



BULLARD ISD

ATHLETIC

HANDBOOK



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Cross Country

Volleyball

Football

Basketball

Track

Tennis

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BULLARD ISD ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

BULLARD ISD ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Mission Statement

The ultimate goal of this program is to provide all possible avenues for the student athlete to achieve a well-rounded athletic and academic experience. We will strive to provide wholesome activities and opportunities for students to develop favorable habits and attitudes that will help them to succeed in life.

Athletics in our society provides one of the finest ways for young people to develop into responsible, caring, and competitive men and women. The program should, however, assume its rightful place in the whole educational experience. This can be accomplished with an enthusiastic, progressive, and caring coaching staff.

It should be noted that the BISD student code of conduct and local school policies regarding appropriate behavior shall always be applied first and foremost when violations occur at a school, contest/event, traveling to and from a contest/event, or when the students represent themselves as a part of a school team, organization, or school group. The district standards are set as a minimum expectation, but individual sports may choose to establish more stringent guidelines deemed, as necessary along with Athletic Director approval.

The program will, at all times, conform to the rules and guidelines set forth by the administration of the Bullard Independent School District and the University Interscholastic League (UIL). At no time should the athletic program be given more emphasis than the education curriculum. The program should function as a part of the whole curriculum and should strive for the development of well-rounded individuals capable of assuming meaningful places in society.

Participation in extracurricular activities is a PRIVILEGE, not a right. Therefore, higher standards are expected from all participants as it pertains to grades, behavior both in and out of school, attendance, work ethic, and commitment. Any behavior that is deemed unbecoming of an athlete or participant will be subject to punishment or removal from the program.

Vision Statement

The Vision of Bullard ISD athletic department is to provide student-athletes a safe and healthy environment that promotes and supports academic, athletic and personal achievement. Athletic programs will encourage and empower student-athletes to become better students, athletes, leaders and citizens; to prepare for the transition to the next level of participation both academically and athletically.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BULLARD ISD STUDENT-ATHLETES

All student-athletes have the responsibility to play to win, give their best effort, strive for excellence, and exhibit good conduct at all times in a manner that is a positive example to team members, fellow students and the community. The fact that an individual has chosen to participate in interscholastic athletics is indicative that the student has taken into consideration the regards, privileges, and pleasures obtained from participation, in addition to the responsibility of following regulation and meeting the demands of being a student-athlete. The privilege of representing the BULLARD ISD Athletic Program coincides with the expectations of the campus attended by the student.

Most importantly, the student-athlete will represent BULLARD ISD to the best of his/her ability to set an example to the community of the values and expectations promoted within the school district.

The BULLARD ISD Athletic Program is an integral part of the total school experience for both boys and girls. It offers a variety of sports and activities to students who have the desire to participate. The athletic program is a vital part of education. The rules, regulations, and standards set forth in this handbook are designed to provide for the efficient operation of such a program. The student-athlete will be held accountable and responsible for policies contained within this handbook and for any additional expectation set forth by the Head Coach.

STUDENT-ATHLETE ATHLETIC POLICIES

Academics

Athletes are expected to work to their greatest potential in the classroom. Athletes failing classes should be attending tutorials. Athletes failing to attend tutorials, who continue to fail, may be removed from the program.

Athletic (Suspension)

The Athletic Director may suspend or place on probation for the duration of the term, duration of the seasonal activity, or the duration of the school year any student-athlete for a major infraction of the standards set forth in this athletic handbook or student code of conduct.

The Athletic Director empowers the coaching staff to enforce and maintain all policies and standards described in the Athletic Handbook. Communication will be maintained between the coaching staff, the Athletic Director, and the campus Principal when infractions warrant suspension from athletic activities.

The BULLARD ISD does not discriminate against any person because of race, creed, national origin, age, sex, economic status, or handicapping condition in employment, promotion, or educational programming. Student-athletes and parents are expected to follow the chain of command and first confer with the coach in question, then if

necessary, the Head Varsity Coach of the Sport, followed by the Athletic Director, the building Principal, and finally the Superintendent of Schools when an athletic concern exists. All academic concerns should be initiated with the teacher and then the campus Principal. Concerns addressing both athletic and academic matters should be addressed to the campus Principal and Athletic Director.

Attendance/Absences/Tardiness

Student-Athletes are expected to be dressed and on time for all practices and competitions and remain for the duration of the practice or completion. It is the student-athletes parents' responsibility to notify the coach if he/she must miss a practice or competition. By becoming a member of the BULLARD ISD Athletic Program you are making a commitment to the program.

- An unexcused absence from practice could result in loss of playing time or suspension from the next game.
- An unexcused absence from a game will result in suspension of the next scheduled game.
- An excused absence is that of an illness, emergency, etc. A doctor's note or note from parent may be required.

As with any other activity, please be aware that excessive tardiness or absences will result in loss of playing time or even dismissal from the team. Sport-specific drills and conditioning may be required for any tardy or absence at the discretion of the Head Coach.

Banquets

In the spring, the Athletic Department and Booster club host a high school athletic banquet honoring all students who participated in athletics during the competition seasons. Student-athletes are expected to attend banquets honoring their sport.

Booster Club

The BULLARD ISD Athletic Booster Club meets each month to promote parent and citizen involvement towards the BULLARD ISD athletic program. The Booster Club serves in a support capacity to raise funds, awareness, and community spirit. They are under the auspices of the district Superintendent and facilitated by the Athletic Director. The UIL has set forth strict guidelines for the proper management of any organizations supporting student activities.

Classroom Behavior

Student-Athletes must maintain a satisfactory citizenship and behavior record by giving respectful attention to classroom activities and by treating teachers, administrators, and fellow students with respect. Tardiness, horseplay, fighting, disrespect, juvenile behavior, etc. are not acceptable and may result in punishment from the coach of the in-season sport or the Athletic Director up to and including suspension from athletic competitions.

Cold Weather Policy

BULLARD ISD has implemented a cold weather policy to protect its student-athletes and provide benchmarks for sponsors and coaches to adhere to:

- Wind Chill Factor Below 32° F – Practices limited to 45 minute sessions
- Wind Chill Factor 25° F or Below – No **OUTSIDE** activity

Communication: Athletic Complaints/Concerns Process and Guidelines

Our goals are to facilitate communication between player and coach, then coach and parent/student and to address concerns in a collaborative, effective manner. If you are a student or parent who has a concern or complaint about a sport, coach or coaching style, please follow the prescribed process listed below.

- a. Coaches cannot address a problem unless they know that a problem exists. Most of the time problems stem from miscommunication or misinterpretation of an issue. Therefore, we ask that your child talk first with the coach and address the problem directly. If the outcome of that meeting is not satisfactory, we ask that the parent and student meet together with the coach.
- b. The BISD Athletic Department is here to work alongside parents to encourage an enjoyable experience for the student-athlete in BISD Athletics. We will do whatever it takes in working with parents to achieve that goal. When an issue or conflict arises, please give due diligence to the department communication protocol.
- c. Again, we are committed to effective communication and problem solving and look forward to meeting with students and parents to build and maintain top caliber athletic programs in BISD.

Criminal Charges

Any student-athlete legally charged with, arrested for, or convicted of a felony may be subject to suspension from all athletic competitions, or other disciplinary action may be taken during an in-season sport, until the matter has been cleared through the courts or punishment has been served. The student-athlete will be expected to participate in all practices during that time in order to remain in the athletic program. Depending on the severity of the charges (including serious misdemeanors) and the outcome of the case, a student-athlete may be suspended for one or more games, dismissed from that sport for the remainder of the season, or dismissed from athletic program for the remainder of the year. If the student-athlete is not found guilty or all charges are dropped, then the student-athlete will be reinstated into the athletic program with Athletic Directors approval.

Disciplinary Action Process

In the event a student-athlete violates athletic policies, the disciplinary action will include one or more of the following: extra conditioning, game suspension, dismissal from the team or removal from the athletic program. BISD reserves the right to remove any student immediately if the student exhibits behavior that threatens the safety and well being of the other athletes or coaches.

Suspension, Dismissal or Removal of Student Athletes: No student-athlete may be suspended, dismissed or removed from a team or the athletic program before properly

notifying the Athletic Director and the parents of the recommended action. All involved parties *MUST* meet before any action will take place. All suspensions and removals require 24 hours of contemplation before decisions are final.

Dress Code

In addition to following BULLARD ISD Board approved dress code (found in the student handbook) student-athletes have additional expectations in regard to hairstyle and jewelry. No student-athlete will wear piercings of any kind while in an athletic facility, during practice or during competition. In accordance to UIL rules and regulations, for safety reasons, student-athletes are not allowed to wear jewelry of any kind during competition. Student-athletes will also be required to maintain a hairstyle suitable for athletic competition. Suitable may be defined as (1) not impairing vision (2) suitable in length as to not create a safety hazard (3) not promoting disunity (shaved insignias, symbols, alternative colors).

Dropping/Quitting a Sport

It is the philosophy of the BULLARD ISD Athletic Department that student-athletes should finish what they begin. An athlete may not quit one sport to play another sport. The following procedures should be followed in order to drop/quit a sport:

- a. Examine the situation before a decision is made
- b. Talk to the coach to see if a solution can be reached. (A parent conference may be required)
- c. If the decision to quit is made by a student-athlete in grades 7 – 12 the student-athlete must check out of the sport through the Head Coach. All clothing/equipment issued to the student-athlete must be returned in the same shape as it was when it was issued to the athlete. Payment for any lost or damaged clothing and equipment will be required. This matter must be resolved before student-athlete begins participating in his/her next sport.
- d. A student-athlete that decides to quit one sport to join another must wait until the first sport has completed its season before they are allowed to participate in competition.
Exception: Athletes who choose to quit a sport during the two-week “tryout window” will not be subject to this consequence. The tryout window is defined as the 14 calendar day period of time beginning with the first official practice of the particular sport’s season.
- e. A student-athlete who quits in a manner inconsistent with the above scenarios will not be allowed to compete for the remainder of the school year.
- f. Student will not be allowed to join a sport after season games have started without approval from the Athletic Director. This does not apply to students who enroll during this time.

Drug / Alcohol Use

It is the philosophy of BULLARD ISD that our interscholastic and extracurricular programs shall be drug and alcohol free. The basis for this is founded upon and by the following:

- Use of drugs and alcohol is illegal for school age students.

- Abuse of these products had been shown to create short and long term health and safety risks.
- Students using these products may not be capable of fulfilling commitments and responsibilities toward themselves, teammates, and school.
- Use of these products can diminish the student’s mental and/or physical performance.
- Student-athletes should be positive role models who demonstrate pride and honor to their school, community and family.
- Student-athletes will be held responsible and accountable for their behavior and choices they make.
- Education regarding drug, alcohol, and/or steroid abuse may be provided throughout the course of a student-athlete’s involvement in the athletic program by members of the coaching staff. The NCAA, UIL, and National Federation of High Schools publish and distribute to coaching staffs information regarding the dangers of substance abuse.

Drug Testing Policy

BULLARD ISD adopted a drug testing program that includes mandatory participation by all students involved in UIL events. The drug testing program can be found in its entirety at www.bullardisd.net

Dual Participation

All athletes participating in BISD Athletics make a commitment to the team, their teammates and their school. Each program demands the dedication of time and energy of the athlete. Part of this commitment is to be a student first and strive for academic excellence. Another integral part of that commitment is to place the BISD Athletic team above participation in any non-school sanctioned activity and attend all practices and games scheduled by BISD Coaches.

Dual Participation: Any first offense dual participation violation will result in a warning and possible suspension for the next game (Head coach’s discretion). Two or more will have the same consequences but a parent meeting of all parties must happen to discuss the negative impact on the school team. The meeting should be communicated to the Athletic Director and Campus Principal.

Eligibility/Grades/Tutorials

The BULLARD ISD coaches and administration shall determine each student’s eligibility according to UIL rules and regulation as specified in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. BULLARD ISD strictly enforced. In addition, BULLARD ISD expects student-athletes to be top academic students. Each student-athlete must realize that he/she is a “student” first and an “athlete” second. They must give sufficient time and energy to his/her academic courses to insure acceptable grades to meet the UIL requirements for participation. Coaches may check student-athlete averages at any time within a grading period.

Facilities/Equipment

Student-athletes are expected to take care of all facilities and equipment at all times. Normal wear and tear is expected, misuse and vandalism is not.

Forms – Required Annually

Prior to participation, a student-athlete must have the following on file:

- a. Pre-participation Medical History and Examination form (UIL form only)
- b. Parent/ Student Acknowledgement of Rules form (UIL form only)
- c. Illegal Steroid Use form (UIL form only)
- d. UIL Previous Athletic Participation Form (if applicable)
- e. UIL Foreign Exchange Student forms (if applicable)
- f. BULLARD ISD Athletic Handbook acknowledgement form
- g. Emergency Contact Information Form
- h. Consent to Treat Form
- i. Drug Testing Consent Form
- j. Sudden Cardiac Awareness Form
- k. Bullard Co-curricular / Extracurricular Contract
- l. Athletic Code of Conduct

The school district cares about the well-being of student athletes; however, the school district does not assume liability for injuries incurred in athletics.

Game Conduct/Sportsmanship

BULLARD ISD Athletic Program stresses exemplary behavior and attitude during practice and competitions. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Student-athletes should be positive role models for students and the community. Student athletes will be respectful to other contestants, fans, and to all coaches and officials. Technical foul penalties for unsportsmanlike or flagrant conduct and ejections will not be tolerated. An athlete that is administered and unsportsmanlike penalty or technical foul will be subject to disciplinary actions up to but not limited to loss of play or suspension from next game or removal from the program entirely.

Governing Injury, Illness or Restrictions

Athletic Training

Athletic Trainers will consult with students and parents to clarify the student's limitations and restrictions.

- a. All communication and flow of information will be between the BISD Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) and the student athlete's medical professional of choice and/or parents/legal guardian of said athlete.
- b. The LAT will use prudent judgment to the severity of the injury prior to notifying the parents. The LAT will notify parents and will consult with them regarding treatment.

- c. The LAT will consult with the physician if the athlete sees a physician. If medical evaluation has occurred, the parent will notify LAT of injury and supply prescription for return to play.
- d. The LAT will use caution and abide by all HIPAA laws that are currently acceptable.

Information Dissemination

On a daily basis, all student-athlete injury information will be disseminated to all pertinent BISD sports' coaches to the restrictions and limitations of all athletes. All cleared athletes will not appear on the list.

- a. Information regarding names, treatment plan, limitations and RTP timeline are emailed daily to all athletic staff.
- b. Additional information discovered during the day will be shared with individual coaches via email and/or personal conversation.

Injuries must be anticipated in any type of athletic activity and every athlete assumes some degree of risk when training or competing. Therefore, when an injury does occur to a student-athlete participating in the athletics program, the student-athlete who has suffered an injury, illness or requires restrictions must make it known to the athletic trainer and coaches as soon as possible.

- a. If an athlete is injured and cannot participate in their sport, he/she shall be under the care and direction of the athletic training staff.
- b. Daily Treatment times: Before school, during athletic period and after school. Student-athletes should be prompt and allow for adequate time for treatment. If a student-athlete is injured, they must attend morning treatments.
- c. All student-athletes must dress out for each practice even though injured and unable to participate unless instructed otherwise by the athletic trainer.
- d. Student-athletes shall report to practice on time. Being in the athletic training room is not an excuse for being late to practice.
- e. Student-athletes shall not treat themselves. The athletic training staff will provide necessary in school treatments.
- f. Student-athletes shall report to their coach at the start of the practice/period prior to attending treatment with the athletic trainer.

Hazing

Hazing is any action or activity that, regardless of location, intent, or consent of participants, causes or intends to cause: 1) physical harm, 2) mental harm, 3) anxieties, or 4) degrading or disgracing a person for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization. Hazing has long been a tradition for many organizations, clubs, and sports team, causing members to endure physical or mental abuse in the name of brotherhood, sisterhood, and unity.

Hazing is an illegal activity (Texas Education Code 37.151-37.157) and is a violation of the BISD Student Code of Conduct. Therefore hazing under any circumstances will not be

tolerated in the athletic programs of our school district. Students found to be in violation of this portion of the Athletic Code will be subject to disciplinary action through the athletic program, the school district, and the judicial system.

Hot Weather Policy

Practice or competition in hot humid environmental conditions poses special problems for student-athletes. Heat stress and resulting heat illness is a primary concern in these conditions. Although deaths from heat illness are rare, surveillance and education are necessary to prevent heat-related problems. BULLARD ISD has implemented excessive policy to protect its student-athletes and provide benchmarks for sponsors and coaches to adhere to:

- Heat Index Below 100°F – Access to water at all times. No clothing restrictions
- Heat Index 100°F - 105°F – Access to water at all times with frequent breaks. Students may remove headgear at any time when not in active participation
- Heat Index 106°F - 110°F – Short/Shoulder Pads/Helmets Only (Football). Access to water at all time with frequent breaks. Students may remove headgear at any time when not in active participation - NO OUTSIDE CONDITIONING
- Heat Index 111°F - 115°F – Shorts/Shirts/Helmets ONLY (Football). Access to water at all times with frequent breaks. Students may remove headgear at any time when not in active participation. Limit practice to 45 minute sessions/break 15 minutes - NO OUTSIDE CONDITIONING
- Heat Index 115 °F - 119°F – NO Headgear. NO OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES EXCEDING 30 minutes - NO OUTSIDE CONDITIONING
- **Heat ABOVE 120°F – NO OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES**

ISS / Code of Conduct & DAEP Placement (25)

- A student is ineligible for athletic participation during any of-campus disciplinary placement (DAEP). He or she may not participate in games or practices.
- With head coach and Athletic Director approval, a student returning from off-campus placement may enter an off-season program.
- With head coach & Athletic Director approval, a student returning from off-campus placement may enter an in-season program.
- If an athlete is allowed to return to the athletics program, coaches are to provide appropriate condition opportunities that will prepare the athlete for a return to competitive physical activities.

Extended assignments may result in dismissal from any in-season sport. Any student-athlete disciplined under the student code of conduct could be subject to suspension or dismissal from the athletic program at the Athletic Director's discretion. Students assigned to In-School Suspension (ISS) will report to the ISS room immediately. Students serving ISS will serve the entire school day regardless of regular class schedule. Students serving ISS may not be eligible to participate in any school sponsored event on days of the ISS. Student-athletes placed in Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) will be suspended indefinitely. Consistent violations of classroom behavior may warrant an indefinite suspension at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

Lettering

Student-athletes may receive from the school only one major award during their high school career (UIL). BULLARD ISD awards one letter-jacket (jacket letter, and sport symbol) to a student-athlete during their high school career. In order to letter in a sport, the student athlete must be on a varsity team and satisfy the requirements stated below. Coaches must consider the following before nominating a student-athlete.

- Conduct as explained in this handbook
- Attendance to all activities which the athlete is required to attend
- Completion of the season on the VARSITY team, eligible, and in good standing
- Finishing the season does **NOT include:**
 - Promotion from sub-varsity to the varsity playoff roster
 - Moving to the JV within the season and returning to the Varsity for playoffs

Participation

Students participating in volleyball, football, basketball, must be in their athletic period Semester 1 and Semester 2. Fall sport athletes (VB and FB) may be exempted from the participation requirement the spring of their senior year. Students participating in other sports only, must be enrolled in a PE class or external physical education to get their state credits. Single sport-only athletes like soccer; softball/baseball may enroll in an athletic period with ***Head Coach's approval only.*** Case by case situations may be reviewed by the Athletic Director.

Participation – Playing Time

Any student meeting the BISD and UIL residential and eligibility requirements may compete for a position on any athletic team. Any team placement, position placement, style of play and/or playing time is the sole discretion of the coach and may not be appealed.

Practice Times/Schedules

According to UIL rules, school teams shall be prohibited from practicing team skills before or after school except during specified practice dates set forth by the UIL, and during the one allowable period during the school day. The respective coach in conjunction with the Athletic Director and other coaches of in-season sports will arrange practice schedules for each sport. Attempts will be made to ensure that practice times for one sport will not interfere with practice times for a coinciding sport. Student-athlete completion in multiple sports may at times be subject to overlapping practice schedules. The sport in competition season has priority. **Conflicts between two sports during a competition season will be handled by the head coaches of those sports.** If there is a conflict between an extracurricular activity and a sport, the coaches/sponsors will work together to reach an agreement.

Participation When Ill or Injured

Any student-athlete that is injured during the course of the season or has illness of a minor nature and unable to participate due to this injury or illness must continue to follow all expectations, rules, and regulations, if the student-athlete wishes to remain a part of the team. The student-athlete will not participate but will be required to attend all practice sessions and sit with the team during competitions. Failure to attend practices and competitions can result in dismissal from the team.

Athletes learn from each practice session whether they are actually working or are simply observing.

Profanity

Use of profanity is not allowed. All offenses will result in disciplinary action.

Scholarship Information

The purpose of participating in high school athletics should not be a quest to win a scholarship to perform at the collegiate level. The following information is provided to help parents and athletes realize the difficult task faced by a high school athlete to earn a free college education through athletics and the even more difficult task it is to become a professional athlete.

**Estimated Probability of Competing in Athletics Beyond the High School Level
(Information furnished by the University Interscholastic League)**

	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Football	Baseball	*Men's/ Women's Soccer
High School Athletics in U.S.	549,500	456,900	983,600	450,300	321,400
HS Senior Athletics in U.S.	157,00	130,500	281,000	130,100	91,800
NCAA Student Athletes	15,700	14,400	56,500	25,700	18,200
NCAA Freshman Positions	4,500	4,100	16,200	7,300	5,200
NCAA Senior Athletes	3,500	3,200	12,600	5,700	4,100
NCAA Athletes Drafted	44	32	250	600	76
Percent High School to NCAA	2.9%	3.1%	5.8%	5.6%	5.7%
Percent NCAA to Professional	1.3%	1.0%	2.0%	10.5%	1.9%
Percent HS to Professional	0.03%	0.02%	0.09%	0.5%	0.08%

College Recruiting

What we can do-

1. Remind students to take the ACT and SAT test.
2. Put emphasis on a high grade point average.
3. We, as coaches, will assist all student athletes in filling out personnel (personal) questions, making individual highlight video, and any other help we can give.

4. We, as coaches, will give positive feedback to college recruiters. We will send video anywhere the students desire us to.

What you can do-

1. Make good grades and maintain a high GPA.
2. Take the ACT and SAT test multiple times.
3. Go to college mini-camps or combines.
4. Can assist with making individual highlight videos to send to colleges.

Recruiting Process-

- a. Colleges send questionnaires and enter kids into a database.
- b. Colleges select players and send personal letters and questionnaires.
- c. Colleges ask for a video to analyze potential selected players and ask high school coaches about grades, character and college playing potential.
- d. Colleges invite and rank kids at their camps.
- e. Colleges assess their program needs and rank the top high school prospects in order to recruit.
- f. College recruiters will recruit multiple high school players for each position and each scholarship.
- g. College recruiters will offer scholarships to their top prospects only. If that prospect signs or commits to another program they will go to their second choice. (All the while “stringing along” all possible recruits for that position until they sign who they want.)
- h. After signing day many lower level colleges will sign prospects who were overlooked or ask recruits to walk on with limited or no money offered for college.

Resolving Conflicts

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the others' position. **Persons seeking a resolution conference for athletic concerns should not approach the coach during the time immediately preceding or following an athletic contest or practice.** Coaches have responsibilities at these times that limit the time they have available to meet with parents. In addition, the time immediately following practices or games can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation and can often escalate it. When these conferences are necessary, the following steps are suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

- a. Call the school to set up an appointment with the coach. If the coach is an assistant coach, include the head coach of the sport in the conference.
- b. Decide exactly what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting.
- c. Stick to discussing the facts, as you understand them.
- d. Listen to the coach's response.
- e. If the concern is still not resolved, a conference involving the student and/or parent, head coach of the sport, and the Athletic Director should be scheduled.

Selection of Teams

The head coach of each sport will determine the players on each team. The selection of teams will include, but is not limited to: skill level, knowledge of sport, attitude, and experience in the sport. Middle school and high school sub-varsity team members will receive adequate playing time based upon performance and meeting expectations.

Members of varsity teams are not guaranteed playing time.

Select/Club Sports

In the case of a non-school related athletic event conflicting with a school related athletic event, priority will be given to the school athletic event. Missing a school related athletic practice or game for non-school athletic activity is unacceptable and could result in a suspension from participation in the following school athletic contest.

Social Media

All student-athletes are expected to use social media responsibly. How you conduct yourself online and through social media is a reflection of the athletic programs and BISSD. Students who post inappropriate messages and/or pictures will be asked to remove the post and will receive consequences that may include game suspensions and possible school discipline. Subsequent inappropriate posts will include additional consequences up to and possibly including, dismissal from the team and BISSD athletic program.

Stealing

Theft will not be tolerated. An athlete caught stealing will receive disciplinary action and may be dismissed from the team and/or athletics.

Strength and Conditioning

Offseason is the period of time during the school calendar year when athletes from any sport are not competing against other schools in a sanctioned event in their chosen sport. It is the philosophy of the BULLARD ISD Athletic Department that ALL athletes will participate in strength and conditioning activities of their main sport to ensure the success and prevention of injuries relative to that sport. All athletes enrolled in an athletic period are required to participate in that sports conditioning program. Two sport athletes will participate in their non-spring sport conditioning activity. Exception: When a two-sport athlete reaches the varsity level of completion in two sports, the strength and condition requirement may be waived to accommodate the demands of dual participation. The Athletic Director will have the final decision in all the above matters.

Team Travel

All regular school transportation rules apply when on an athletic trip. ***All student-athletes are expected to ride the transportation provided by BULLARD ISD to and from all competitions.*** The approval of the head coach must be obtained for a student-athlete to return home with his/her parent/guardian, and this will only occur

upon completion of a BULLARD ISD Athletic Department Travel Consent Form. The Athletic Department **strongly urges** that all student-athletes leave with a parent/guardian only in emergency situations. Head coaches of each sport will determine if they will allow Sub-Varsity players to travel home after an away contest.

Student-Athletes will follow the Board approved dress code for all bus trips, if not dressed in the team uniform before leaving the school. Food and/or drinks will only be allowed on the bus with the approval of the coaches. **Head Coaches reserve the right to set the expectations for travel dress code to other campuses. The coaching staff retains the right to ban any radios, electronic games, cell phones, etc. on any trips.**

Tobacco or Electric Cigarettes

No tobacco use in any form will be permitted. First offense will result in disciplinary action. Continued offense in this matter may result in removal from the athletic program.

Uniforms

Student-Athletes will be issued a set of practice clothes that may include but not limited to shirt, shoes, sweats, or wind-suits. These clothes will be worn during participation in athletic practice or competition only. At the end of the season/year, the issued clothes will be returned. Student-Athletes will pay a replacement fee for all clothing or equipment not returned at the end of the year. Student-Athletes will not be allowed to participate in the next sport or at the next grade level until outstanding fine are paid in full. Consequences for not being dressed out in proper practice attire will be at the discretion of the head coach.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

The head coach of each sport in BISD has the authority to set rules and regulations in addition to this Athletic Code of Conduct that are specific to his/her sport. These additional rules and regulations will be distributed to all participants in the program at the beginning of the season and all participants will be expected to follow the additional guidelines. The head coach, with approval by the Athletic Director, will set consequences for violation of the team rules.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Administrators, coaches and directors will review all facts and circumstances surrounding a particular disciplinary event in accordance with the investigation process outlined above and will determine appropriate disciplinary action or sanctions.

FIRST OFFENSE:

Parent, student, coach/athletic director conference; possible *sanctions, or possible dismissal

SECOND OFFENSE:

Parent, student, coach/athletic director conference; *sanctions, or possible dismissal

THIRD OFFENSE:

Parent, student, coach/athletic director conference; *sanctions or possible dismissal

*Sanctions may include but not limited to; verbal reprimand, physical activity, bench time, loss of playing or performance opportunities, suspension from program, or removal from program. Nothing in the Extracurricular Code of Conduct limits the authority of a coach/athletic director to impose other appropriate sanctions for students who breach program conduct expectations.

Thank you for taking the time to review the policies of the BULLARD ISD Athletic Program. Please contact the Athletic Director or any member of the coaching staff with additional questions or concerns regarding the contents in the Athletic Handbook. Please sign the acknowledgement form attached below and return it to a member of the coaching staff.

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BULLARD ISD ATHLETIC HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I understand that participation in athletics is a privilege and higher standards are expected from all student athletes as it pertains to grades, behavior in and out of school, attendance, work ethic and commitment. Any behavior that is deemed unbecoming of an athlete will be subject to punishment by the coach of each sport. I also understand that this punishment could include removal from the Bullard Athletic Program.

I, _____ will be held accountable for all my actions.
(Print athlete name)

Student/Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

This document of acknowledgement is signed by all athletes annually and will be kept with the traditional UIL paperwork.

**THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE
HEAD COACH BEFORE A STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN
ATHLETICS**

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BULLARD ISD CO-CURRICULAR / EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACT

I, _____, understand that it is a privilege and honor, not a right, to be a member of any BULLARD ISD co-curricular / extracurricular activity.

I understand I must conduct myself with the utmost integrity and honesty as a student involved in co-curricular/extracurricular activities in BISD. I understand that my position as a student involved in co-curricular / extracurricular activities means that I am held to a higher standard of behavior, and therefore, may receive greater, different, and/or additional consequences than those outlined in the BISD Student Code of Conduct, regardless of whether such conduct occurs on or off school property, at a school sponsored or school related event, or involves social media on and/or off campus.

I understand and agree that consequences assigned under this Contract will be assigned at the discretion and determination of the sponsor/coach and /or the campus administration of the activity, in any hierarchy/order deemed appropriate by the sponsor/coach and/or campus administrator, and may include, but not limited to, disciplinary consequences in, suspension from, removal from and/or prohibition from future participation in one and/or all co-curricular/extracurricular activities in BISD.

I understand and agree this contract is in force from the date of my signature through my graduation date from BISD, whichever occurs later. This contract includes summer vacation and holidays. Disciplinary consequences may be assigned for BISD co-curricular / extracurricular activities occurring during the summer vacation, holidays, and after my graduation.

I have read this BISD CO-CURRICULAR / EXTRACURRICULAR contract, and I understand and agree to all of the terms, process, and consequences stated herein, including the discretion afforded the sponsor/coach and/or the campus administration in determining the consequences assigned under this Contract.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

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BULLARD I.S.D ATHLETICS

REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

All students involved in athletics must be transported in vehicles provided by BISD or by staff to/from all sponsored activities, except in cases of emergency or extenuating circumstances.

If a student must use alternative transportation, the following procedures must be followed:

1. Parent or guardian must personally notify the coach or sponsor in advance of the activity to obtain approval for alternative transportation.
2. Parent or guardian must sign the release below relieving BISD of liability and responsibility for any problems, injuries or accidents associated with alternative transportation.

In requesting alternative transportation for my child, _____,
I am relieving BISD of liability and/or responsibility associated with alternative transportation.

I hereby grant permission for my son/daughter to drive his/her vehicle or to ride with _____

_____ to/from athletic workouts, off campus meals, meetings, etc. during the _____ school year.

I understand that in granting permission, I have instructed my son/daughter not to ride with anyone other than the person(s) listed above.

Parent or Guardian

Date

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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES AND PARENTS

Organized competitive athletics provides young people with an excellent opportunity to learn self-discipline, teamwork and commitment to a goal. Involvement in competitive athletics also provides opportunity for the student-athlete to develop positive character traits, self-esteem and a healthy, competitive respect for their opponents as well as healthy respect for authority.

In today's society, competitive rage has become a problem, which is teaching our young people traits and values that are in direct opposition to what we hope our student-athletes learn in their athletic experience. There have been cases reported where competitive rage outbursts have resulted in serious injury and even death in other parts of the country. This is an issue that must be addressed by all who are connected with interscholastic athletics.

In BISD, we believe that any outburst of rage displayed by athletes, coaches and spectators resulting in inappropriate language, gestures or verbal abuse directed at opponents, coaches, other spectators and officials is counterproductive to the positive development of our student-athletes. Such behavior cannot be tolerated. Therefore, we must work together to ensure positive development and a safe environment of all who attend our contests.

AGREEMENT:

In an effort to work together for the positive development of our student-athletes, we agree to adhere to a code of conduct prohibiting the use of inappropriate language and gestures, as well as any other outburst of rage directed toward opponents, coaches, officials and other spectators at any athletic contest. Failure to adhere to the code of conduct can and will result in immediate removal, banned from all future contests, and law enforcement involvement.

Athlete Please Print

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Updated 7/10/2018