

State of California Required Warning About Hazing

Dear Coach, Parents and Student Athletes,

Events in California have made it necessary to clarify and articulate the policies regarding HAZING. As defined by the California Education Code, **HAZING** includes any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization which causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm, to any student or other person attending any school. The following refers to California Education Code Section 32051:

No student, or other person in attendance at any public, private, parochial or military school, community college, or other educational institution, shall conspire to engage in hazing, participating in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily damage, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or person attending the institution.

The violation of this section is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred (\$100), nor more than five thousand (\$5,000) dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year or both.

Please be aware that there are legal ramifications if students engage in activities that can be considered hazing. Examples of hazing, often performed in combination, include:

Physical punishments.	Treasure hunts or scavenger hunts / Dares.
Group wearing of inappropriate clothing.	Slave-like veneration of the seniors.
Markings of visible symbols, drawings or text.	Personal quizzes. Spanking or paddling.
Being tied together.	Tickle torture.
Physical feats.	Exposure to the elements.
Orientation tests / abandonment / "ditched".	

To guide you in working with your student around activities involving a school or team activities, please use these guidelines:

- Please be sure to check with the coach or teacher to ensure that the activity has his or her approval.
- Do not assume that if a group of students from the team are organizing an event that the school is actually sponsoring it.
- Students who organize events in the name of any school group without authorization will be subject to disciplinary action by the school.

Sincerely, John De Tar, Athletic Director

Signature of Student Athlete

Date: _____

Signature Parent

Date: _____