



# **Stonington High School**

## **Student-Athlete Handbook**

**2020-21**

Bryan Morrone, Athletic Director  
Manny MacDonald, Asst. to Athletic Director

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**Stonington High School Mission**

The mission of Stonington High School is to foster a lifelong pursuit of learning in a challenging, motivating and engaging environment. Upon graduation our students will possess a working plan for post-high school life and become responsible and productive citizens in the 21st century global society.

**Stonington Public Schools**

Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent of Schools  
Mary Anne Butler, Assistant Superintendent  
Peter Anderson, Director of Operations and Facilities  
Gary Shettle, Director of Finance  
Allison VanEtten, Title IX Coordinator and 504 Coordinator

**Stonington High School**

Mark Friese, Principal  
Alicia Dawe and Margo Crowley, Assistant Principals  
Bryan P. Morrone, Athletic Director  
Manny MacDonald, Assistant to the Athletic Director

**Stonington Public Schools Contact Information**

40 Field St.  
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Central Office  
Phone #(860) 572-0506  
Fax # (860) 572-8155

**Stonington High School Contact Information**

176 South Broad St.  
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Main Office  
Phone # (860) 599-5781  
Fax # (860) 599-5784  
Guidance # (860) 599-2180

**SHS Athletic Department Contact Information**

**Athletic Director:**  
Bryan Morrone  
(860) 599-5781 ext. 3321  
[bmorrone@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:bmorrone@stoningtonschools.org)

**Assistant Athletic Director:**  
Manny MacDonald  
(860) 599-5781 ext. 3224  
[mmacdonald@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:mmacdonald@stoningtonschools.org)

## Introduction

The Stonington High School Athletic Department would like to extend an invitation to all students to participate in the many interscholastic athletic programs offered.

The material presented in this handbook contains information pertinent to policies, regulations, and rules of the Stonington Public School District, C.I.A.C. and the Eastern Connecticut Conference.

The Stonington High School Athletic Department is concerned with the educational development of students and feels that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program will meet the students' needs for self-expression, mental alertness and physical growth.

Athletes are selected for Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Freshman teams based on their demonstrated abilities. The numerous programs are designed to accommodate as many students as possible. Unfortunately, canceling programs or "cutting" athletes from certain programs may become necessary due to various constraints.

Students who choose to participate in athletics are making a choice that requires self-discipline. For this reason, we place a strong emphasis on good training habits. Failure to comply with rules of training could affect an athlete's performance and contribution to the team. Students who do not adhere to these rules will be jeopardizing their participation in the program. They should be aware that involvement in athletics is a *privilege, not a right*.

Student-athletes are role models and should constantly remember to exhibit a positive image.

Bryan Morrone  
Athletic Director

## Philosophy

### State of Purpose

- An interscholastic athletic program is an integral part of the overall educational process that provides opportunities for students to develop emotionally, socially and physically.

### Underlying Beliefs

- Stonington athletics should promote high standards of academic achievement, good citizenship and individual responsibility on the playing field, in the school and in the community.
- Participation in our athletic program is a privilege, which is afforded to those individuals who possess the ability, attitude, cooperative spirit and desire to represent Stonington High School and the Town of Stonington.
- Stonington athletics should provide valuable lessons in many practical situations that are helpful later in life; such as teamwork, sportsmanship, personal accountability for success and failure, competition and hard work.
- Athletes perform best when they follow intelligent training rules, which include restrictions on the use of drugs. The use of alcohol, tobacco, steroids, or any mood-modifying substance that produces harmful effects on the mind and body and impedes athletic performance. Every effort should be made to educate each student-athlete to the dangers of the use of these substances.
- Striving to win is a critical aspect of any athletic program. However, winning should not supersede the well being and development of the student athlete.
- An emphasis on skill development, knowledge, and implementation of game safety rules, team play and team cohesiveness should be made on the sub-varsity level.
- Trust is a dynamic relationship between coach and athlete, reflecting confident expectation that both parties will strive for excellence.
- The development of a work ethic and teamwork combined with the individual responsibility and dependability produce a shared responsibility for a teams' success.

### Description of Programs

- **Varsity Athletics:** Varsity athletic programs afford opportunities to those athletes who exhibit exceptional skills. These athletes will compete against equally talented athletes from opposing schools. The skills of Varsity athletes will be refined to provide Stonington with the best win-loss record possible.
- **Junior Varsity Athletics:** Junior Varsity programs offer to those athletes, who do not yet possess the skills required of Varsity athletes, an opportunity to participate in a competitive setting. Junior Varsity athletes are in the process of gaining knowledge, skill, and experience required of Varsity competition. Junior Varsity athletes may, on occasion, participate in Varsity contests. Decisions of this nature are based on the evaluation of the athlete's abilities, by the coaching staff and are not absolute.
- **Freshman Athletics:** Freshman athletic programs are designed to provide ninth-grade students with the opportunity to participate in an instructional yet competitive setting. These programs will teach basic skills of the sport and afford athletes an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge, skill development and experience necessary for the Junior Varsity competition. Freshman athletes may, on occasion, participate in Junior Varsity or Varsity contests, respectively. Decisions of this nature are based on the evaluation of the athlete's abilities by the coaching staff. These decisions should not be misinterpreted as an absolute move to the next level.

**NOTE: At all levels of competition, decisions relative to playing time are made by the coaching staff and are not absolute.**

## SHS Athletic Department Policies

**Participation:** Athletes may participate in only one sport program in a sport season. Athletes may not transfer team membership to another sport after the first official game of that team's season.

**Tryouts:** Student-athletes will be encouraged to tryout for various athletic teams. A three to five day mandatory tryout period will be in effect for each team. Upon reaching the first contest date, as indicated by the C.I.A.C., currently enrolled students will not be allowed to gain membership to any team. (**NOTE: Cheering tryouts may occur during the Spring of the preceding school year**)

### **Attendance – School and Class**

1. Athletes will attend all classes regularly and on time. Tardiness and cutting will not be tolerated.
2. Athletes will not use their sport as an excuse to miss class unless the team is departing early from school.
3. Please refer to the Stonington High School Student Handbook regarding school attendance and athletic participation.
4. Athletes are required to participate in Physical Education if they wish to participate on a school team.

**Attendance – Practice and Games:** Attendance at all practice sessions and/or games for all team members is mandatory. If for some reason an athlete will be absent or tardy for a practice/game, the athlete must personally communicate to a member of your teams' coaching staff prior to the practice/game. Athletes are not permitted to leave practice or games early without prior approval of a member of the coaching staff. Athletes should be aware that high school contests may be scheduled or rescheduled for Saturdays.

**Dress Code:** The Athletic Department expects all student athletes will maintain a clean, neat and modest appearance (Adhering to the Dress Code in the Stonington High School Student Handbook)

**\* Any violation of the aforementioned rules may lead to dismissal from the team for the duration of the season or indefinite suspension.**

## **Travel**

All athletes must travel to and from athletic contests in transportation provided by the Stonington High School Athletic department

1. Athletes will remain with the team and under the supervision of the coach. Athletes who miss the bus will not be allowed to participate in any contest unless there are extenuating circumstances and with the coach's approval.
2. Parents will not transport athletes unless written requests are submitted to the Athletic Director at least 24 hours prior to the contest for approval.
3. When transportation is not provided to off-campus home venues, athletes may not transport other student athletes to any contests or practice sessions.
4. Behavior standards according to the Stonington High School Student Handbook apply to any school provided transportation.
5. A Bus Waiver Form, via FamilyID, must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian for their athlete to utilize school transportation for athletic purposes.

## **Lockers and Locker Rooms**

During the season, student athletes should store and lock all valuables, clothing and equipment in a locker in their respective school locker rooms. Lockers are provided within the academic wing of SHS, additional lockers are available in the Gymnasium area. These lockers are used for seasonal teams and students should bring locks to secure them during their season. Stonington High School will NOT be responsible for any lost or stolen property, which is stored improperly.

## **Uniforms and Equipment**

Uniforms and SHS provided equipment are on a loan basis and are to be worn only when authorized by the coach. Uniforms will not be issued to any student-athlete with an outstanding financial obligation. Uniforms are not to be worn during Physical Education class. All uniforms and/or equipment are the sole responsibility of the athletes during the season and must be promptly returned at the conclusion of the season. If lost or stolen, the replacement cost of the uniform/equipment will be assessed to the student and documented on the school accountability list.

## **Equipment Safety**

Athletes should inspect their equipment on a daily basis. Each coach will instruct squad members on the proper use and care of team equipment.

### **Stonington Eligibility Rules: To Participate**

To be eligible to participate in athletics, students must adhere to the rules and standards set forth by Stonington High School and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), which governs the athletic programs in which Stonington High School participates.

The CIAC maintains a baseline academic eligibility requirement that must be adhered to at all times by its member schools. (CIAC Policy, next page) In addition to the CIAC requirements, Stonington High School also maintains its own unique academic standards, which must also be met by students in order to be eligible to compete in athletic contests for Stonington High School. It must be clear that Stonington High School's academic requirements do not supplant those of the CIAC, but act as a supplement to those rules.

Stonington High School's Athletic Department, coaches, and school staff will monitor participants' academics during their seasons and provide necessary support in order for students to maintain their eligibility for competition, as well as foster success in the classroom.

Stonington High School upholds the following rules for academic eligibility for participation in athletic contests in addition to CIAC standards:

1. A student must have a Simple GPA of 2.0 (C) or greater from the preceding quarter in order to be initially eligible to compete in athletic contests for Stonington High School. For fall sports, the preceding quarter is quarter 4 of the preceding school year. This does not apply to incoming freshmen participating in a fall sport.
2. All student-athletes' grades will be reviewed at the mid-quarter (progress report) date and at the official end of quarter date during their seasons to determine if the requirement of a Simple GPA of 2.0 or greater is being maintained, in addition to CIAC standards. At this time, it will be determined if continued eligibility will be granted to participate in athletic contests for SHS or if the privilege will be lost until the next date of review.
3. A student placed on a team roster that does not initially meet SHS academic eligibility requirements (Rule 1) or fails to meet them during their season (Rule 2) may regain their eligibility to compete at the next date of review as long as they also meet CIAC requirements for eligibility. If it is determined at that time that the student has made significant academic improvement and their Simple GPA has risen to 2.0 or greater, then the student may be granted eligibility to compete in athletic contests for SHS until the next date of review. The student will continue to be under academic review and their grades closely monitored.

Coaches may institute their own rules, guidelines, and expectations relative to academics and playing time with the approval of the principal or his/her designee.

## SHS Athletic Code of Conduct

The community, school and administration, and coaching staff believe high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential to a sound athletic program.

1. Athletes will conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times. Remember you are a representative of Stonington Public Schools, your team, coach and family.
2. Athletes will conduct themselves in an exemplary manner in school, the community, and on any campus, which their team is visiting.
3. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to theft, vandalism, arrest, or any violation of the law, will result in disciplinary action.
4. Detentions/suspensions from school of any type will not be tolerated.

Any violation of the aforementioned rules *may lead to dismissal from the team or Captaincy for the duration of the season or indefinite suspension.*

### Medical Procedures

All athletes must have completed the following medical procedure before participating in a sport at Stonington High School.

- One successful **physical examination** per calendar year for all sports is required. The school medical form must be used and can be obtained from the HS nurse.

Parent and Student must update medical information on the athlete's FamilyID.com account prior to each sports season.

### Athletic Injury

The participation in interscholastic sports involves an inherent risk of injury, which may include severe injuries possibly involving paralysis, permanent mental disability, or death, and these injuries may occur in some instances as a result of unavoidable accidents.

When an interscholastic sports injury occurs, the coach will obtain an Accident Report form from the school nurse; completion and submission of this accident is the responsibility of the coach and will be turned into the school nurse no later than 72 hours after the incident.

**Athletic & Extracurricular Policies Concerning Drug & Alcohol Use By Students**  
(BOE Policy 5131.6)

**PURPOSE:** This policy is established for the purpose of setting forth the Board of Education's support of State and Federal law and regulation governing the possession and use of illicit drugs and alcohol by students. Further, to set forth the Board of Education's expectations in the event such use or possession occurs on and off school property, at a school-sponsored activity or event, or in any way related to the conduct of programs and activities of the students involved in extracurricular/athletic activities.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Recognizing the potential of each student and that drug or alcohol abuse and dependency can seriously impair a student's ability to learn, it is the policy of the schools to take positive actions to prevent drug and alcohol abuse.

The Board of Education believes that involvement in extracurricular activities, including athletics, is essential to the development of well-rounded students. However, participation in extracurricular activities and athletics is a privilege and not a right. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any student who represents the district demonstrates the characteristics of a good citizen of both the school and the community. Students participating in extracurricular activities and athletics are expected to demonstrate responsible behavior and high ethical standards at all times. Negative or inappropriate behavior by participants during the school year, during out of school periods and during non-school hours can affect the community's and other students' perception of the integrity of an athletic or extracurricular program, and of the standards established by the Board for all students. Consequently, student athletes and participants in extracurricular activities shall be subject to PROGRESSIVE sanctions, up to and including dismissal from participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for negative or inappropriate behavior, at any time during the school year.

**CIAC & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

The policy and/or regulations apply to all CIAC activities sponsored by Stonington Public Schools and participation in them is a privilege and not a right. The policy and/or regulations address alcohol, stimulants, street drugs (including but not limited to marijuana, heroin, and cocaine), tobacco products, inhalants and inappropriate use of prescription medications. The policy addresses anabolic steroids, hormones and analogues, diuretics, and other performance enhancing substances. This policy includes, but is not limited to substances defined by the penal code of the State of Connecticut. The CIAC may impose sanctions beyond those applied by Stonington Public Schools for use of these substances by athletes.

**POLICY EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES & EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPANTS OFF SCHOOL PROPERTY:**

Medical research substantiates that the use of alcohol and mood modifying substances produces harmful effects on the human body and will affect physical and mental performance. Students cannot compromise their participation in extracurricular activities with substance abuse. Students who experiment with such substances jeopardize program morale, reputation and success, and they do physical harm to themselves and risk personal injury and harm to others during any activities. Students must make the commitment to refrain from the use of alcohol, drugs, and steroids as mandated by State law. Students are considered in violation of this policy if they use, possess, consume (including being under the influence of) and/or distribute, other than as

prescribed by a physician for personal use, any controlled drug and/or intoxicant or steroid, whether during school, at any school activity, on school property, or at locations off school property. 5131.61(c)

#### **A. CHEMICAL USAGE BY STUDENTS**

1. For a first offense, a student will be: Subject to sanctions as decided by an appropriate 3-person panel that would include a school administrator, coach and athletic director, and/or club advisor as appropriate. The maximum sanction will be suspension for 20% of the activity/events/games in the season. A student given sanctions will be required to give up their leadership position or captaincy for that season.
2. For a second offense, in the same year or subsequent year(s), a student will be suspended from all sanctioned events and extracurricular activities for 90 calendar days (excluding summer vacation). After ten (10) days, the student may return to the activity or team for meetings or practices only. Referral to an outside agency for counseling may be made upon the discretion of school administration and mental health personnel. If the student volunteers to become part of an approved chemical dependency or treatment program (at no cost to the School District), the student may return to participation after a minimum of 45 days. This treatment must be certified in writing to the school administration by a doctor or counselor.
3. For any additional violation in the same year or subsequent year(s), a student will be suspended from all sanctioned events and extracurricular activities for 365 calendar days.

#### **Anti-Tobacco Policy** (BOE Policy 5131.6 (a-j))

Studies have clearly demonstrated that the use of tobacco and the exposure to second-hand smoke are serious, life-threatening health hazards. Connecticut State Law prohibits the use of tobacco products on public school campuses; and nationwide, laws are being enacted which restrict or prohibit smoking in many public areas. Students are at all times prohibited from the use, possession, purchase, sale, or other transfer of tobacco products while school is in session, on school grounds or at any activities sponsored by a public school organization on or off school premises. Non-students are prohibited from the use or transfer of tobacco products while on school grounds. This policy applies to all persons, including students, employees, and guests of the school district. Any violations by an athlete will mimic the consequences in the Stonington High School Student Handbook.

#### **Non-school sponsored team Parties/Activities:**

Some team parents and players voluntarily organize pasta parties off campus. These parties are not school sponsored and are not chaperoned by school coaches or personnel. Behavior by student-athletes at these events falls under BOE policy 5131.61 and violations could jeopardize participation.

## SHS Athletic Department Information

### **Registration:**

All athletes must register via FamilyID.com. All signatures will be accepted electronically. The nurse is responsible for all medical clearance. The nurse will be able to distribute appropriate paperwork for an annual athletic physical.

### **Physical Examination:**

A completed, successful physical examination must be presented per calendar year for all sports. The school medical form must be used and can be obtained from the high school nurse or be located in the high school main office.

*\* This must be turned in to the school nurse prior to the start of an athlete's participation.*

### **Interim History Form:**

The Interim History information must be updated seasonally per the medical information section of athlete's FamilyID.com account.

## Discipline

The following discipline procedures have been established to expedite violations of regulations outlined in this handbook. These procedures are consistent with those employed in the Stonington High School Student Handbook. The procedures include the following:

At the beginning of each season, along with review the Athletic Handbook and attending Team Night, student-athletes will be informed by the coach of the types of behavior, which may warrant the following infractions:

(Each case will be considered individually.)

**Squad Discipline** – Used in situations of minor discipline problems and administrated by the coach within the squad framework.

**Suspension** – Used in situations of serious discipline problems for a period of time not to exceed five school days. The athlete is not allowed to attend or participate in practices or contests during this period. The coach will notify the parents of the suspension.

**Expulsion or Dismissal from team** – Used in situations involving serious discipline matters in which removal of the athlete from the squad is in the best interest of the team and the school. The athlete will be suspended, and subject to suspension regulations during the expulsion process. Parents will be notified of the pending expulsion.

**Hazing/Initiations and Bullying**  
(BOE Policy 5131.911)

Hazing, initiations, bullying and cyber-bullying of student-athletes by other team members are NOT ACCEPTABLE, and any practice of this type of behavior WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Actions (such as but not limited to taunting, teasing, bullying, cyber-bullying and harassment) of this type may be illegal and those involved may be subject to police action as well as dismissal and/or suspension from participation in any athletic program. This is in compliance with the Stonington High School Student Handbook.

**Team Captains**

The position of Captain is not just an honor but also a privilege. This honor will require the utmost leadership knowing that the captain will be a role model for the other team members. Student-athletes begin to hold the position of Captain when announced by the coach. Failure to comply with rules and regulations of the Stonington High School Athletic department and Team may lead to dismissal of captain.

**Fighting Prior, During and After Athletic Contests**

This type of behavior by Stonington High School athletes will not be tolerated for any reason. It does not matter if the SHS athlete is the victim of an unsportsmanlike act, if he/she is provoked or taunted, if he/she is verbally or physically abused, or any other type of circumstance.

The relevant question is, if the Stonington athlete actively participated in a fight, retaliated in a fight or left the sideline to join a fight in progress? If the answer is YES to any part of this question, the SHS athlete will be subject to serious sanctions such as, but not limited to, suspension from school, team and /or dismissal from the team.

**Procedure for Contacting Athletic Department Personnel, Including Coaches**

1. Afford your child the opportunity to discuss the issue with their coach. Many times these types of meetings may resolve an issue or concern.
2. If your child's meeting with the coach did not resolve the issue, then call to set up an appointment with the coach. The Stonington High School Athletic Department's phone number is (860) 599-5781 ext. 321.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, and a meeting will be set up.
4. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A CONTEST OR PRACTICE. These can be emotional times for both the parents and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.
5. If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, call and set up an appointment to meet the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
6. If the meeting with the Athletic Director did not provide a satisfactory resolution, call and set up an appointment to meet with the Principal to discuss the situation.
7. If the meeting with the building Principal did not provide a satisfactory resolution, submit in writing, a detailed description of your issue or concern to Superintendent of Schools in care of Stonington Public Schools Central Office, 49 North Stonington Rd., Old Mystic, CT 06372

### **High School Athletic Awards Requirements**

1. Varsity Letter Requirements: The varsity award shall be presented to an athlete who satisfies the participation requirements as listed below, completes the season as a team member in good standing, and receives the recommendation of the coach. (A coach may recommend a waiver of these requirements under an unusual situation)
  - Baseball/Softball: 1. play in one-fourth of all innings played; 2. pinch hit or pinch run in three-fourths of the games played; and 3. pitch in four starts or six games appearances.
  - Boys' and Girls' Basketball: participate in 50% of the contests played.
  - Cheerleading: meet 90% of contest and practice requirements.
  - Boys' and Girls' Crew: participate in 50% of contests entered.
  - Boys' and Girls' Cross Country: score a point in a Varsity meet by placing in the top 5 runners or place 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> and ahead of the #5 runner of an opponent.
  - Field Hockey: participate in 50% of contests played.
  - Football: participate in 50% of the contests played and/or play a specialist position; ex. Punter, kick-off team, Punt team, etc.
  - Golf: participates in the varsity team in at least 50% of the matches.
  - Gymnastics: participates in the varsity team in at least 50% of the matches.
  - Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track: qualify for state competition.
  - Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse: participate in 50% of periods played.
  - Boys' and Girls' Soccer: Participate in 50% of periods played.
  - Co-Ed Swimming: 1. Earn as many points as there are meets, 2. one point for each event entered plus actual points.
  - Boys' and Girls' Tennis: 1. Earn as many points as there are matches, 2. One point for playing and one additional point for winning.
  - Boys' and Girls' Track: qualify for varsity level conference championship.
2. The season is defined as the period between the dates officially designated by the CIAC as the beginning of the season and the close of the postseason CIAC Tournaments.
3. A coach will have the prerogative to award varsity status to a senior who has not met the seasonal requirements.
4. Injury Rule: any athlete who is a varsity starter or regularly plays varsity and becomes injured may be awarded a letter by coach's judgment.
5. Coach will recommend junior varsity and freshman player awards.

### **Spectator Expectations**

1. Respect decisions made by contest officials.
2. Refrain from taunting, booing, heckling and the use of all profanity.
3. Refrain from leaving a contest prior to its conclusion.
4. Admission to a contest is not a license to verbally assault or be offensive to others.
5. The use of alcoholic beverages, drugs and tobacco products are prohibited from the Stonington campus.
6. RESPECT athletes, coaches, officials and fans.
7. **Be A Fan....NOT a Fanatic!**

**The CIAC offers a Hand Book on-line at [www.casciac.org](http://www.casciac.org)**

Below is a brief outline to some of the important guidelines SHS Athletes must abide to.

**CIAC Appendix B**

**CIAC Eligibility Rules: To Participate**

**Grade Average: CIAC Eligibility Rule I.A**

- Student must be enrolled in at least four (4) classes/units\* of work or the equivalent. \* A unit of work is defined as a course which meets every other day for a school year. (PE/Health is considered a half (0.5) unit).
- Student must have passed at least four (4) units or the equivalents at the last marking period with the exception of Fall Eligibility (Rule I.A). Incomplete grades are not considered to be passing marks.
- Marking period grades (not semester) grades are to be used in determining eligibility. Except the Fall Season, this will use the end of the previous year's final marks or be a continuing student (eighth to ninth grade).

**Age Restrictions and Years of Participation: CIAC Eligibility Rule II.B.**

- The student shall not have reached his or her twentieth (20th) birthday. A student-athlete will not be allowed to start a season or compete during a season in which his/her twentieth (20th) birthday falls.
- A student has eight (8) consecutive semesters or four (4) consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into ninth grade to be eligible for interscholastic competition.
- No student-athlete shall participate in the same branch of athletics more than four (4) seasons in grades 9-12 at any school.

**Transfer Rule: CIAC Eligibility Rule II.C.**

- Student must not have changed schools without a change of legal residence (See complete CIAC rule and its list of exceptions).

**Outside Participation: CIAC Eligibility Rule II.F.**

- A student who is a member of a school team after the first scheduled tournament, meet or game in any season shall not practice or compete with an outside team, or participate as an individual in non-CIAC tournaments, meets, tryouts\*, skills assessment\* or games in the same branch of athletics. (\*Please see exceptions-3.0 -Article XII. 1.1 in Handbook.)
- After the first tournament, meet or game of the CIAC seasons a student competing or practicing with a non-CIAC team or as an individual in non-team sports is not eligible to become a member of the CIAC team or squad in the same branch of athletics.
- Exceptions to Rule II.F. are: (1) Participation in parent/child tournaments and caddy tournaments. (2) Swimming, tennis, gymnastics, golf, indoor and outdoor track – a student may practice but not compete with a non-CIAC team or as an individual during the season as long as such practices do not interfere with or replace member school practices.

**Economic Gain: CIAC Eligibility Rule II.G.**

- A student shall not participate as a member of a team or as an individual in competition from which he or she receives personal economic gains because of his or her athletic skill. A student shall always participate under his or her OWN NAME.

### **CIAC/ECC Ejection Policy**

If a player is ejected from a varsity, junior varsity or freshman, league or non-league contest, he or she will be suspended for a minimum period of one contest at that level of play and all contests at any level of play in the interim.

### **“Captain’s Practice”**

The CIAC and the Stonington Public School District DO NOT in any way sanction or condone “Captain’s Practice” in any sport.

The term “Captain’s Practice” usually means the team’s captain organizing and conducting practice sessions for that sport without adult supervision. The CIAC does not in any way sanction, encourage or condone “Captain’s Practice” in any sport. “Captain’s Practice,” depending on the member school’s involvement, may be a clear violation of eligibility rule II.D. (seasons limitations) or certainly a violation of the spirit of Rule II.D.

CIAC Rules may be obtained from the CIAC website: **[WWW.CASCIAC.ORG](http://WWW.CASCIAC.ORG)**

### **NCAA Eligibility Center**

To be eligible to play college sports at the Division I and II level, prospective student athletes must:

- Complete and sign an NCAA Eligibility Center student release form, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center Web-site and follow the appropriate steps.
- Have an official transcript mailed from any high school attended.
- Have S.A.T. scores sent to the NCAA clearinghouse.

To be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center, a student must:

- Graduate from High School;
- Earn a grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale in a core curriculum of at least 16 academic core courses (grades 9 through 12).
- Division I prospects* must earn a minimum sum score of at least 1010 on the S.A.T., with a G.P.A. of 2.0.
- Division II prospects* must earn a minimum sum score of at least 820 on the S.A.T., with a G.P.A. of 2.0.

**NOTE: For additional NCAA information or updates please check the following websites  
[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) and [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)**

### **5145(a) -Students Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities**

The District recognizes its responsibility to provide a free, appropriate public education to students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Accordingly, no otherwise qualified individual with disabilities shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any District program or activity or those provided by the District through contractual or other arrangements. District aids, benefits and services will afford qualified students with disabilities equal opportunity to obtain the same result gain the same benefit or reach the same level of achievement as students without disabilities in the most integrated setting appropriate to the student's needs. Programs and activities shall be accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities as prescribed by law.

A qualified individual with disabilities under Section 504 is an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; has a record of such an impairment or is regarded as having such an impairment.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 504, the District will:

1. Provide written assurance of nondiscrimination in accordance with application procedures whenever the District receives federal money;
2. Designate an employee to coordinate compliance with Section 504;
3. Provide procedures to resolve complaints of discrimination under Section 504;
4. Provide notice to students, parents, employees, including those with vision or hearing impairments, of the District's policy and compliance with law assuring nondiscrimination in admission or access to, or treatment, in District programs, activities or employment. Notice will be included in student/parent and staff handbooks and other materials as appropriate;
5. Annually identify and locate all Section 504 qualified students with disabilities in the District who are not receiving a free appropriate public education;

Major life activities, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008, include caring for one's self, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, working, performing manual tasks, learning, eating, sleeping, standing, lifting, bending, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating; and major bodily functions, including but not limited to, functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions.

6. Ensure that tests and other evaluation materials have been validated, are administered by trained personnel, are tailored to assess educational need and are not based on IQ scores, and reflect what the tests purport to measure;
7. Provide nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities in such a manner as to afford students with disabilities an equal opportunity for participation in such services and activities;
8. Annually notify students with disabilities and their parents or guardians of the District's responsibilities under Section 504, including those with limited proficiency in English and those with vision or hearing impairments;

9. Provide parents or guardians with procedural safeguards, including notification of their rights:
  - a) To be notified in writing of any decisions made by the District concerning the identification, evaluation or educational placement of their student pursuant to Section 504. (The District will request parental consent prior to conducting an evaluation of the student);
  - b) To examine, copy and request amendments of the student's educational records;
  - c) To request an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parents or guardian and representation by counsel regarding District decisions concerning identification, evaluation or educational placement of their students. A review procedure will be provided.

Nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities may include, but are not limited to, counseling services, transportation, health services, athletics, intramurals, clubs or organization activities, referrals to agencies that provide assistance to persons with disabilities and employment of students, including both employment by the district and assistance by the district in making available outside employment.

Students identified as qualified individuals with disabilities under Section 504 shall be placed in the regular educational environment unless it is demonstrated by the District that the education of the student with the use of related aids and services in such a placement cannot be achieved satisfactorily. All placement decisions will be made by an evaluation team comprised of persons designated by the Superintendent or designee, knowledgeable about the student, the meaning of the evaluation data and placement options.

Students will be reevaluated periodically, but no less than every three years. Additionally, before implementing discipline that constitutes a significant change in the placement (i.e., expulsion, serial suspensions which exceed 10 school days in a school year, a series of suspensions each of which is 10 or fewer school days in duration but that creates a pattern of exclusion), the District shall conduct a reevaluation of the student to determine whether the misconduct in question is caused by the student's disability and, if so, whether the student's current educational placement is appropriate.

If it is determined that the misconduct of the student is caused by the disability, the District's team will continue the evaluation, following the requirements of Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADA) for evaluation and placement to determine whether the student's current educational placement is appropriate. Due process procedures that meet the requirements of the IDEA may be used to meet the procedural safeguards of law.

If it is determined that the misconduct is not caused by the student's disability, the student may be excluded from school in the same manner as are similarly situated students who do not have disabilities.

A student identified as a qualified individual with disabilities under Section 504, who is also covered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, will be disciplined in accordance with Board policy #5144.3, "Discipline of Students with Disabilities."

A reevaluation will also be required before any other significant change in placement (i.e., transferring a student to alternative education, significantly changing the composition of the student's class schedule, such as from regular education to the resource room, etc.).

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes 10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited.  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§791, 793-794 (2006), (34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 104)  
Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§12101-12213; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2006);  
28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2006) Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008  
Policy adopted: May 11, 2017 STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Stonington, Connecticut

### **Title IX Notification Students**

Per Stonington Public Schools Board of Education Policy (5000), discrimination among students attending our schools with respect to race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, physical disability, gender or identity is prohibited. Policies and grievance procedures are available on our website, Stoningtonschools.org.

Additionally, complaints regarding **sexual harassment, bullying, racial harassment and transgender issues** should be directed to the District's Title IX Coordinator:

Allison Van Etten, Director of Special Services  
40 Field Street  
Pawcatuck, CT  
860-572-0506 ext.4  
[avanetten@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:avanetten@stoningtonschools.org)

### **Nondiscrimination/ Equal Employment/ Equal Education Opportunity**

In compliance with regulations of the Office of Civil Rights and with Equal Opportunity practices as determined by the state and federal legislation, the Stonington Board of Education, as a matter of policy, does not knowingly condone discrimination in employment, assignment, program or services, on the basis of race, gender, color, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, or related abilities to perform the duties of the position.

The right of the student to participate fully in classroom instruction and extra-curricular activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of race, gender, color, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, parenthood, marriage, or for any other reason not related to his/her capabilities.

### **Sexual Harassment**

The Board of Education prohibits sexual harassment or intimidation of its students and employees. Any student or employee who believes he or she has been the subject of discrimination/sexual harassment should contact an administrator.

**STONINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**FIELD TRIP/ATHLETIC EVENT TRANSPORTATION FORM**  
**FOR INDIVIDUAL DATES, NOT SEASONAL**

**Parent/Guardian granting permission for student to travel** *(Please check the appropriate box):*

- To a school/athletic event.
- From a school/athletic event.
- To and from a school/athletic event.

● *This form must be handed to the Athletic Director if it is a school sanctioned athletic event.*

My child \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission for alternate transportation  
Name of Student

to/from \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Trip/ Athletic Event Destination Date of Trip

My child will be transported by *(Please check the appropriate box):*

- Self (*Administrative Approval Needed: \_\_\_\_\_*)
  - o And has parental permission to transport the following students:  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- Parent/Guardian
- Another student (*Administrative Approval Needed: \_\_\_\_\_*)  
Initials  
Other Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Another student's parent  
Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:**

**\* Students transporting himself/herself and/or other students must obey all CT State driving laws and regulations, including passenger restrictions for new drivers.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Director Approval (Athletic Event Only) Date