning and development,
- (5) more emphasis is given to the concepts of commitment and team play and,
- (6) more advanced athletic strategies.

Varsity programs: *This level emphasizes:* (1) Development of high proficiency in physical skills of the sport, (2) strategies, situations and all mental aspects of the sport, (3) maintaining an encouraging good character, sportsmanship and fair play, (4) specific definition of the individual athletes' role within the team concept, (5) maximum commitment to the athletic team and, (6) physical conditions components of one's sport (7) win League Championship and qualify for post season play.

At the varsity level we look for our teams to compete against opponents at the highest possible level. In order to accomplish this, there are many instances when the major burden of the contest will be carried by the most competitive, skilled team members.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ALL STUDENT-ATHLETES

Participating in the Assabet Valley interscholastic athletic program is a privilege, not a right. Conduct of all participants should be exemplary in nature and bring credit to the athlete, school, team, coaches, and the Assabet Valley Community. Assabet Valley student-athletes are bound by the rules stated in handbook; MIAA Blue Book, student handbook and student-athlete handbook.

Athletic Participation Registration and Required Documents for Participation

All students who plan to participate in athletics must have a written proof of a current physical examination signed by a physician. In order for an exam to be considered current, it must dated within 13 months of any athletic involvement. *Interim notes signed by a physician are no longer accepted.*

All students interested in trying out for interscholastic sports must complete and have on file in the athletic office the following forms: Current Physical Exam, ImPACT baseline, Online Registration of Parental/Student Consent Forms. Athletes *WILL NOT* be allowed to participate in any practices until the above forms are on file with the athletic department.

Academic Eligibility for participation

- All students participating in athletics must secure during the last marking period preceding the contest a passing grade, and full credit, in the equivalent of four major subjects and a passing grade in your Vocational Technical area of study.
- To be eligible for the fall marking period, students are required to have passed and received full credits for the previous academic year equivalent of four traditional yearlong major courses and have a passing grade in your Vocational Technical area of study
- A student athlete with a school academic or disciplinary obligation is expected to fulfill that obligation before reporting to an athletic practice or game. Students cannot expect, and should not request, to have academic or disciplinary obligations postponed or cancelled for any athletic reason.
- Incomplete grades may not be counted toward eligibility.

Team Tryouts/Selection-

Tryouts for programs are open to all students providing they meet the standards of academic eligibility, parental permission, and basic physical/health qualifications. Participation in athletics is a privilege granted to those students who meet all requirements set by the MIAA and Assabet Valley Regional School District. Our goal is to allow as many students as possible to participate and share the experience and benefits derived from team membership by offering a No Cut policy, exceptions can occur during senior year.

Placement of athletes is at the coach's discretion on the basis of skill development, readiness for competition and positive effort. The size of a team is necessarily limited by the availability of supplies, equipment and coaching staff. However, not all students who wish to participate in

interscholastic athletics, at the varsity level, may be able to do so. No student will be permitted to compete until, in the opinion of the coach, he or she is ready to do so.

Daily Practice Commitment

Every student athlete is expected to attend all practice sessions and games. Practices are held daily for approximately 2-2 ½ hours, or as appropriate to the activity. Some practice may be held on weekends and during school vacation. Most practices sessions begin at 3pm on school days. Any student-athlete who skips practice is hurting him/herself and the team. It is important that a coach be notified if an athlete is not going to be present at a practice or game. Any student-athlete reporting late or missing practices will be subjected to team rule consequences. A coach may suspend an athlete from practice or games for repeated unexcused absences. An injured athlete receiving needed medical treatment from the athletic trainer must attend practice after daily treatment. Each coach may implement additional rules governing their respective sport program.

School Attendance and Tardiness-

A student-athlete absent from school may not participate in any athletic activity during that afternoon or evening. Student-athletes must attend all scheduled periods during the school day. Student-athletes must be present in the school by 11:00 AM and in order to practice or play that afternoon or evening.

School Discipline Obligations

Student-athletes at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School are representing themselves, their family, team, school, and community at all times. Therefore, athletes will be held accountable for their actions on and off the field of play.

A student athlete with a school disciplinary obligation must fulfill the disciplinary obligation before reporting to a practice and/or game. Student athletes cannot expect, and should not request disciplinary action to be postponed or cancelled for any athletic reason. The athletic department reserves the right to remove a student athlete from a team for excessive disciplinary problems.

School Suspensions

Any student-athlete suspended out of school or in school will not be allowed to practice, play or attend any meetings during the period of suspension. If the student extends beyond Friday or vacation period, the student athlete is not allowed to take part in any activity on the weekend or during the time period when school is not in session.

Transportation Policy-

The school will provide transportation to all away athletic contests. All team athletes, scorekeepers, and managers are required to ride to and from away games or meets on the team bus/van provided by the school.

In the event there are extenuating circumstances and the parent must transport his or her daughter from an athletic event, it is required that the parent/guardian provide a written note **directly to the coach**, and the coach will notify the athletic director. A parent/guardian then must identify himself/herself to a member of the coaching staff informing the coach that his/her child is leaving with him/her. Student-athletes then may leave with their parent/guardian. Student-athletes may not ride with other student-athletes or anyone else other than their parent/guardian.

[Directions to Away Contests](#)

Directions can be found at MIAA.net website – Click on Member School Lookup and proceed from there.

[Health Insurance](#)

All student-athletes must be enrolled in a health insurance plan. It is the family's responsibility to file all claims under its own plan, or supplemental policy. School medical indemnity insurance for the medical treatment of sport related injuries is applicable only after the parents' health insurance, if any, has been used. Filing forms are available from the athletic director. The trainer or athletic director will assist in filing these claims if needed.

All injuries no matter how minor must be reported immediately to the athletic trainer or your coach and an injury report placed on file with the athletic trainer.

[Athletic Trainer Room Policies-](#)

The training room serves to help student-athletes receive the best possible care. Assabet is fortunate to have a highly qualified and skillful certified athletic trainer (ATC) as a member of our staff. On school days our trainer's hours are usually 1:30pm until the conclusion of the last practice or home game.

In an event of an athletic injury, the ATC is in immediate control. If no medical personnel are present, members of the coaching staff are instructed to assess the situation and, if warranted, call for emergency care. **All sport related injuries must be reported to the athletic trainer and student may not return to competition without clearance by the ATC.** The athletic trainer /coach will complete Athletic Injury Report form immediately for all athletic injuries or accidents that involve any student under their control during a practice, contest or while traveling to or from a contest.

The athletic trainer, coaching staff and other responsible school officials will do everything within reason to protect your child against injury, including providing the appropriate equipment, safe facilities, and training designed to reduce the risk of accidents, although injuries may occur and on a very rare occasion can be serious and disabling. If you are concerned about this possibility, you should discuss it with your child's coach, Athletic Director or Athletic Trainer.

Student-athletes must report all injuries to their coach immediately. If a physical injury prohibits a student athlete from participating for any length of time, they can only return to play with an authorized released form from student athlete's PCP, orthopedic surgeon, or school's certified Athletic Trainer.

Security of Personal Belongings

All personal belongings should be locked in a locker while the student athlete is trying out, practicing, or playing. All students should have a lock for their athletic lockers and should never leave their locker unlocked or open while at practice or a game.

- Students have obligation and responsibility to care for all athletic equipment issued to them, as well as personal belongings.
- The athlete is responsible for proper care of this equipment from the date of issue, to the date of return. Equipment and uniforms should be stored in a locked locker at all times. (Lockers are provided for each athlete).
- If a student loses school equipment or fails to return the assigned equipment in satisfactory condition they are responsible to meet the current replacement cost of the equipment. Please LOCK all belonging into the team rooms.
- Team rooms will be locked after homeroom and not available until end of the day or game time.

Locker room and Equipment-

The student-athlete is responsible, not only for the general care and upkeep of his/her locker, but also the care and return of any uniforms and/or equipment issued to him/her. A student-athlete will also be provided with an individual lock to secure his/her belongings.

All equipment is to be returned at the completion of the season. If a student leaves the team during the season due to injury, academics, discipline or quitting, it is his/her responsibility to return all school equipment immediately. If a student loses, fails to return, returns unreasonably damaged clothing or equipment that has been issued to them he/she will be responsible to meet the current cost of the equipment.

No student will be allowed to try out or participate for another sport until all outstanding equipment/uniforms has been returned or paid for from the previous season. Any item damaged or not returned must be paid for equal to its replacement value (to be determined by the athletic director) all obligations for lost equipment must be met prior to the next season of athletic involvement or graduation, whichever comes first.

Locker room and facilities

Student athletes are expected to respect the locker facilities, showers, and general areas of the athletic facilities. We expect our student athletes to take pride in the facilities by disposing of trash in the proper receptacles and keeping the locker room clean and in good condition.

Rules for Athletes

- Roughhousing and throwing towels or other objects is not allowed in the locker room.
- Hazing of other players is not allowed.
- All showers must be turned off after showering. The last person to leave the shower room is expected to check all showers.
- No one except coaches and assigned players are allowed in the team room.
- All spikes or cleaned shoes must be put on and taken off outside of the locker room in extreme or muddy weather conditions. No metal or hard plastic spikes or cleats are ever allowed in any other part of the school building

- Equipment must be removed from all lockers by the end of the first school day following the conclusion of each sport season.

Weight Room-

- No individual should be in the weight room without adult supervision.
- All students must be under the supervision of the instructor assigned to the weight room.
- Lifters must have spotters.
- Replace all weights on racks immediately following use.
- Clean off benches immediately when finished with that machine.

Building Access

- No student will be allowed access to any of the athletic facilities without supervision by a school staff member.
- Student athletes are not allowed in the weight room unless it is supervised by a staff member.
- Student athletes are expected to respect the locker room facilities, showers, team rooms. We expect the student athletes to take pride in their facilities by using trash barrels, keeping their athletic facilities in good condition.
- Please report any broken or damage in locker rooms.

NO Cleats are to be worn in the building

Concussion protocol

The new concussion law requires student- athletes and their parents, coaches, athletic director, school nurses, and physicians and others learn about the consequences of head injuries and concussions through training programs and written materials. The law requires that athletes and their parents inform their coaches or athletic trainer about prior head injuries at the beginning of the season. If a student- athlete becomes unconscious, suffers a known, or suspected concussion during a game or practice, the law mandates removing the student from play or practice, and requires written certification from a licensed medical professional (i.e. - physician, athletic trainer, etc.) for "return to play." Two free online courses are available and contain all the information required by law. The first on-line course is available through the NFHS. You will need to click the "order here" button and complete a brief registration form to take the course. However, you do not need to be a member of NFHS to access this course. Go to: <http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=15000>

The second on-line course is available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at: http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html

This protocol outlines procedures for managing head injuries and the policy for return to play after a concussion. The new concussion law requires that athletes and their parents inform their coaches or athletic trainer about prior head injuries at the beginning of the season. All athletes must complete the IMPACT test for baseline scores before first day of practice.

Any athlete who becomes unconscious, exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion or suffers a known or suspected concussion during a game or practice shall be

immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.

The chart below may serve as the Return to Play guidelines*.

*Return to play guidelines.

Stage	Activity	Objective
1. No activity	Complete cognitive (e.g. mental) rest	Recovery
2. Light aerobic exercise	Walking, swimming or stationary bicycle keeping intensity less than 50% of maximum predicted heart rate	Increase heart rate
3. Increased Light Aerobic Exercise	Walking, swimming or stationary bicycle keeping intensity less than 75% of maximum predicted heart rate	Increase heart rate
4. Sport-specific exercise	Skating drills in ice hockey, running drills in soccer. No head impact activities	Add movement
5. Non-contact training drills	Progression to more complex training drills, e.g. passing drills in football and ice hockey	Exercise, coordination and use of brain
6. Full contact practice	Following medical clearance , participate in normal training activities	Restore confidence and allow coaching staff to assess functional skills
7. Return to play	Normal game play	

The law also prohibits coaches, trainers and others from encouraging or permitting a student-athlete to use sports equipment as a weapon or to engage in sports techniques that unreasonably endanger the health and safety of him/her or other players, such as helmet to helmet hits.

If a student-athlete sustains a head injury or concussion during the season, but not while participating in an extra-curricular athletic activity, the parent shall complete the “Report of the Head Injury Form” and submit it to the athletic trainer.

New Opioid Law

On March 14, 2016, Governor Charlie Baker signed landmark legislation into law to address the deadly opioid epidemic plaguing the Commonwealth. The bill is titled An Act relative to substance use, treatment, education and prevention (STEP Act). This new law includes multiple provisions including a 7-day limit on every opiate prescription for minors (with certain exceptions), a mandate for a verbal screen for substance use disorders in students and a requirement that information on opiate-use and misuse be disseminated to all students participating in an extracurricular athletic activity prior to their

athletic season. This information can be found at our sports concussion website (www.mass.gov/sportsconcussion) at <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/community-health/dvip/injuryprevention/substance-use-disorder.html>. Here you will find information on substance use and misuse, where to get help for your child, resources and a link to the Dept. of Public Health Bureau of Substance Abuse Services. Please make sure prior to every sports season that this educational information is distributed to all student athletes and their parents participating in extracurricular sports. Thank you for continuing to ensure the safety and health of the Commonwealth's students."

Sportsmanship

Assabet Valley High School expects all parties present at a contest to display the highest possible level of sportsmanship before, during and after the competition. Players, Coaches, and Spectators are to treat opponents, game officials and visiting spectators with respect. The MIAA reserves the right to "warn, censure, place on probation or suspend, up to one (1) calendar year any player, team, coach, spectator or school official determined to be acting in a manner contrary to the standards of good sportsmanship."

Some general guidelines for all to follow are:

- Appreciate good play no matter who makes it
- Show compassion for injured players
- Avoid jeering and taunting opponents.
- Avoid using profane language
- Avoid obnoxious cheers
- Respect the judgment of call by officials

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (hereafter referred to as the MIAA) is the governing body of athletics within the State of Massachusetts. Its Board of Directors is made up of Principals from various districts throughout the state. The Board of Directors and its various subcommittees establish policy for all members schools.

Assabet Valley is a member of the MIAA and is therefore governed by the Association rules and regulations. Additional policies, rules and regulations are set by the Assabet Valley. Under MIAA guidelines local communities are allowed to set their own policy, rules and regulations as long as they are more restrictive than those stipulated by MIAA. The MIAA organizes and establishes the guidelines for all post-season tournaments. All schools throughout the Commonwealth are responsible to govern themselves under the rules set forth in rules identified as the Blue Book.

Out of Season Activities

The position of the MIAA on out-of-season activity is simple. Student athletes may do whatever they and their parents choose during the academic school year when they are not participating in interscholastic athletics during a specific high school sport season. In addition, high school coaches are not to have direct influence over those decisions.

The spirit of MIAA Out-of-Season Rules 40 and 41 is probably more important than the letter of the rules. The fundamental concept of these standards is fairness. All student athletes and their families across the state should feel free to make choices about the use of their out-of-season time, without the fear of being placed at a disadvantage within their local school athletic program or in eventual in-season competition against high school opponents. It is the position of the MIAA that fairness to the student athletes in competing schools can only be ensured if *all* coaches and *all* school administrators are in compliance with the stipulations of these rules.

Time Allowed to Participation

A student has four consecutive years of participation from the day he/she enters grade nine. This means twelve consecutive athletic seasons eligibility. A fifth year student is ineligible to compete in his/her fifth year even if he/she has not played in one of the previous years.

Age Limitation

A student must be less than 19 years of age prior to September 1 of the current school year. For freshmen competition, a student shall be under 16 years of age but may compete during the remainder of the school year provided that the sixteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1st of that year.

Loyalty to the High School Team Rule: Bona Fide Team Members

A bona fide member of the school team is a student, who is consistently present for, and actively participates in, all high school team sessions (e.g. practices, tryouts, competitions). Bona fide members of a school team are precluded from missing a high school practice or competition in order to participate in a non-school athletic activity/event in any sport recognized by the MIAA. *First Offense: Student athlete is suspended for 25% of the season (see chart on Rule 62). Second Offense:*

Student athlete is suspended for an additional 25% of the season, and is ineligible for tournament play immediately upon confirmation of the violation.

MIAA Chemical Health Rule:

Student Eligibility: Chemical Health/Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco *From the earliest fall practice date, to the conclusion of the academic year or final athletic event (whichever is latest), a student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product; marijuana; steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes products such as "NA or near beer". It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her doctor. This MIAA statewide minimum standard is not intended to render "guilt by association", e.g. many student athletes might be present at a party where only a few violate this standard. This rule represents only a minimum standard upon which schools may develop more stringent requirements. If a student in violation of this rule is unable to participate in interscholastic sports due to injury or academics, the penalty will not take effect until that student is able to participate again.*

Minimum PENALTIES:

First violation: When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests totaling 25% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. No exception is permitted for a student who

becomes a participant in a treatment program. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 25% of the season.

Second and subsequent violations: When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests totaling 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 60% of the season.

If after the second or subsequent violations the students of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum of 40% of events. The director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 40% of the season.

Crime of Hazing, Definition, Penalty

Chapter 269, Section 1

1. Hazing is a crime in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts General Laws require that a copy of the law prohibiting hazing be delivered to each team member. A copy of the law that you must deliver is attached to the student athlete handbook. Please read it carefully

Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Anti-Hazing Law

Chapter 269: Section 17. Hazing; organizing or participating; hazing defined

Whoever is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing, as defined herein, shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

The term "hazing" as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

Chapter 269: Section 18. Failure to report hazing

Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in section seventeen and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or

others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Chapter 269: Section 19. Copy of Secs. 17 to 19; issuance to students and student groups, teams and organizations; report

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is part of such institution or is recognized by the institution or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen; provided, however, that an institution's compliance with this section's requirements that an institution issue copies of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution's recognition or endorsement of said unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations.

Each such group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the board of higher education and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution's policies to its students. The board of higher education and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report.

Athlete-Coach-Parent Communication

Participation in athletics should be an enjoyable experience for all parties involved; student, coach and parent. In most case, athletic competition is extremely positive and compliments the educational experience. Occasionally conflicts between coaches and students arise, and should be seen as learning opportunities for our student athletes. We are striving to teach them the skill of self-advocacy, and in that spirit we encourage the student-athlete to speak to their coach directly before any parent contact. Please use the following communication protocol to resolve conflicts regarding student athlete team participation:

Step 1: Student athlete goes directly to coach

Step 2: Student athlete & parent go directly to coach

Step 3: Student athlete goes directly to Athletic Director

Step 4: Student athlete & parent go directly to Athletic Director

Direct communication with the coach is the best way possible to understand each other's position, so encourage your student-athlete to be the one to initiate the process. If a coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting.

Issues that is appropriate for a parent to discuss with coaches

- 1) Treatment of child, mentally and physically
- 2) Ways to help your son/daughter improve and develop
- 3) Concerns about the child's behavior
- 4) Concerns about the child's academic functioning

Issues that is not appropriate for a parent to discuss with coaches

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

- DO NOT CALL A COACH AT HOME.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A CONTEST OR PRACTICE. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coaches. If potentially angry, use common sense and use the 24 hour rule before communicating with the coach.
- Stay away from the sideline, bench and or dugout, as it is a place where student athletes and coaches can focus, communicate, strategize and defuse.
- Let the coaches coach the student-athletes.
- Be a good model of sportsmanship and appropriate, adult like fan behavior at games. Please do not engage in confrontational behavior with, or direct negative comments or actions towards coaches, opposing coaches, fans, officials or anyone else in attendance at games.

Retribution

Students and parents must be confident that the voicing of an opinion or a concern, using the proper forum and method, is not only free from penalty or retribution, but also is strongly encouraged. The Athletic Director and coaches are committed to insuring that after a student or parent raises an issue or concern, there shall be no “retribution” in any form within the athletic department at Assabet Regional High School. If at any time, a student or his / her parent suspects that some form of retribution is surfacing as a result of the voicing of a concern, opinion, or issue, using the proper forum and method, he or she should contact the Athletic Director immediately.

Other Important Information

Admission to Sporting Events- Assabet charges admission to certain home contests. These contests include Varsity Football, Varsity Ice Hockey, Varsity/JV Boys’ and Girls’ Basketball. Ticket prices for the 2017-18 seasons are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens. MIAA Tournament ticket prices are set by the MIAA.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Director of Athletics
Josh MacCreery
(508) 485-9430, Extension 1412
jmaccreeery@assabet.org

Athletic Information can be found on:

www.miaa.net

<http://ma.8to18.com/Assabet/>

Twitter: @AztecAthletics (results and cancellations)

(All game cancellations will be posted after 1:00 PM)

Assabet Valley Regional Technical School Principal
Mark Hollick
(508) 485-9430

Assabet’s Nurse’s Office
Karen Reed
(508) 485-9430, Extension 1422

Certified Athletic Trainer
Laura Hilliger
(508) 485-9430, Extension 1103