

# Paulding Junior High School Athletic Department

## “Home of the Panthers”

Dear Student-Athlete:

On behalf of Paulding Junior High School, we welcome you as a member of our athletic program. We are proud that you have made the commitment to challenge yourself to excel on the playing field or court and represent Paulding Junior High School. We invite you and your parents to read our Mission Statement; it helps define the goals and beliefs in which our athletic department believes in.

Participating in an athletic program is a privilege for junior high students. You represent your school, your family and your community every time you step onto the field or court. As such, you are expected to conduct yourself in an exemplary manner at all times.

Please read the Handbook carefully; if you have any questions, ask your coach, the athletic director or the principal. The last two pages contain the Student Athletic Code of Conduct, which you and your parents must sign and return to your coach.

Good luck this sports season—Go Panthers!

### ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

At Paulding Junior High School, the Athletic Department is committed to the ideals of Sportsmanship, Pride and Respect in the spirit of amateur athletic competition.

We believe that our coaches and athletes are leaders and role models in our school and community. Their loyalty, passion and commitment to their sport(s) and to their team(s) are crucial to the success of our athletic programs.

The support and positive involvement of our community, and of the parents of our student-athletes, are of critical importance. We believe that our adult fans should be excellent examples of ethical behavior, integrity and good sportsmanship.

We encourage the full participation of our student body, faculty and staff in the support of our athletes, coaches and teams. School spirit- attending athletic events, cheering, motivating and supporting the teams is the goal for all of our students and staff. Go Panthers!

### ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR INSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

For many years, the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) has established academic requirements which student-athletes must meet in order to be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition. The current OHSAA requirements are that all students in grades 7 and 8 must receive passing grades in 4 of their subjects during that grading period.

In addition, the state legislature passed a law in 1998 that required each school district in the state of Ohio to determine a grade point average which their students must meet in order to be academically eligible. **The Paulding Exempted Village School Board has determined that students participating in interscholastic competition in grades 7-8 must pass 5 credits and maintain a minimum grade point average of 1.5 in the previous nine-week grading period.**

This means that in order to earn academic eligibility, students must meet these two criteria each nine weeks (each quarter) in order to be eligible the next quarter:

- I. **Pass 5 Credits** (Gr. 7-8) (PEVS rule)
- II. Minimum **1.5** GPA (PEVS rule)

### **PROTECTING YOUR ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY**

Do not change your course schedule or drop a course without first consulting your guidance counselor to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.

Eligibility for each grading period is determined by grades received the preceding grading period. Semester and yearly grades have no effect on eligibility.

Participation by an athlete in a non-interscholastic program while a member of a school squad in the same sport is prohibited.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR ATHLETES**

1. A student must be in attendance for 5 full class periods, in order to participate in or attend an extracurricular activity that day, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Principal and/or Athletic Director.
2. School field trips do not constitute an absence.
3. Any exceptions must be approved in advance by the Principal or Athletic Director.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL ATTENTION**

1. Minor Injuries
  - a. Coach will treat a minor injury first; first aid administered.
  - b. Coach will follow up with a phone call to parent/guardian as soon as possible, if necessary.
2. Serious Injuries
  - a. Coach will administer first aid.
  - b. Parents will be called immediately.
  - c. If deemed necessary by the coach, the rescue squad will be called.
  - d. Whenever possible, a school employee will accompany the injured athlete to the hospital.

### **REQUIRED FORMS TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE STUDENT IS ALLOWED TO PRACTICE OR PLAY IN ANY CONTEST**

- A. Physical Form- (Found on Final Forms)
  - a. Every athlete must have a physical exam performed by a physician.
  - b. The OHSAA Physical Form must be completed and signed by the physician, the student-athlete and a parent/guardian.
  - c. Only one physical is required per calendar year.
- B. Emergency Medical Authorization Form (Found on Final Forms)
  - a. A completed Emergency Medical Authorization Form must be on file with the Athletic Director's office or with the Coach of the program involved.
- C. Student Athletic Code of Conduct (Found on Final Forms)
  - a. A coach may attach additional team rules to the Code of Conduct.
- D. Ohio Department of Health Concussion Form (Found on Final Forms)
- E. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Form (Found on Final Forms)

F. School Fees or Fines

- a. All school fees and fines must be paid in order for a student to participate in the athletic program. Fees must be paid in full, or a payment plan in place.
- ~~G.~~ Any other forms that the OHSAA and/or school may require the student-athlete and/or parent/guardian to sign.
- H. All required forms will be signed electronically on Final Forms by the student-athlete and/or parent/guardian prior to the student-athlete participating in any athletic practice and/or contest.

**TRANSPORTATION**

1. All players, managers, statisticians, and camera operators must travel to and from contests in transportation provided by the Athletic Department/PEVS.
2. In cases of emergencies, or special circumstances, the Athletic Director, Principal, or Head Coach may give permission for a student to be transported to or from a contest by the student's parent/guardian. Written and signed permission to do so by the parent/guardian must be obtained in advance and given to the Head Coach.
3. The Athletic Director will make the final decision regarding athletic transportation issues.
4. A school bus shall be the source of transportation for athletic teams.

**WHO TO CONTACT?**

Please follow the proper "chain of command" when you have concerns or questions regarding the athletic program: Coach-Head Coach-Athletic Director-Principal-Superintendent-Board of Education.

**MULTI-SPORT PARTICIPATION IN THE SAME SEASON**

Participation in multiple sports during the same season is prohibited unless approved by the Athletic Director. The Head Coaches involved must then give approval as well. If approval is given, then the Head Coaches would develop a weekly schedule for the student-athlete for the entire season.

**TEAM APPAREL/CLOTHING**

At no point and time is a team required to purchase any type of clothing or apparel that is not a uniform or something worn during an athletic contest. These items are optional to purchase.

## STUDENT ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

ATHLETES AND PARENTS: Please read carefully the following rules and regulations, which govern students participating in the athletic programs at Paulding Middle School. The completed signature page must be turned into the coach before the student is allowed to practice or compete. Your signatures indicate that you have read and understand these rules and regulations, which govern all student-athletes at Paulding schools.

- 1. Selling, exchanging, or distributing any illegal or illegally used chemical drugs, including steroids, or counterfeit controlled substances, either prescribed or patented, or any alcoholic beverages, drug paraphernalia, or unauthorized nonprescription drug is prohibited.**

First Offense: Immediate denial of participation in all athletic activities for one calendar year.

Second Offense: Immediate denial of participation for remainder of junior high school career.

- 2. Possession, use, or being under the influence of any illegal or illegally used chemical drugs, including steroids, or counterfeit controlled substance, either prescribed or patented, or any alcoholic beverages, drug paraphernalia (including but not limited to e-cigarettes and vapes), or unauthorized nonprescription drug is prohibited.**

First Offense: Denial of participation from 20% of events in that sport. (This is defined as 20% of the total schedule. This penalty will carry over to the next season if not fulfilled because of time.) During this time the student will be expected to participate in all scheduled practices. This denial will continue for all post season tournaments as well.

Second Offense: Immediate denial of participation in athletics for one calendar year from that date.

Third Offense: Immediate denial of participation in athletics for the remainder of junior high school career.

- 3. Possession or use of cigarettes, cigars, tobacco of any kind, or paraphernalia, (including lighters or empty pipes), associated with tobacco is prohibited.**

First Offense: Denial of participation from 20% of events in that sport. (This is defined as 20% of the total schedule. This penalty will carry over to the next season if not fulfilled because of time.) During that period, the student will be expected to participate in all scheduled practices. This denial will continue for all post season tournaments as well.

Second Offense: Immediate denial of participation in athletics for one calendar year from that date.

Third Offense: Immediate denial of participation in athletics for the remainder of junior high school career.

4. **Athletes found guilty of, or admitting to, criminally related activities may be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.**
5. **Athletes may be denied participation and/or removed from the team by the coach for the causes listed above, or for other violations of team rules. This decision may be appealed to the Athletic Director, and then to the Building Principal (ORC 3313.664)**
6. **Additional rules and information:**
  - a. Violations of the Student Athletic Code of Conduct will be cumulative throughout the student-athlete's junior high school career, and across violation categories.
  - b. The Athletic Code of Conduct will be in effect for a student-athlete throughout his or her athletic career. Student-athletes will sign the code of conduct their first sporting season in junior high school and will be under the code of conduct till they have played their last sporting event in junior high school. (365 days a year).
  - c. The conduct and appearance of our student-athletes is to be exemplary while a member of an athletic team. In addition to the established school rules in these areas, a coach may establish other regulations. These rules will be attached to Athletic Code of Conduct.
  - d. Athletes will abide by the rules and regulations as set forth by the Paulding Exempted Village School Board of Education, Paulding Junior High School, and the OHSAA.
  - e. A student cannot quit a sport and join another in the same season after selections have been made.
  - f. A student athlete's junior high school career is defined as the first practice they participate in until their last interscholastic event (includes off seasons).
  - g. **Lying** – If a student-athlete has been found to be lying about violating a code of conduct policy during the investigation process an additional 10% will be added to the discipline.
  - h. All suspensions will be kept on file in the athletic office.

**PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS  
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS  
INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

**AS A STUDENT:**

I understand and agree that participation in athletic activities is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of the **Athletic Code of Conduct and Expectations**, hereinafter **Code of Conduct**.

- I have read the **Code of Conduct** and thoroughly understand the consequences that I will face if I do not honor my commitment to the **Code of Conduct**.
- I understand and realize that there is risk of injury in participating in athletic activities.
- I understand this is binding while a student at Paulding Junior High School.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN:**

- I have read the **Code of Conduct** and understand the responsibilities of my son/daughter/ward as a participant in athletic activities at Paulding Junior High School.
- I pledge to promote healthy lifestyles for all student athletes of Paulding Junior High School.
- I understand and realize that there is an assumed risk of injury involved for my son/daughter/ward as a participant in athletic activities.
- **I understand this is binding while my son/daughter/ward is a student at Paulding Junior High School.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone

\*\* Revised March 16th, 2023 \*\*