



**DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK**

haverford.org/athletics

450 Lancaster Avenue
Haverford, PA 19041
610-642-3020

Director of Athletics	Michael Murphy (Ext. 1909)
Athletic Trainer, Assistant Athletic Director	Bill Wardle (Ext. 1254)
Assistant Athletic Director	Brendan Dawson (Ext. 1394)
Administrative Assistant	Sheila Maginn (Ext. 1252)
Assistant Athletic Trainer	Carrie Smith (Ext. 1356)
Strength and Conditioning Coordinator	Matt Rosko (1328)
Director of Public Safety	Joe Bocella (Ext. 1280)
Public Safety (for immediate response)	484-368-1336
Athletic Department Fax Number	610-645-9784
Athletic Training Room Fax Number	484-417-2795

ATHLETIC TEAMS – DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM CONTACT INFO

<u>FALL</u>	<u>WINTER</u>	<u>SPRING</u>
Crew – Jonathan Stephanik jstephanik@haverford.org	Basketball – Bernie Rogers brogers@haverford.org	Baseball – Bob Castell rcastell@haverford.org
Cross-Country – Tim Lengel tlengel@haverford.org	Ice Hockey – Dan Godudi dgodudi@haverford.org	Crew – Jonathan Stephanik jwstephanik@hotmail.com
Football – Mike Murphy mmurphy@haverford.org	Squash – Asad Khan akhan@haverford.org	Lacrosse – John Nostrant/Brendan Dawson jnostran@haverford.org bdawson@haverford.org
Golf – Cole Berman coleberm@gmail.com	Swimming/Diving – Sean Hansen shansen@haverford.org	Tennis – Antonio Fink afink@haverford.org
Soccer – Dan Keefe/Andrew Poolman dkeefe@haverford.org apoolman@haverford.org	Winter Track – Luqman Kolade lkolade@haverford.org	Track & Field – Luqman Kolade lkolade@haverford.org
Water Polo – Kevin VanSuch kvansuch@haverford.org	Wrestling – Jesse Sataloff jsataloff@haverford.org	

SCHEDULES, ROSTERS, AND RESULTS:

Information on team schedules, rosters, and results can be found at haverford.org/teams. All other information, including athletics news, can be

found on the Athletics webpages at haverford.org/athletics. If you have specific questions, please contact your coach.

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES:

Score reporting, schedule changes, team updates, and news are available on the team's Twitter channel. @GoFords is the School's general athletics Twitter channel. All individual sports Twitter channels can be found on the team page (link above).

POLICIES OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAMS:

"WEARING THE 'H'"

Privilege to Compete

The Haverford School offers an extensive and diverse athletic program which contributes to the physical, personal, and social growth of our boys. The Haverford School has a long, proud athletic tradition. Participation in athletics at The Haverford School is a privilege. The Haverford School Athletic Department expects our student-athletes to meet high standards both on and off the playing field, specifically with regards to academics, morality, honesty, sportsmanship, and leadership. Student-athletes and their parents are expected to agree/adhere to the expectations set forth in The Haverford School's [Principles of Community](#) and this Student-Parent Handbook. Those whose behavior/conduct does not meet the expected standard may lose the privilege of participating in the athletic program at The Haverford School. Violations of the standards do carry over from one season/school year to the next.

Adherence to the Sportsmanship Code of the Inter-Ac League

The goal of the Inter-Academic League Sportsmanship Code is to insure respect among participants, coaches, parents, other spectators, and officials at all League contests. It is the responsibility of each member school to disseminate the following guidelines.

- Coaches are responsible for setting a proper tone for their athletes.
- Spectators should encourage their own teams and treat opponents with respect.
- Noisemakers (indoor) and provocative signs are prohibited from all contests.
- Officials are to be treated with respect by coaches, players, parents, and other spectators.
- Abusive language, which includes taunting, is prohibited at all contests.
- Inter-Ac schools never permit alcohol to be served as a prelude to a contest or during a contest. This includes, but is not limited to,

tailgating. When contests occur at a neutral site, the competing schools will ask the host site to prohibit the consumption of alcohol by spectators.

Anyone – coach, player, parent, or other spectator – who violates the Sportsmanship Code may be expelled from the premises.

Mission

The Haverford School, a nonsectarian college preparatory day school for pre-kindergarten through grade 12, provides a superior liberal arts education for qualified boys of differing backgrounds. We are committed to developing the full intellectual, artistic, athletic, and moral potential in each boy, and we aim to graduate young men with strong character who possess a passion for learning and the necessary problem-solving skills to make a difference in the world. The Haverford School prepares boys for life.

Athletic Philosophy

Athletics are a vital part of the total curriculum of The Haverford School. We foster an environment where young people reach their fullest potential intellectually, emotionally, and physically. Offering a diverse program of 16 interscholastic sports, we require team participation throughout Middle and Upper School.

The Haverford School discourages boys from specializing in one particular sport. Rather, boys are encouraged to vary their athletic experiences to enhance diversity in learning. In addition to physical participation, students are also offered opportunities to contribute to teams in administrative capacities. The athletic experience at The Haverford School teaches the principles of participation, excellence, discipline, loyalty, self-confidence, enthusiasm and cooperative learning.

Student-Athlete Expectations

Athletic success at The Haverford School is defined in several ways. Student-athletes are expected to be both students and athletes simultaneously. The primary commitment is to success in the classroom and adherence to discipline guidelines set by The Haverford School's academic community. Athletics at The Haverford School is viewed as an extension of the classroom and it is our athletic departments' goal to educate and develop through sport. Student-athletes should:

- **Represent The Haverford School with class, dignity and sportsmanship at all times.**

The Haverford School and its mission is bigger than any individual or sport; therefore, any unsportsmanlike conduct reflects poorly on the entire school. Our student-athletes are to promote a positive image of The Haverford School at all times, through their actions and language – in both victory and defeat.

- **Attend daily practice.**

In season, practices are mandatory and should not be missed except for academic conflicts, illness or family emergency. Unexcused missed practice time will have consequences as outlined by individual athletic programs.

- **Participate in off-season/summer workout programs when conflicts do not exist.**

Participation in off-season or summer programs does not guarantee that a student-athlete will make a team when try-outs occur. These workouts are meant to improve the skill of those involved and make the program better; however, the priority for all student-athletes is the current season in which they are competing.

- **Follow all Inter-Ac rules.**

Student-athletes are expected to adhere to the Inter-Ac athletic rules of play, as well the Sportsmanship Code of the Inter-Ac (see page 3).

PROGRAM LEVEL PHILOSOPHY:

Varsity Program:

Due to the competitive nature of our athletic programs and competition in the Inter-Ac, there are no requirements for athletes to receive equal playing time. All playing time decisions are left to each team's coaches based on the expectations set forth in their individual program philosophy.

- Produce as competitive a program as possible, while adhering to the mission of The Haverford School
- Compete for an Inter-Ac Championship
- All players on the varsity roster do not receive equal playing time

JV/Freshman Program:

- Develop athletes for the varsity level
- Reinforce team concepts and expectations

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- Expose players to the opportunity to compete in game situations
 - All players on JV/Freshman rosters will receive playing time, not necessarily equal playing time

ATHLETICS AS A VITAL PART OF THE CURRICULUM:

Athletics enhance a successful curriculum by strengthening opportunities that:

- Foster student leadership and development
- Support future academic or career options
- Promote involvement in school and community

As a result of participation in interscholastic athletics, student-athletes will be able to:

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and compete with integrity
- Respect judgement of officials, coaches and school personnel
- Develop desirable personal health habits
- Demonstrate mastery of basic fundamentals to complete motor skills in related activity
- Identify and apply strategies necessary to successfully compete at their level of competition in their related sport
- Most importantly, ENJOY THE INVOLVEMENT and HAVE FUN!

ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT/MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE:

Each student must participate in two interscholastic sports or the equivalent thereof in Third, Fourth, and Fifth Forms and one interscholastic sport in the Sixth Form year (for complete guidelines, see Upper School Handbook).

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross-Country	Basketball	Baseball
Football	Ice Hockey	Crew
Soccer	Winter Track	Lacrosse
Water Polo	Squash	Tennis
Crew	Swimming & Diving	Track & Field
Golf	Wrestling	Ultimate Frisbee
		Crew

The Haverford School Athletics Department staff supports and encourages student-athletes to play multiple sports. We believe that the development and training learned through participation in other sports makes a well-rounded student-athlete. Student-athletes are not expected

to participate in more than one sport per season and will not be penalized for lack of participation in out-of-season activity.

PARENT/SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

Parents will demonstrate good sportsmanship by displaying the following behaviors:

- Provide support for coaches and officials to foster a positive, enjoyable experience for all student-athletes.
- Understand the game is for the student – not the adults.
- Recognize student participation is a privilege.
- As spectators, conduct themselves in a manner that is reflective of [The Haverford School Principles of Community](#) and the Sportsmanship Code of the Inter-Ac (see page 3).
- Be supportive and helpful of all student-athletes within the program.
- Refrain from coaching their sons from the stands/sidelines.

Parents will create a positive and supportive environment to promote well-being:

- Support The Haverford School Drug and Alcohol Policy, as outlined in the Upper School Handbook.
- Support good conditioning and healthy lifestyle habits.
- Place the emotional and physical health of their son ahead of any desire to win.
- Support their son in managing academic responsibilities and the demands of training and practice.
- Act as a role model for other parents by remaining positive at school sporting events.

PARENT/STUDENT-ATHLETE/COACH RELATIONSHIP

Parenting and coaching can be difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to appreciate the actions of others and provide better support for our student-athletes. When a student becomes involved in athletics, parents have the right to understand the expectations placed on student-athletes. This understanding begins with clear communication between the coach, student-athlete, and parents.

COACHES' COMMUNICATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Coaches are required to have a preseason meeting where the following issues are discussed:

- Team rules/standards

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- Coaches expectations of players
 - Location/times of practices and games
 - How they will communicate schedule updates and changes
 - Requirements such as fees, equipment and off-season conditioning
 - Consequences of violating team rules/standards

PARENTS' COMMUNICATION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Advance notification of any schedule conflicts relayed from the student-athlete to the coach
- Notice of any medical or injury issues that require monitoring
- Appropriate concerns or questions should be communicated directly to the coach (see below)

COMMUNICATION POLICY

Involvement in The Haverford School athletic programs will be an incredibly rewarding experience. At times, there will also be situations where a student can become discouraged or disappointed with their experience. At these times, a conversation with the coach may clarify issues or concerns. In these instances, the following steps should be followed:

1. Student-athlete requests a meeting with the head coach of their current team (JV/varsity, etc.).
2. If the initial meeting does not clarify the issue, the student-athlete should request a meeting with the head coach and the Director of the Program.
3. If there is still no resolution, a parent/guardian can request a meeting with the head coach or Director of the Program. The student should attend this meeting.
4. Should there still be concerns, the parent/guardian can request a meeting with the Director of Athletics.

Please follow the procedures as listed. A goal of The Haverford School is to encourage students to accept responsibility and advocate for themselves. Student-athletes should initiate communications with their coaches if they have a problem or concern. Parents and guardians should not call the coach, athletic administrator or any other school official as a first step. Neither student-athletes nor parents should initiate these types of conversations immediately after a contest/match/game. A twelve hour cool down period is required prior to any form of communication with a coach following a contest/match/game.

There are times when, because of the immediate health of the student-athlete, direct contact from parents is necessary. Appropriate concerns for parental discussion with coaches are, but not limited to direct concerns about the student-athletes physical or mental well-being and behaviors.

Other appropriate areas of concern that can prompt discussions with parents are addressing a student-athletes weaknesses and areas of improvement.

It can be difficult for both player and parent when playing time received does not meet expectation. Coaches are professionals who make judgements based on what they see as best for the team and student-athletes. Topics other than those listed above should be left to the discretion of the coach.

Inappropriate discussion with coaches:

- Playing time
- Team strategy/Play calling
- Other student-athletes

Playing time is at the sole discretion of the coach. No parent or student-athlete should approach a coach with demands for more playing time. In order for more playing time to be earned, student-athletes should ask what weaknesses and improvement should be addressed. Other student-athletes will not be discussed during any meeting.

Experience dictates that many conflicts can be resolved by following the above procedures – every step should involve the student-athlete. If there is a concern regarding abuse or inappropriate conduct by a coach, the issue should be immediately brought to the Director of Athletics.

HOLIDAY POLICY

The Haverford School recognizes the following secular holidays:

- MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day (and the day after) and New Year’s Day

The Haverford School also recognizes that there are religious holidays that affect large numbers of our population, these include:

- Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Christmas, and Good Friday

As Jewish holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the published holiday, there will be no school events, including practices and games, during these times.

Teachers and coaches will respect other religious holidays (such as Passover) and allow exemptions from homework, practices and games on a case-by-case basis.

VIOLATIONS

SPORTSMANSHIP:

- All student-athletes at The Haverford School are expected to display good sportsmanship and demonstrate respect for their school, coaches, teammates, officials, facilities and equipment. Examples of poor sportsmanship will be handled by the coach, athletic administrator or Dean of Students on an individual basis, based on expectations set forth by team rules, The Haverford School Athletic Handbook, The Haverford School [Principles of Community](#) and The Haverford School [Honor Code](#).

EJECTION FROM CONTEST:

- If a student-athlete at The Haverford School is ejected from a contest, they will serve a penalty that is stipulated in league rules, and can also face further suspension from coaches and administrators at The Haverford School.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Student-athletes are responsible for their actions as it pertains to social media and other websites, including but not limited to, Twitter, Instagram, Snap Chat, Facebook, YouTube, etc. Any photos, comments, posts or other evidence that suggest a violation of the [Principles of Community](#) or [Honor Code](#) at The Haverford School will be handled on an individual basis by School administration. Inappropriate postings include, but are not limited to:
 - Obscene/Vulgar language that is sexist, racist or homophobic in nature
 - Graphic images/videos
 - Sexually explicit language, imagery or videos
 - Threats/Taunts
 - Unkind remarks about The Haverford School and/or opponents' faculty, staff, administrators, coaches or students.

HARASSMENT:

- Harassment is an ongoing or repeated set of behaviors meant to bother or upset another person, including:

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- Uninvited and unwelcome verbal or physical behavior toward another person
 - Behavior which creates an unpleasant or hostile situation by unwelcome verbal or physical conduct
 - Behavior which is persistent and annoying to another person or persons

Student-athletes found in violation of this policy are liable to the consequences listed below under “HAZING.”

BULLYING:

- Pennsylvania law defines bullying as an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act directed at another student in a school setting that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of substantially interfering with education, creating an environment or disrupting the orderly operation of the school setting for purpose of law is defined broadly to include not just the school grounds, but school buses, designated bus stops and any school-sponsored and supervised activity. A person found to be bullying another student is liable for suspension or dismissal depending on the nature of the situation.
- Bullying includes, but is not limited to:
 - Acts that are habitually cruel or overbearing, especially to smaller or weaker people
 - Behavior which forces one’s way aggressively or by intimidation
 - Actions which are habitually cruel to others

Student-athletes found in violation of this policy are liable to the consequences listed below under “HAZING.”

HAZING:

Definition

- Hazing is defined by the State of Pennsylvania (Act 175) as “any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, any organization. The term shall include, but not be limited to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance, or any other

forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health and safety of the individual, and shall include any activity which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual, or any willful destruction or removal of public or private property. For purposes of this definition, any activity as described in this definition upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with or continued membership in an organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be ‘forced’ activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding.”

Responsibility for Compliance

- All School students, faculty, staff and recognized organizations are responsible for abiding by this policy, both on campus and off campus, including on privately owned facilities and/or property. Recognized organizations are responsible for any activity in violation of this policy by any individual or group affiliated with the organization (new member, member, auxiliary, or alumnus), unless it is proven that the group or individual activity was independent of, and occurred without the knowledge or consent of, the recognized organization. Such responsibility will apply equally to situations in which one or more members knew or should have known of the activity and failed to make every reasonable attempt to prevent or stop it.

Reporting of a Possible Violation

- Anyone who witnesses or suspects that hazing has occurred shall immediately report what was witnessed, or the basis for the suspicion that hazing has taken place, to the Dean of Students or Athletic Director. The Dean of Students or Athletic Director will investigate and make recommendations for further action to the Headmaster.

Violations and Sanctions

- The Head of School shall have discretion to impose any discipline deemed appropriate for an incident of hazing against both the individual who engaged in the conduct and the School organization of which they were a member. Hazing is considered a major infraction of the School's Community Standards. Discipline and penalties shall include, but not be limited to, withholding diplomas or transcripts, restitution, probation, suspension, dismissal or expulsion. In the case

of School organizations, penalties may include withdrawal of permission for the club or organization to continue to operate on campus or other school property or to otherwise operate under the recognition or sanction of the School. Imposition of discipline by the School does not preclude any criminal penalty which may be imposed for violation of criminal laws and the School will fully cooperate, and share information, with law enforcement as part of any investigation.

ADDITIONAL VIOLATIONS:

- Any inappropriate action that is not specifically listed above is still subject to discipline, up to and including suspension for student-athletes. Disciplinary action for violation of school rules or violation of the [Honor Code](#) may also subject participants to disciplinary action under the Athletic Handbook.

PROCESS FOR DETERMINING CONSEQUENCES AND VIOLATIONS:

- A student-athlete who is alleged to have violated any rules at The Haverford School, the [Principles of Community](#), [Honor Code](#), or stipulations put forth in this handbook shall meet with the Director of Athletics to explain the incident prior to any consequences being applied. The Director of Athletics, along with other members of The Haverford School Administration will then decide on the appropriate consequences and action.

EQUIPMENT POLICY:

- Student-athletes are responsible for any equipment and uniforms issued to them from the Haverford School Athletic Department. Any lost or unreturned equipment/uniforms will be replaced at the expense of the student-athlete. Participation in another sport may be affected until the fee is paid/equipment is replaced.

LOCKER ROOM POLICY:

- The use of locker rooms at The Haverford School is a privilege. Any team or student-athlete found improperly using the locker room, or not keeping a clean locker room space can lose the use of the locker room.
- Student-athletes are not to congregate in the locker room throughout the school day. Locker room use is limited to

before and after school hours, and during physical education classes.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY:

- All student-athletes are required to ride school transportation (buses or vans) to and from athletic contests, when provided. Athletes may not participate in away contests if they drive themselves to an event or if they use alternate transportation without written permission from their parents and prior permission from their coach and Director of Athletics.
- Athletes are expected to ride with the team back to school. In some circumstances, parents may need to drive their son home from contests. In such cases, parents must communicate this need to coaches prior to transporting their son, and provide written notice to the coach.
- Only in extreme circumstances are athletes allowed to ride home with another student's parents. This must be cleared through the head coach, and parents must supply a written note confirming the alternate mode of transportation (and naming the parents who will be transporting their son).

ATHLETIC TRAINERS:

- The Haverford School employs two full-time, certified athletic trainers who cover home events, including practices, and some away events.
- The athletic trainers are responsible for the safety of all student-athletes, and will have final say in any return-to-play decisions for injured student-athletes.

INJURY:

- Any student-athlete who is injured during a contest, practice or workout at The Haverford School should immediately inform his coach and see an athletic trainer. It is important that The Haverford School athletics staff is aware of the injury before a student leaves school.
- Any time a student-athlete is seen by a physician following any injury or illness, he MUST bring a note from that physician stating clearance, or specific restrictions/limitations before he will be allowed to return to participation.
- Click [HERE](#) to access the Haverford School Sports Medicine Policies.

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