

FAIRFIELD COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

GUIDELINES FOR ATHLETES

Fairfield Prep, by its very philosophy, exists to form the whole individual: spirit, mind, and body. All of its programs, be they academic or extracurricular, exist to meet this objective. First and foremost, Fairfield Prep is a Jesuit, Catholic secondary school. Academics always take priority over any extracurricular activity. Athletics, however, are an integral part of the education, which many students receive at Fairfield Prep. Seen in their proper place they can be rewarding and educational. These “Guidelines for Athletes” are meant to state Fairfield Prep’s expectations of its athletes. All athletes are expected to follow these guidelines. These guidelines do not replace CIAC guidelines; instead, they are supplemental and reflect Fairfield Prep’s philosophy regarding athletics. No athlete will be allowed to participate in a practice or athletic competition unless they have registered online and agreed to these guidelines.

ACADEMICS AND ELIGIBILITY

CIAC regulations require students to maintain a passing in grade in at least 4 subject areas. Student Athletes who fail to meet these criteria are not eligible for interscholastic competition. Academic failures may not be made up until the reporting of the next quarter grades, except that credits earned during the summer by any regularly approved board of education procedure will be accepted for the purpose of determining the eligibility of pupils desiring to participate in the athletic program of the school in September. In addition, Fairfield Prep reserves the right to rule students on academic probation ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities (see Student Handbook; Academic Probation or Dismissal).

Parents and administrators reserve the right to declare an athlete ineligible at any time throughout the school year because of poor attitude toward studies or because of other circumstances.

Student Athletes may on occasionally be dismissed from class early for the purpose of traveling to a particular athletic contest. Students are responsible for any assignments due or assignments handed out during their absence from class. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that he seeks out his teachers and makes arrangement for missed class time. A game, match or meet the night before is not a reason to miss homework, nor is it an excuse to be absent from school. The athlete is responsible for obtaining and completing assignments on time.

APPEARANCE

Guidelines found in the Student Handbook should be followed with regard to appearance in school and at athletic contests. Athletes should avoid faddish or extreme haircuts. Athletes who are traveling to an away competition and are not in uniform for that sport will be expected to conform to approved dress code for everyday school attendance.

ATTENDANCE

An un-excused absence from practice will result in suspension from competition in the next game, match or meet. Two un-excused absences result in dismissal from the team. To be excused from practice, sufficient reason must first be given to the coach at the earliest possible time. On days when school is canceled due to inclement weather or other reasons, coaches and athletes should communicate.

Each athlete is responsible for attending all practices and games, including those held during vacation periods and all post season competition. If vacations are planned during the sport season, the athlete will suffer the consequences set by each individual head coach.

Absence from school normally means the athlete is ineligible to play in an athletic contest scheduled that day and is not allowed to report to practice. An exception to this rule may only be granted by the Dean of Students and/or the Director of Athletics and only under special circumstances.

If an athlete is unable to participate due to injury or illness, he is expected to attend team functions (games, matches, meets) unless conditions prevent it.

BEHAVIOR AND SPORTS

2

Administrators reserve the right to declare an athlete ineligible at any time due to chronic problem behavior whether it occurs within the school hours or outside the school. Athletes are responsible for their actions and impressions on and off the court, field, pool or track.

Any display of poor sportsmanship will be dealt with in a harsh manner. Suspension or expulsion may be a consequence of an athlete's improper actions. The administrator and the coach will decide the appropriate disciplinary action for each individual case of poor sportsmanship.

There is absolutely no justification for fighting. Athletes who are involved in a fight, whether in a contest or not, are subject to disciplinary action above and beyond any mandatory action as prescribed by the C.I.A.C. or the Southern Connecticut Conference.

Chronic Detention (JUG) could result in suspension or expulsion from a team. The administrator and the coach will decide the consequences.

Suspension from school (either in-house or out of school) means suspension from the team for the same period of time. Students placed on disciplinary probation are subject to restrictions in extra-curricular activities which may include athletic participation and restrictions on travel.

CHRONIC LATENESS TO PRACTICE

Each individual coach will decide the disciplinary action. Extra help is never a problem!

EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

Each athlete is responsible for the care and security of his uniform and any equipment. Equipment and uniforms must be turned in on the days designated by each head coach. Failure to do so means the athlete must pay the price for replacement of missing equipment or uniforms.

PARTICIPATION

No participation, including practice or games, on any other organized team during the season is allowed. Athletes who are found to be participating on an outside team will be immediately suspended from the active roster of the Fairfield Prep team of which they are members.

TEAM AWARDS

Guidelines for earning numerals, Junior Varsity or Varsity awards, certificates or other special awards are set by each individual head coach.

ATHLETIC COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTS

ATHLETES AND THEIR PARENT(S) AND/OR LEGAL GUARDIAN(S) MUST SUBMIT A PRE-SEASON REGISTRATION FORM FOUND ONLINE FOR EACH SPORT, ACCORDING TO SEASON. THE SURVEY FORM WILL REQUIRE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN FAIRFIELD PREP SPORTS.

THESE FORMS ARE: PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATIONS, CIAC RULES OF ELIGIBILITY, INFORMED CONSENT, CHEMICAL HEALTH POLICY, STUDENT ATHLETE CONTRACT AND ATHLETIC GUIDELINES.

IN ADDITION, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

I understand that my son's first responsibility to Fairfield Prep is as a student and I will encourage him during his athletic season to give his academic work the time it needs and deserves. I realize that Fairfield Prep has non-duplicating insurance and that for any injury my son might sustain in athletics I must first make a claim against my own insurance. I realize that the school's insurance will pick up where my insurance leaves off. I understand that if I have a problem, which pertains to my son's participation on a Fairfield Prep team, I will follow the guidelines from the Parent/Coach Communications document. I understand that at no time will the President, Principal or Athletic Director ever comment on the selection of team members. I realize that individual coaches have regulations for their teams and I agree to abide by those regulations as well as the regulations for all athletics found in the Fairfield Prep Student Handbook & Calendar, the Fairfield Prep "Guidelines for Athletes" and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference Rules of Eligibility (Available from the Athletic Office or @ www.casciac.org).

3

I understand that parents are not to be in the locker rooms, or on the sidelines at contests or practices. Parental conduct at athletic contests is always to be appropriate and in keeping with the respectful nature of Fairfield Prep and its athletic program. I understand that all equipment and/or uniforms issued

by Fairfield Prep for use by my son is the property of Fairfield Prep and agree to return this equipment or be responsible for the cost of any lost items.

Tryouts for teams begin on the first date allowed by CIAC season limitations or on the first available date thereafter as dictated by conditions of weather and facilities issues. Candidates for teams are expected to be present for tryouts. Only under extraordinary circumstances, and with the authorization of the Athletic Director, will a candidate be allowed to tryout after the season commences