

2022 - 2023 STRASBURG HIGH SCHOOL

Activities and Athletic Handbook



2022 - 23

Administration and Athletic Staff

PRINCIPAL- GINIA GUTIERREZ
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR- KEVIN HEMPHILL

FALL SPORTS COACHES

FOOTBALL - Head Coach: Brian Brown
VOLLEYBALL - Head Coach: Larry Deffenbaugh
SOFTBALL - Head Coach: Wes Madrill
CROSS COUNTRY - Head Coach: Hayley Ross
BOYS GOLF - Head Coach: Eric Gilbert
SPIRIT - Head Coach: Jessica Hicks
UNIFIED BOWLING - Head Coach: Shannon Oakley

WINTER SPORTS COACHES

GIRLS BASKETBALL - Head Coach: Merci Ames
BOYS BASKETBALL - Head Coach: Kyle Bollers
SPIRIT - Head Coach: Jessica Hicks
WRESTLING - Head Coach: Jordan Ross
ESPORTS- Head Coach: Greg Ferber

SPRING SPORTS COACHES

BASEBALL - Head Coach: Jeromie Bongard
TRACK - Head Coach: Cameron Schiller
GIRLS GOLF - Head Coach: Miah Velez
ESPORTS- Head Coach: Greg Ferber

Please note that if we do not offer a sport and our students choose to play that sport for another school that the regulations outlined in the Strasburg High School athletic handbook apply to these student-athletes as well.

INTRODUCTION

This athletic and extra-curricular handbook outlines guidelines, expectations, and procedures that apply to every sport and school sponsored extracurricular activity at Strasburg High School. Each team and activity will also provide guidelines that explain specific expectations for that sport or activity. All coaches, players, and parent/guardians will sign that they have read and agree to uphold the expectations contained in this handbook before competing in any event.

SHS EXTRACURRICULAR/ATHLETICS MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Strasburg Extra Curricular/Athletic Program is to develop character and promote good sportsmanship through a positive, competitive athletic environment.

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

The first official days of practice 2022-23 are as follows:

Fall- 8/8/22 (Golf 8/1)

Winter- 11/14/22

Spring- 2/27/23

1. An athletic participation fee will be charged for each student who wishes to participate in after school sports. **(This is subject to change per board approval)**. The season fee for high school students is \$75.00 per sport. There are no discounts for families with multiple children. The fee must be paid before the athlete will be allowed to practice or participate in any sport. (*Students who are on free or reduced lunch will have their fees discounted and/or waived*).
2. All athletes must have the following signed and turned in to the school office (or electronically signed and submitted through InfoSnap) prior to participating in any practices and games:
 - a) Strasburg High School Activities and Athletic Handbook, including the CHSAA Student Eligibility Information Form and CHSAA Anti-Hazing Policy.
 - b) Strasburg High School Parent Permission Form
 - c) A current physical on file in the office (physicals are valid for one calendar year).
 - d) Emergency Information Card (including proof of health insurance)
 - e) Athletic Participation Waiver
 - f) Establish an online Student Athlete Account per CHSAA
 - g) Payment of Athletic Fee
3. All uniforms must be turned in to the coach of the sport following the season. If the school uniform or equipment is not turned in at this time, the student will not be allowed to participate in any other sport until the equipment is returned or paid for. Also, grades and transcripts will be held until the fee is paid.
4. Each student is encouraged to participate in every season of sports during the school year. (Athletes are only allowed to participate in one sport per season). The choice of sports should be left up to the student and their parents/guardians. We currently do not cut athletes; they are placed on the team that matches their performance and attitude. Seniors are the exception to the "no-cut" rule. According to Patriot League rules, a senior may not participate in junior varsity contests. Therefore, a senior must be on the varsity team in order to play in any sporting contests. If a senior does not make the varsity team, he/she will not be able to play and will be "cut" from that sport.
5. Students are expected to report for sports at the beginning of each sport season as established by CHSAA. (see attached schedule from CHSAA).
6. Each student competing in an interscholastic sports program must have participated in the minimum number of practices as outlined in the CHSAA handbook before representing his/her school in an interscholastic contest or scrimmage. (CHSSA rule 2310.3)
7. Any student who would like to transfer from one sport to another in the same season will need to obtain written approval of the parent/guardian and both coaches involved. Students will not be allowed to transfer from one sport to another within the same season after the first game/meet.
8. Athletes may not participate in two sports at the same time within the same season.
9. Each team will have an attendance policy that outlines the expectations for excused and unexcused absences from practices and games. Our rules are set forth for the benefit of the team

and the athlete. **Players will be removed from the team after a second unexcused absence.** All players are to notify their appropriate level coach about missing a practice. If the player goes home ill they must inform their coach. If a player is injured, they are expected to continue to attend practices if at all possible if he/she wishes to remain a member of the team. A player who misses a practice or a game due to a family outing or a vacation still misses valuable time. Other players and families have made a commitment not to do this. Please keep this in mind before planning any conflicting activities.

- 10. A player must be in school for half their scheduled classes on that day to be eligible to participate in a practice or game the same day (unless there is a medical appointment or family emergency per coach and administration approval).**
11. Students are expected to ride to and from the inter-school contests with the team in the transportation provided by the school district. An exception can be made (at the discretion of the head coach) if the student rides home with his/her parent/guardian if agreed upon by the parent and coach. *If a student is to be transported by another adult the parents must seek pre-approval from administration and the coach at least 24 hours in advance.*
12. Please be aware that if a team has a game or competition that causes the athletes to return home at a late time, the students are expected to be in all of their classes on time the next day.
13. Please note that if a team has a morning practice, the students are expected to be in their first period class on time.

OUTSIDE COMPETITION - CHSAA RULING

Students should be aware that different organizations have amateur rules which are different than those for Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA). Players certified to participate as members of any high school sport may not participate with any individual or non-school group without prior approval of the principal if during the school year. Standards of athletic eligibility are set by CHSAA. Please be aware that the commitment to the Strasburg High School sport needs to be the priority for any potential conflicts.

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

GRADE REQUIREMENTS

1. Each Wednesday at 8:00am grades will be checked and reviewed. Any student who receives two grades below a C (D or F) will be ineligible to play/participate in any athletic contests or extracurricular activity for one week (that Wednesday through the following Tuesday). Students who are ineligible are still required to attend practice unless the coach requires them to attend a study hall. Students must receive an opportunity to be graded each week.
2. NOTE: The first time a student has two “downgrades” in a season, he/she will be placed on a warning list, and he/she will still be able to participate in games/activities. (Please note that a season begins with the first official week of practice). The second time a student has two “downgrades” he/she is ineligible and will not be able to play in that week’s games. **IF A STUDENT IS ON THE INELIGIBLE LIST (not including being on the warning list) TWICE IN THE SAME SEASON, HE/SHE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY SPORT OR ACTIVITY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON.** The exception to this rule is in regards to winter sports, since these sports span both semesters. A participant who is ineligible at the end of the first semester will have eligibility re-established at the beginning of the second semester and then normal eligibility rules will apply.

3. If a student fails two courses in a semester, they are INELIGIBLE to participate until a pre-determined date established by CHSAA (or the next season), unless the courses are made up during summer school. (REFER to CHSAA rules 410.1)
4. **A student who is suspended will be ineligible for at least one game or activity** (starting on the day of the suspension). Major infractions that result in multiple days of suspension will cause a student to miss more than one game or activity at the discretion of the administration.
5. **If a student receives an unexcused absence from his/her classes, he/she may miss at least one game or activity at the discretion of the administration.** Multiple unexcused absences can result in missing more than one game or activity and possibly dismissal from the team at the discretion of administration.
6. No make-up work shall be permitted after the close of the grading period for purposes of becoming eligible. All students who receive an incomplete at the end of the semester have one week to complete any required work and receive a passing grade. A student failing to complete work during the normal semester because of a manifest hardship (injury, illness or other circumstances beyond his control) may be permitted a reasonable time following the student's recovery to complete the work. In most cases the length of time would be a like number of days which the student was absent from school.

To be eligible to participate in any sport/activity, a student must also:

1. Be considered a good citizen of the school and community by the school administration. Our students must represent our school appropriately and be positive role models at all times. Any inappropriate activity on or off campus may face disciplinary action, including losing the privilege of representing our school in extra-curricular activities.
2. Be carrying subjects for which the school grants at least five units of credit or 2.5 semester credits (according to CHSAA guidelines). At Strasburg High School, all 9th-11th grade students are required to take seven classes per semester. Seniors must take at least 6 classes per semester.
3. Fulfill other requirements as established by the coach and administration.

If a student is ineligible, he/she may not participate in the following interscholastic activities (if the competition is not part of a class requirement):

Music competitions

FBLA competitions

Student council and NHS after school activities

Knowledge Bowl competitions

Any sport offered by Strasburg High School, including:

Cheerleading

Football

Volleyball

Cross Country

Golf

Softball

Basketball

Wrestling

Track

Baseball

ESports

Or other organized interscholastic activities.

OTHER ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. A student is ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition upon arriving at age 19; however, if his/her 19th birthday occurs on or after August 1st, he/she shall be eligible to participate in all sports that year.
2. The period of eligibility for a high school athlete shall be limited to eight consecutive semesters, (if he /she began high school as a ninth grader). Any student who has attended eight semesters in grades nine through twelve is ineligible for high school athletics except that a student otherwise ineligible may complete a season's participation in an interscholastic sport beginning in his 8th semester.
3. No high school student shall play more than 4 seasons in any one sport (3 seasons if he/ she began high school as a 10th grader). Any athlete certified to compete in athletics must be an amateur (refer to CHSAA by-laws for further interpretations). To qualify as an amateur, a student must never:
 - a) Have knowingly participated in competition with professionals or have competed for money.
 - b) Have competed under an assumed name
 - c) Have accepted an award which has been converted into cash
 - d) Have signed a professional contract
4. No award of any kind other than by the school, the Association, or a group approved by the school or the Association and limited in value to \$50.00 shall be made to participants in any inter-school activity. (CHSAA policy)
5. If unapproved awards are offered and accepted by the participants, such participants shall jeopardize their eligibility to represent their school in any inter-school activity; and, further, such acceptance shall and may result in a suspension from school. (CHSAA policy)

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR STRASBURG ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS

Please read the sportsmanship handbook that follows for more specific information regarding student behavior and expectations.

1. Participants are expected to conduct themselves in a commendable manner at all times in the school, in the classroom, on trips, and during all contests toward opponents, officials and spectators. Students who do not represent the school in an acceptable manner on or off campus will face the appropriate consequences, including being held out of contests/games, suspended from the team/activity, or being removed from the team/activity or all Strasburg High School teams. These consequences are in addition to the appropriate school consequences as outlined in the student handbook.
2. Students and coaches may not post anything on social media that is considered inappropriate. All participants must follow the guidelines established in the student, teacher, and coach's handbook. Participants may not use social media to harass, threaten, spread inappropriate rumors, or insult others. Consequences will include the loss of playing time, being withheld from contests, and possible removal from the team along with any other appropriate school consequences.
3. The use of profane language is **NOT ACCEPTABLE** and will not be tolerated. The expectations for bus behavior are the same as the bus rules listed in the student handbook
4. If a team is on an overnight trip, the coach and administration will establish guidelines regarding student behavior and expectations. Students are expected to follow the same expectations on trips that they have while attending Strasburg High School. A curfew will be established and enforced, including what rooms students are allowed to be in.

5. Training rules - Without good practice in these areas, no player can perform at his/her best. Proper nutrition and adequate sleep and rest are encouraged. The use or possession of tobacco, drugs, vaping, and alcoholic beverages in any form will NOT be tolerated regardless of the quantity.

STUDENT USE OF TOBACCO/VAPING

If a participant is found to have used, consumed, possessed, or distributed **tobacco** in any form (including vaping, cigarettes and chewing tobacco), on campus or at any school sponsored event, he/she will be administered the following consequences during each season:

1st offense- Multiple hours of detention (up to 5 hours); withheld from up to 1/4 of current season's games/activities.

2nd offense- 1-3 days of suspension; player removed from current team if 2nd time in same season.

3rd offense- Multiple days of suspension (up to 5 days)

If a student-athlete is found to have used, consumed, possessed, or distributed tobacco in any form off campus he/she will lose a minimum of one game/activity for the first offense. After the second offense, loss of game(s)/activities is at the discretion of administration/head coach. After the third off campus offense he/she will be removed from the team.

STUDENT USE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

According to Board Policy, the Strasburg School District shall promote a healthy environment by providing education, support, and decision making skills in regard to alcohol, drugs, and other controlled substances and their abuse. In order to accomplish this goal, a cooperative effort must be made among schools, parents, and the community.

Students who consume alcohol or other drugs are more likely to have academic and social problems. They also engage in behaviors that are clearly unsafe for themselves and others, including the following: a) driving under the influence; b) poor decision making; c) increased sexual activity; d) more aggressive behavior, including fighting; and e) health problems related to substance use. Underage drinking and drug use is a powerful predictor of lifetime abuse and dependence and often leads to criminal behavior.

Some early warning signs of alcohol and drug use are as follows:

1. Mood changes, temper flare-ups, and defensiveness
2. School problems, poor attendance, low grades, and discipline problems
3. Family problems, including rebelling against family rules
4. Personal problems, changing friends and keeping new friends a secret, low energy, disregard for former interests, and a lackadaisical attitude
5. Physical and mental problems, memory lapses, poor concentration, bloodshot eyes, lack of coordination, and slurred speech.

Part of the district's mission is to develop responsible citizens, teach students the dangers of alcohol and drug use, and promote healthy lifestyles. The district wants what is best for its students, and discouraging unhealthy behaviors is in the best interests of students and community.

According to Board Policy, there are clear guidelines that define when a student possesses, uses, sells, distributes, gives, purchases or procures or is under the influence of alcohol, drugs or controlled substances while on school property or during a school activity. When students engage in these behaviors off school property it can also have a detrimental effect upon themselves, others and/or the school environment. Consequently, to promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors at all times among district students and discourage activities that are dangerous, illegal and that negatively impact the learning environment, each school will administer the appropriate consequences whenever a student is involved in events that include alcohol, drugs or controlled substances and that have some reasonable connection to or have a detrimental effect on the educational environment, regardless of whether the student is on or off school property.

Please note that administration reserves the right to give special consideration on a case by case basis if a student seeks treatment or help voluntarily for a drug or alcohol problem.

Use and Possession of illegal drugs or alcohol on school property or at a school sponsored activity:

Students attending the Strasburg School District or any activities located in or sponsored by either the District who use or possess alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances or drug-containing or drug-related paraphernalia in violation of Board policy will be handled in the following manner:

1. When a student is suspected of using and/or in possession of alcohol, illegal drugs or illegal controlled substances on school grounds or during a school sponsored activity in an unlawful or unauthorized manner, the person having the suspicion should notify the principal or designee. Notification must include reasons for such suspicion (observed use, unusual behavior, etc.).
2. The principal or designee will conduct a check of the suspected student and collect evidence/data, including when reasonably possible a written statement from the individual(s) who reported the suspected use and others with relevant knowledge of the matter. This action must comply with the Board policy on interrogations and searches.
3. If information is not sufficient to warrant further action, the principal or designee may have a personal conference with the student expressing awareness and concern.
4. If information warrants further action, the parent/guardian will be requested to attend a conference. The conference may include sharing the data collected, explaining consequences of involvement with drugs/alcohol, developing a plan of action, and offering the parent or guardian general information and resources related to substance abuse.
5. The principal or designee will place any evidence in an envelope or alternative container as necessary which will be sealed, dated and initialed by the individual who originally obtained the materials and by the principal or designee. The evidence then will be placed in a secure location.
6. The principal or designee will call appropriate law enforcement officials in each instance of use and/or possession or sale of controlled substances by a student. A mutual decision will be made as to retention of the contraband by the school or testing by the authorities.
7. When there is evidence of a student using and/or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs, the student will be disciplined according to the school's policies and the parent/guardian notified.

Distribution

Students who sell, give, distribute, or exchange alcohol, illegal drugs, or illegal controlled substances or drug-containing or drug-related paraphernalia in violation of Board policy will be handled in the following manner:

1. If an employee witnesses an act in which alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances or drug-containing or drug-related paraphernalia are being transferred from one student to another, the staff member will immediately attempt to detain the student and request that the student

- accompany the staff member to the principal or designee. If the student refuses, the staff member will notify the principal or designee immediately.
2. The principal or designee will attempt to obtain evidence by requesting it directly from the student or through search procedures in accordance with Board policy.
 3. Any student who sells, distributes, gives, or exchanges drugs or illegal controlled substances in or on school property or at a school sponsored activity will initially be suspended for 5 days and a recommendation will be made to the superintendent that the suspension be extended for an additional 5 days. The student will then be recommended for expulsion. According to state law (Section 22-33-106), expulsion is mandatory for students who sell, distribute, give, or exchange drugs or illegal controlled substances on school property. Students may also be expelled for engaging in such behavior off school property when it is reasonably connected to or has a detrimental effect on the educational environment.

Consequences for violations of the Drug and Alcohol Policy by Strasburg High School students on Strasburg High School property or at a district sponsored activity (while in high school):

First Offense for Use and/or Possession

1. Any student who consumes or possesses alcohol or illegal drugs on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity will receive a five day out-of-school suspension. This suspension can be reduced to three days with the completion of a district approved drug and alcohol class before readmittance to school. The class must be completed and paid for at the expense of the student and family. In addition, a parent/guardian conference will be scheduled prior to readmittance.
2. The principal or designee will attempt to develop with the parent/guardian and the student a procedure that will outline the responsibilities of the parent/guardian, the student and the school in an effort to keep any further offenses from occurring.
3. Additionally, a high school student shall not attend or participate in:
 - a. Student Athletes: ½ of the athletic season in which the student is currently participating or of the next athletic season in which the student expects to participate.
 - b. Students who currently participate in other extracurricular activities (i.e. Speech competitions, FBLA, FFA, etc.): 30(calendar) days of school events
 - c. Students who do not currently participate on school athletic teams or in other extracurricular activities: 30 (calendar) days of school events
4. Appropriate law enforcement officials will be notified.

Second Offense for Use and/or Possession During attendance in the Strasburg School District

1. Any student who consumes or brings alcohol or illegal drugs on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity a 2nd time will receive five day out-of-school suspension. The principal will recommend to the superintendent that the suspension be extended up to ten days. If the student completes a district approved drug and alcohol class the suspension will be reduced to five days if the class is completed before readmittance. The class will be completed and paid for at the expense of the student and his/her family. A parent/guardian conference will be scheduled prior to re-admittance.
2. The principal or designee will attempt to develop with the parent/guardian and the student a procedure that will outline the responsibilities of the parent/guardian, the student and the school in an effort to keep any further offenses from occurring.
3. Appropriate law enforcement officials will be notified and the student will be referred to a community resource agency.
4. Additionally, the a high school student shall not attend or participate in:

- a. Student Athletes: one full season of games of the athletic season in which the student is currently participating or the next athletic season in which the student expects to participate.
- b. Students who currently participate in other extracurricular activities: 60 days of school events.
- c. Students who currently do not participate on school athletic teams or in other extracurricular activities: 60(calendar) days of school events.

Third Offense for Use and/or Possession and First Offense for Distribution of drugs or illegal controlled substances

1. Any student who has consumed or possessed alcohol or drugs on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity for the 3rd time will be suspended for 5 days and the principal shall recommend to the superintendent that the suspension be extended for an additional 5 days. The student will also be recommended for expulsion.
2. Any student who is found to have consumed alcohol or drugs on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity for the third time shall not participate in any school sponsored extra-curricular activities for the remainder of his/her attendance in the Strasburg School District.
3. At the completion of the suspension and/or expulsion and any stipulations required by the suspension/expulsion, a student may appeal to the principal to be re-instated as an extra-curricular participant only if he/she has completed a drug and alcohol class at the expense of the student and his/her family.
4. Appropriate law enforcement officials will be notified and the student will be referred to the community resource agency.

Consequences for students who use, possess, distribute alcohol or drugs off campus (while in high school):

High school students who participate in athletics or any school sponsored extra-curricular activity will face a penalty if it is determined by administration they have used, possessed, or distributed alcohol or any illegal drug off campus during the school year. This penalty may also apply to students who are present when others use, possess, or distribute alcohol or any illegal drug at the discretion of administration.

1st offense- Up to ¼ of the current season or the next season/activity the student participates in. Student may return to competition sooner, at the discretion of administration, if the student-athlete completes a district approved drug and alcohol class.

2nd offense- Up to ½ of the current season or the next season/activity the student participates in.

3rd offense- One calendar year of extra-curricular activities.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

All participants should set and keep a high standard of appearance at all times. On game days, an athlete's hair should be neat and well groomed and their dress should be neat, clean and appropriate. These guidelines for appearance apply when students are traveling and before and after events. Participants should give positive leadership toward the conduct of the students in the school and in the community. The coach for each sport will determine the appropriate dress to wear to school on game days.

COMMUNICATION CHAIN OF COMMAND

If a problem arises with a coach or team member, the chain of command is as follows:

1. Bring your problem to the appropriate level coach and discuss it. The proper time to discuss a problem is NOT RIGHT BEFORE OR AFTER THE GAME. Make an appointment with the coach by calling the school the next school day.
2. If the problem or situation is not resolved (or at least a decision to disagree with civility has not been met), then the next level of discussion should be with the head coach.
3. If the situation is not resolved after meeting with the head coach, the next step to resolve the situation should be to contact the athletic director.
4. If the situation is still unresolved, or if the athletic director is unavailable, please contact the principal.

NOTE: Please be aware that playing time is at the discretion of the head coach at each level of competition.

GENERAL ATHLETIC LETTERING AND AWARD GUIDELINES

1. Each team will host their own awards ceremony at the conclusion of that sport's season. Letters and other awards for each sport will be given out at the ceremony, and seniors will be honored. **All participants are expected to attend the awards ceremony for each sport he/she participates in.**
2. The final decision of giving an athletic award to a player, once the sport guidelines have been met, shall be subject to the approval of the coaches and administration. The coaches and administration reserve the right to deny an award for violation of school athletic policies.
3. Only one athletic letter may be given to a participant in each sport during his/her high school career. Each year after that, if a letter is earned, a service bar will be given.
4. Letters will not be awarded at the junior varsity or C level. A certificate of participation will be awarded to each participant at the junior varsity and C level.
5. Any senior that has participated in any sport for four years and has not earned a letter will be presented with an "S" letter at the athletic ceremony for that season.

THE GUIDELINES FOR LETTERING A SPORT ARE AS FOLLOWS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

1. FOOTBALL - a player must participate in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total quarters. Entry into the game constitutes participation. If the team advances to the state quarter final game all varsity team members automatically letter.
2. VOLLEYBALL - a player must participate in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the regular season games. If the team qualifies for the state tournament all varsity team members automatically letter.
3. CROSS COUNTRY- place in half of the meets the team enters or qualify for state.
4. WRESTLING - a player must wrestle in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total matches scheduled. The wrestlers that advance to the state tournament automatically letter.
5. BASKETBALL - a player must participate in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total quarters. If a team qualifies for the final eight all varsity team members automatically letter.
6. TRACK-each participant must earn 10 team points or qualify for the state meet to letter.
7. BASEBALL - play in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the innings scheduled (this may be modified before the season starts). If the team qualifies for the final eight, all varsity team members automatically letter.
8. SOFTBALL - play in $\frac{1}{2}$ of the innings scheduled. If the team qualifies for the final eight, all varsity team members automatically letter.
9. CHEERLEADING- see Cheerleading handbook

10. SOCCER- play in ½ of the scheduled games.

The school district will purchase an embroidered patch suitable for that sport for each team member that is All-State and for state championship teams. The district will purchase a banner for each team that is a state runner-up or state champions. The Patriot League provides All-Conference and Honorable Mention certificates as voted on by the head coaches.

Please note that the purchase of any state championship rings will be the responsibility of the student's family. Teams may choose to fundraise to help offset the cost of the rings.

SPORTSMANSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

Good sportsmanship is defined by Strasburg Senior High School as a commitment to fair play, teamwork, ethical behavior, and integrity. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activities. The fundamentals of good sportsmanship will be characterized by our school expectations:

Perseverance

Respect and Responsibility

Integrity

Diversity

Excellence

We expect all participants and spectators to show respect for their team, the opponents, the officials, and the rules of the game. Please be a role model of what Strasburg School District stands for at all times.

SPORTSMANSHIP PLEDGE

The purpose of Strasburg Athletics is to develop character and promote good sportsmanship through a positive, competitive athletic environment. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor. Strasburg athletic participants are representatives of the Strasburg School District. Participants should display pride in themselves, their team, and their school at all times.

INTRODUCTION

Sportsmanship will be a primary goal of our athletic programs. It is an objective during practice as well as games. Players, coaches, cheerleaders, and spectators must display good sportsmanship at all times or they will not be able to participate in athletic events. We will require that all players, coaches, and parents sign a pledge to uphold our standards of sportsmanship and fair play.

Interscholastic athletics plays an important role in the development of all those who participate. The life-long skills, attitudes, and positive experiences produced from athletic competition are immeasurable. Interscholastic activities should be considered an extension of the traditional classroom.

One of the most important benefits of athletic competition is the building of **character** in individuals. Sportsmanship encompasses all of the positive characteristics of interscholastic athletics, including honesty, citizenship, fairness, respect, and adherence to the rules of the game.

Displaying good sportsmanship and being competitive can be achieved at the same time. Our goal should be to compete and bring out the best in ourselves and others in a manner that brings honor to each individual, our team, and our school. A victory without honor and integrity is not a victory at all.

SPORTSMANSHIP EDUCATION

Sportsmanship is characterized by the following:

- Play fair, take a defeat without complaint, and victory without gloating.
- Treat others as you wish to be treated.
- Respect others and one's self.
- Impose self-control, be courteous, and gracefully accept the results of one's actions.
- Display ethical behavior by being good (character) and doing right (action).
- Be a good citizen.
- It is learning that each individual can control choices concerning his/her own behavior, and that such control is worthy of praise and respect.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and the community.
- Live up to standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, and fellow students. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated. Who better than yourselves can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport?
- Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a courteous manner following either victory or defeat.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you and your team in the eyes of the officials and everyone at the event.
- Exercise self-control and do not lose your temper in the heat of the moment. Display grace under pressure.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

- Remember that you are at the contest to **support and cheer for your team**- not against the opposing team- and to enjoy the skill and competition-not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.

- Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious. Do not lose your temper- exercise self-control.
- Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

OVERALL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Acceptable Behavior:

- Applaud during introduction of players, coaches, and officials and at end of contest.
- Cheer for your team, not against the opposing team.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive cheers in a positive manner
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a battle.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Keep a cool head at all times and show respect for yourself, the opponents, the officials, and the game itself.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of team. Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior:

- Yelling or waving arms during opponent's free throw attempt, serve, etc.
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells chants, songs, or gestures.
- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper towards officials.
- Cheers that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances. Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches, or participants.
- Laughing or name calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing own yells instead of following lead of cheerleaders.

STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT

I have read and understand the guidelines of the 2022-23 Activities and Athletic Handbook. I agree to uphold the expectations of the Sportsmanship Pledge. I will represent myself and my school with pride both on and off the playing field.

I have also read and understand the CHSAA Eligibility Information Form and have read and understand the CHSAA Anti-Hazing Policy. I understand and acknowledge the inherent risks of participating in athletics.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____