

THE BRONXVILLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT  
MODIFIED INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM



# HANDBOOK

Updated May, 2018

# THE BRONXVILLE SCHOOL MODIFIED SPORTS PROGRAM

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## MISSION

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The Bronxville School Modified Sports Program provides interscholastic competition for students in grades 7 and 8. As per the Commissioner of Education, sixth grade students are not permitted to participate in competition with other schools.

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## PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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- Provide the student athlete an opportunity to experience a new sport or to continue to develop sport specific skills.
- Allow the student to develop skills of time management, commitment, teamwork and leadership.
- Develop skills in a competitively safe environment considering factors such as physical size and skill development.
- When there are no facility/budget constraints, students are not “cut” based on skill. There is an expectation that student/athletes will commitment to the program at a minimum of 3 days per week. Some programs have a limited number of opportunities due to facility/budget constraints. In this case, teams are ability-based and alternative opportunities in that sport are created whenever possible.
- Quality playing time is an expectation-Quality does not always mean equal.

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## MODIFIED SPORTS OFFERINGS

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<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Girls Field Hockey	Girls 7/8 Gr. Basketball	Baseball
Girls Soccer	Boys 7/8 Gr. Basketball	B/G Track & Field
Boys Soccer	B/G Track & Field	Girls Lacrosse
B/G Cross Country	Ice Hockey (Grades 7-8-9)**	Boys Lacrosse
Football	B/G Squash Club	

\*\*Ice Hockey will again be offered as a merged team with Tuckahoe, Eastchester, and Edgemont

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## SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE PARTICIPATION ON A HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

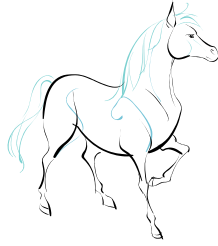
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The Advanced Placement Process (formerly known as Selection/Classification) was designed for mature and exceptionally skilled students to advance to an upper level. This program, as defined by the State Education Department, is not to be used to fill rosters or to provide a place for middle school students when no modified program is offered. The process begins with a coach’s recommendation to the Athletic Director, and includes the following components: parent permission form, maturation physical by the school physician, physical fitness test, skills tryout and academic review.

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Updated Modified Sports Information can be found at [www.bronxvilleathletics.com](http://www.bronxvilleathletics.com)

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## THE BRONXVILLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

### MODIFIED INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

#### **OVERVIEW**

The New York State Commissioner of Education Regulations permits interscholastic competition in sports for pupils in Grades 7 through 12 only.

Teams compete against other schools and are made up of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Modified Ice Hockey includes 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Modified sports at the Bronxville School plays an essential role in fulfilling the School's mission of helping all students, including students with disabilities, "reach their highest potential", by exploring their world, discovering their unique interest and abilities as individuals, developing their talents, nurturing close friendships, building a rich sense of community, and contributing to the cultural life of the school.

Students with disabilities who are in need of special accommodation in order to participate in the school's Athletic Program should contact the Athletic Director, Karen Peterson.

#### **SIGN-UPS**

All modified sports registrations are done online through the Family ID program starting 30 days before the start of the season.

#### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

In order to be eligible to participate in Athletics, student athletes must have a physical exam on file in the Nurses' Office that is less than one year old. All 7<sup>th</sup> graders are required by New York State Education Department law to have a physical exam by their own doctor.

# MODIFIED INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

## HEALTH CLEARANCES

In order for a student athlete to compete on a modified sports team, the following criteria must be met:

1. **The athlete's parent/guardian has registered the student through the Family ID program and has completed all of the forms.** To access Family ID, visit [www.bronxvilleathletics.com](http://www.bronxvilleathletics.com) and click on the Family ID icon at the top of the page.
2. The athlete has a physical on file in the school Health Office that is less than one year old. New physicals can be scanned through the Family ID program.

**Note:** Registrations must be completed for each sports season.

3. After forms are submitted online, the Nurse's Office will confirm clearance after all criteria has been met. Parents will be notified by email regarding any missing information.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

The health and safety of our student athletes is our priority. To that end, the Bronxville School adheres to the following safety guidelines:

1. All athletes must first be cleared through the school health office.
2. Coaches have emergency contact numbers and pertinent health information with them at all times.
3. The school contracts with a certified athletic trainer who is on site from 2:30 to 6:30 PM daily.
4. An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is within 3 minutes of all practice and game sites.
5. A physician and/or a Certified Athletic Trainer is in attendance at all "home" football games.
6. All Bronxville coaches are certified in CPR, AED and First Aid. Coaches are instructed that if a child is injured at an "away" site and must go to the hospital without another school designated person present, the game is to be suspended and the whole team leaves with the injured child. Emergency numbers are called at that point and transportation is arranged to get the team home.

# MODIFIED INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

## **CLEARANCE OF AN INJURED ATHLETE**

An athlete who has been injured and has been excused from Physical Education Class or Athletics and has **NOT** seen a Doctor may return to activity with a parent's note that is first brought to the Health Office, signed by the Nurse, and a copy sent to Athletics.

Any athlete who has been held from activity on the advice of a physician *can only return to activity with a clearance note written by the attending physician. Notes that restrict activity in some way will not suffice.* The athlete must be totally cleared to participate in athletics.

A N.Y.S. Mandated Clearance Process for concussions is required. Please refer to the Bronxville School Districts Concussion Management Policy and Return to Play Protocol listed on the District and Athletic Web pages.

## **CUTS**

In most programs, students are not cut based on their ability. We do ask that students make a commitment to the program and understand the importance of both practice and games. Consistent attendance at practice is required in order to properly prepare athletes for competition. Some programs have a limited number of opportunities due to facility/budget constraints. In this case, teams are ability-based and alternative opportunities in that sport are created whenever possible. Students who are members of outside teams that conflict with school practices and contests are not permitted to try-out for limited opportunity teams.

## **TEAM EXPECTATIONS**

All modified sports athletes must remember that they are representing The Bronxville School during their participation in the athletic program (practices, games, and while traveling). Sportsmanship, respect for teammates, and appropriate behavior and language are all expectations of our student/athletes. Coaches will review specific team rules.

It is a privilege to represent the Bronxville Middle School, and student athletes are reminded that academics, as well as proper behavior and citizenship in school, and during co-curricular activities are paramount to their continued participation and their success. A more formal Code of Conduct is currently being formulated.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Students must be in school all day and participate in their scheduled Physical Education class in order to be eligible for after school sports. A student who has an excused absence (example doctor or dentist appointment) is permitted to play as long as the student is not absent due to an illness. Any student serving detention, as well as, an in-school or out-of-school suspension is ineligible to participate in athletics. All student/athletes must abide by the Bronxville School expectations for behavior and citizenship in order to maintain their eligibility.

# MODIFIED INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

## **TRANSPORTATION**

The school provides busing to and from off-site practices and/or contests. All athletes *must* travel to and from games with their team. Games are usually scheduled for a 4:15 or 4:30 PM start (except ice hockey). Depending on location, teams may not return from *away* games until 7:00 or 7:30 PM.

In the special circumstance when a parent provides transportation for their athlete, a Bronxville Transportation Release Form must be completed and given to the coach. This form is available on the school athletic website or can be picked up outside the Athletic Office.

## **PRACTICES**

1. Practices for modified sports are usually held 3 to 4 times a week. Due to facility constraints, practices and games are scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Games and practices are never held on Wednesdays.

**Exceptions:** Football and Ice Hockey practice and compete on Saturdays.

2. Due to the many sports and other programs offered in the Elementary, Middle and High School, practice sites and times can vary. Your coach will keep you informed of where and when you meet. A weekly schedule is also posted on the school web site under [www.bronxvilleathletics.com](http://www.bronxvilleathletics.com)

3. It is very important that you check the location and time each day. Notices are posted on the bulletin board located outside the Athletic Office. All daily changes are posted on the athletic website. It is the responsibility of the student/athlete to advise their parent.

***NOTE: School supervision by certified coaches starts at the team's designated practice time. The use of school equipment is prohibited prior to and after the designated practice time when coaches are not present. Students are responsible for their own behavior outside of those times.***

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROCESS**

The intent of the Advanced Placement Process is to provide for students in grades 7 through 12 a mechanism which allows them to participate safely at an appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age and grade. This process can be used to qualify those athletes who display exceptional skill and maturity to play on a high school team. Athletes will be asked to put together a sports resume outlining their particular experiences in that sport and submit it to the Athletic Department with a special Advanced Placement parental permission sheet.

# MODIFIED INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROCESS** *(continued)*

The Advanced Placement Process consists of a Maturation Physical Exam by our school doctor, a three to five-day tryout period (sport specific), and physical fitness testing. This process is initiated from the Athletic Director's Office with special permission granted by the Middle School Principal. Parents should check start times for Fall sports and adjust their plans accordingly. Any parents interested in this process should first call the Athletic Director's office. For additional information, please refer to the attached addendum.

## **GAME SITES AND SCHEDULES**

Schedules and updated practice and game information can be found on the Athletic Website: [www.bronxvilleathletics.com](http://www.bronxvilleathletics.com)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Athletic Department Extensions:      Ext. 3234 Athletic Department Office  
   Dawn Hartson, Senior Office Assistant  
   Ext. 3216 Karen Peterson, Athletic Director  
   Ext. 1205 David Russert, Modified Sports Coordinator

Updated May, 2018

# BRONXVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

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## TEAM LEVELS AND EXPECTATIONS

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The opportunities provided through The Bronxville School Athletic Program allow students to experience and develop the tenets of The Bronxville Promise. Critical thinking and innovation are part of a student athlete's daily experience as part of a team. Students learn to be better leaders, communicators, and to follow their passions. They must collaborate with teammates in order to be successful and are provided with opportunities to engage in the local community to become better citizens. One of the goals of the athletic program is to provide these opportunities to as many students as possible within the constraints of safety, facilities, and budget.

The Bronxville School is committed to the pursuit of excellence in learning that focuses on the highest potential of every student at every stage of development. Each developmental level has its own set of objectives and expectations. Time commitment and citizenship are required at all levels.

*It is a privilege to be a Bronco.*

### **Modified Sports**

- Provide the student-athlete an opportunity to experience a new sport or to continue to develop sport specific skills.
- Allow the student to develop skills of time management, commitment, teamwork and leadership.
- Develop skills in a competitively safe environment considering factors such as physical size and skill development.
- Students are not “cut” based on skill (except in the sport of basketball due to limited facilities), but there is an expectation of commitment to the program for at least 3 days per week.
- Quality playing time is an expectation. Quality does not always mean equal.



*Grades 7 and 8, or 7, 8 and 9 grades.*

## **Freshman Sports**

- Develop and refine basic skills and learn the rules of the sport.
- Determine the student-athlete's continued involvement in the sport
- Provide playing time to all participants, at the coach's discretion and in a manner that not only rewards skill level, but also commitment and worth ethic.

The freshman player must exhibit the requisite intellectual skills, proper attitude, physical conditioning, and sport specific skills that indicate potential to be a JV performer over the next two years. *The coaching staff will distribute sport specific criteria and expectations prior to the start of the season. High school students meeting all of the above mentioned criteria cannot be displaced by a Middle School student.* Middle School students may be eligible to play based on the Advanced Placement Process *and in accordance with the procedures listed above.*

## **Junior Varsity Sports**

- Further develop skills of the athlete
- Increase the intensity of competition
- Prepare the athlete for varsity level competition
- Place more emphasis on competitive success, but not to the extent of the varsity team
- Provide opportunities for playing time as game conditions merit

The Junior Varsity consists of mostly sophomores and freshmen who have demonstrated the ability to start, or receive significant playing time. The JV player must exhibit the requisite intellectual skills, proper attitude, physical conditioning, and sport specific skills that indicate potential to be a varsity performer over the next two years. *The coaching staff will distribute sport specific criteria and expectations prior to the start of the season. High school students meeting all of the above mentioned criteria cannot be displaced by a Middle School student.* Middle School students may be eligible to play based on the Advanced Placement Process *and in accordance with the procedures listed above.*

## **Varsity Sports**

- Develop skills and physical conditioning of the athlete to his or her full potential
- Allow the talented athlete the chance to excel and prepare for college-level competition.
- Provide athletes with the opportunities to learn to set goals, to strive to achieve them as a team, and to serve as role models for younger athletes.
- One of the focuses of the program is to achieve competitive success, and with that said, coaches will meet with their athletes to discuss the player's role on the team and potential playing time.

The Varsity team will consist of primarily juniors and seniors, but freshmen and sophomores who have demonstrated the ability to be starters, or key contributors, also maybe members of the team. Juniors must show the potential to be varsity players over the next two years to be members of the team. The varsity player must show the mental skills, proper attitude, physical skills and sport-specific skills to be a starter or essential contributor to the success of the team. *The coaching staff will distribute sport specific criteria and expectations prior to the start of the season. High school students meeting all of the above mentioned criteria cannot be displaced by a Middle School student. Middle School students may be eligible to play based on the Advanced Placement Process and in accordance with the procedures listed above.*

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

The Special Olympics program offers students, who cannot be accommodated through the sport levels listed above, an opportunity to participate in interscholastic Athletics.

### **Note:**

Regardless of the level, each year every player must demonstrate the skills and character needed to be a member of the Athletic Program for which he or she is trying out. **NO** player is guaranteed a position in the present year simply because he or she was a part of the program the previous year.