

# **Piper School District**



**Athletic & Activities Student/Parent Handbook**

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**2024-2025**

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## INTRODUCTION

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The purpose of this handbook is to act as a guide for participants, coaches, and parents in order that each may understand the accepted procedures and policies of the Piper School District Athletic and Activities Department, in conjunction with the Kansas State High School Activities Association. Described are the procedures that will ensure an efficient operation of the interscholastic athletic and activities program.

## PHILOSOPHY

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The Piper School District Athletic and Activities Department's mission is to provide comprehensive, diverse, and exemplary programs for all of our students. We foster a culture of excellence, teamwork, and leadership, ensuring equitable access for all.

Our dedicated staff provides a safe and supportive environment where students develop skills, character, and a passion for their interests. Together, we cultivate champions on and off the field, developing our students into responsible citizens and tough competitors.

## PIPER SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITY OFFERINGS

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### Piper High School Athletics

	Girls	Boys
Fall Season	Cross Country	Cross Country
	Volleyball	Soccer
	Golf	Football
	Tennis	
Winter Season	Basketball	Basketball
	Bowling	Bowling
	Powerlifting**	Powerlifting**
	Wrestling	Wrestling
		Swimming
Spring Season	Track and Field	Track and Field
	Softball	Baseball
	Soccer	Golf
	Swimming	Tennis

\*\*Indicates non-KSHSAA sponsored sport

## Piper High School Activities

Fall	Debate
	Band
	Choir
	Theater
	Robotics**
Winter	Scholars Bowl
	Band
	E-Sports**
	Robotics**
	Theater
	Choir
	Debate
Spring	Forensics
	Band
	Choir
	Theater
	Robotics**

\*\*Indicates non-KSHSAA sponsored activity

## Piper High School Spirit Activities

Fall	Cheer
	Dance
Winter	Cheer
	Dance
Spring	Cheer
	Dance

\*\*Physical required to participate in the above activities

## Piper Middle School Athletics

	Girls	Boys
<b>Fall</b>	Volleyball	Football
	Cross Country	Cross Country
<b>Winter</b>	Basketball	Basketball
	Wrestling	Wrestling
<b>Spring</b>	Track	Track

## Piper Middle School Activities

<b>Fall</b>	Robotics**
	Band
	Choir
<b>Winter</b>	Robotics**
	Band
	Choir
<b>Spring</b>	Robotics**
	Band
	Choir
	Theater

\*\* indicates non-KSHSAA sponsored activity

## Piper Middle School Spirit Activities

<b>Fall</b>	Cheer
<b>Winter</b>	Cheer
<b>Spring</b>	Cheer

Selection of team members is subject to the discretion of the coaching staff and the nature of the activity. Students are encouraged to refer to the coach for the selection process of a particular sport and for the levels of participation offered in the sport. Selection criteria will be defined at the pre-season parent meeting.

## SPORTS INFORMATION

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Piper High School Athletic schedules, results, and athletics information can be found in the following locations:

1. The Piper High School Athletic Website - [www.piratesnation.org](http://www.piratesnation.org)
2. The United Kansas Conference Calendar- [www.unitedkansasconference.org](http://www.unitedkansasconference.org) (athletic calendar information for all conference schools)
3. The United Kansas Conference Website- [www.unitedksconf.org](http://www.unitedksconf.org) (Conference website for championship results and league standings)
4. X - Social Media [@PiperPirates](https://twitter.com/PiperPirates)

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARTICIPANTS

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

- Participants shall conform to all rules and regulations set forth by the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) and Piper School District.
- Participants are expected to conduct themselves at all times with the highest level of behavior and decorum. This includes sportsmanship within their own team and towards other teams, parents, coaches, officials, and community members.
- Participants will abstain from using substances, including alcohol, drugs, tobacco, performance-enhancing drugs, and any other substances taken to improve athletic performance or deemed harmful to one's health and well-being.
- Participants shall be prohibited from participating in any type of hazing, bullying, taunting, harassing, or other inappropriate behaviors, including the use of social media.
- Participants will treat all equipment and facilities with the highest regard and maintain all such equipment, uniforms, and school property properly.
- Participants will understand their role as positive and constructive members of the Piper School District.

Participants failing to conform to and meet the requirements of the contents of the Student Code of Conduct shall face disciplinary action on an individual basis, which is to be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of due process of the athletic department and school.

**This action could include suspension or expulsion from the team or prevent full participation by a student not yet in season, as deemed appropriate by the Principal or Athletic Director.**

## **ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

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### **Attendance- School and Class**

Extracurricular participants must attend all scheduled classes in order to participate in an extracurricular activity (contest or practice) that same day unless the athletic director excuses the absence. Students who are in ISS or suspended from school may not participate in practices or events during that period of time. Students and student athletes who arrive late or must leave during the school day due to medical appointments must bring proof of attendance from the doctor's office (date and time seen).

### **Attendance- Practice and Games**

Attendance at practice sessions and/or games for all team members is required. If, for some reason, you will be absent or tardy for a practice/game, you must communicate directly with a member of your team's coaching staff prior to the practice/game.

## **ACADEMIC/EXTRACURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY**

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Every Piper Student who chooses to participate in athletics shall pass at least five (5) new subjects of unit weight the previous semester to meet the eligibility requirements of KSHSAA. Students must have on file in the HS office:

- Current physical form (dated after May 1st 2024)
- Athletics Participation fee (\$25) for each sport.

These items will be completed during enrollment:

- Concussion & head injury release form

### **Piper High School Eligibility**

Piper High School has adopted a weekly eligibility check for all athletes in the season. Student eligibility is determined based on the weekly grade report. If a student is failing, they will be placed on academic probation for one week. If the student has any failing grades the following week, they will be considered academically ineligible. Ineligible students cannot compete, spectate, attend dances, or perform, while ineligible but may attend practices/rehearsals. A student may be released from a team, group, or club if an adequate effort is not seen in deficit academic areas.

Eligibility reports will begin on the 4th week of each semester. At any time, a student can forfeit their opportunity to participate based on whether or not they are in good standing with the school and/or team.

## **Piper Middle School Eligibility**

Student eligibility is determined based on the weekly grade report. If a student has a failing grade at the time of the grade report each Friday, they will be placed on academic probation for one week beginning the following Monday. If the student has any failing grades the following week at the time of the grade report on Friday, they will be considered academically ineligible beginning the following Monday. Ineligible students cannot compete, spectate, attend dances, or perform while ineligible, but may attend practices/rehearsals. A student may be released from a team, group, or club if an adequate effort is not seen in deficit academic areas. Weekly grade reports begin the second Friday of each quarter.

### **STUDENT IN GOOD STANDING**

The administration reserves the right to set parameters to define a student in good standing at Piper Middle School.

**The Piper School District policies stated throughout this handbook apply to all extracurricular participants regardless of whether they are KSHSAA-sanctioned athletics or not.**

### **TRYOUT POLICY**

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Students will be encouraged to try out for various athletic teams and extracurricular activities. A mandatory tryout period will be in effect for each team/activity that has limited rosters and must include the use of a player evaluation form. Students who are unable to attend tryouts due to extraordinary circumstances beyond their control will be granted an opportunity for a delayed tryout, provided their absence is excused by the building administration.

Students serving an out of school suspension resulting from a Class IV or Class V offense during the tryout period as defined in the District Student Code of Conduct will not be granted the opportunity for delayed tryouts.

If a student is trying out for dual sports, tryout dates must be coordinated between athlete and coaching staff.

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE ALCOHOL/DRUG POLICY**

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The Piper School District Alcohol/Drug JDDA, JCDA, and JCDA policy on possession of or use of prohibited substances on school property or at school events will be enforced for all students. Please refer to the student handbook regarding violations of the drug and alcohol policy.

Any individual who violates these rules will be subject to disciplinary action up to dismissal from the team for the duration of the season or indefinite suspension.



## **HAZING/ INITIATIONS/HARASSMENT AND BULLYING**

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Hazing, initiations, harassment, or bullying of students by team members **is not acceptable**, and any practice of this type of behavior **will not be tolerated**. Actions of this type may be illegal, and those involved may be subject to police action as well as dismissal and/or suspension from participation in any Piper School District sport or activity.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

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Piper High School will use DS bus lines to transport students to and from school activities. In some instances, coaches/sponsors will use district-registered vehicles to transport the students. Coaches, Sponsors, and the Piper administration believe that students participating in extracurricular activities should ride school transportation at all times.

In a situation where a student-athlete must ride home with a parent-guardian, the steps below must be adhered to.

1. Student-athletes/participants will be released to their parent-guardian or individual who is listed on their Skyward enrollment account as able to pick them up from school.
2. Parents will need to communicate with the head coach about the procedure to sign out their student-athlete/participant.
3. If student/athlete/participant is traveling home from a competition with a teammate's parent, parent approval must be filed in the office prior to the competition. Extracurricular release form (Appendix I) must be completed and turned in.

Piper High School also has an extracurricular release form for certain programs (Appendix I). Those programs include bowling, cross country, dance, golf, softball, tennis, and swimming. These programs require private transportation due to the proximity of practice/competition sites. This form is located in the HS front office and will be present at the pre-season informational meetings.

## **ATHLETIC INJURIES**

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All Injuries that occur while participating on an athletic team are to be reported to the appropriate coach and/or athletic trainer. The athletic trainer will notify the athletic director of all injuries.

## DUAL SPORT PARTICIPATION

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Piper School District allows dual sport participation to occur. The dual sport participation form (Appendix II) will need to be completed by the student-athlete and both head coaches. The completed dual sport form will need to be turned in to the office prior to the first practice for the sports participating in.

## SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

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- The student/athlete is responsible for all uniforms and equipment that is assigned to them.
- All equipment will be returned when the athlete completes the sport, either at the end of the season or on leaving the team.
- If items are lost or abused, the student/athlete will be required to pay for a replacement.
- Uniforms are to be worn only at scheduled practices, contests, or on game days.

Student/athletes who do not return equipment/uniforms are ineligible to participate on additional athletic teams until fees are paid to reimburse the district for the equipment.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

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Sportsmanship is one of the major goals of the Piper School District Athletic and Activity programs. Student/athletes are to set a good example of sportsmanship at all times. It is the athlete's responsibility to know and follow the citizenship Rule 52 (KSHSAA Handbook). This rule is stated below.

### **RULE 52: Citizenship/Sportsmanship**

**PHILOSOPHY:** Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in schools. They provide an arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand and to value the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP and teamwork. They are an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach and model SPORTSMANSHIP, to build school pride, and to increase student/community involvement; this ultimately translates into improved academic performance. Activities are also an opportunity for the community to demonstrate its support for the participants and the school, and to model the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP for our youth as respected representatives of society. Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action!

**ALL ACTIONS are to be FOR, NOT AGAINST; POSITIVE, NOT NEGATIVE, or DISRESPECTFUL**

**Section 1:** General Regulations (apply to grades 7-12)

**Art. 1.** SPORTSMANSHIP is a general way of thinking and behaving. The following sportsmanship policy items are listed below for clarification:

- a. Be courteous to all (participants, coaches, officials, staff, and fans)
- b. Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions.
- c. Win with character and lose with dignity.
- d. Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- e. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school. Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities.

### **KSHSAA Ejection Policy**

Any participant (player, coach, spectator) who is ejected for making contact with an official or who is ejected for unsporting behavior directed toward an official shall be subject to a non-appealable suspension from the next contest at that level and for all contests at any level (in that activity) until the suspension has been served. Local school Leadership may levy additional sanctions as they deem appropriate.

The KSHSAA staff reviews all ejection reports.

Note: the requirement for all ejected students to complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course and the requirement for all ejected coaches to complete the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Behavior course prior to being reinstated remain in effect.

### **Spectator Guidelines (Including Parents)**

- Spectators will cheer positively to support their team and will not cheer negatively against the opponent.
- Spectators will not display negativity for the game officials and their decisions.
- All signs displayed must be positive in nature, reference only the school supported by the sign make, and must be pre-approved by the athletic director of the school referenced in the sign.
- Per KSHSAA Policy, Artificial noisemakers (including megaphones, cow bells, thunder sticks, air horns, sirens, etc.) are not to be used, and bands are not to play (including the beating of drums) **while the game is in progress**, indoors or outdoors. If the host school administration questions the safety or appropriateness of any noise maker, it shall not be permitted. During indoor sports, no noise maker will be used.

### **Game Personnel/Announcers**

- Will explain and consistently enforce host school expectations for spectators.
- Will be enthusiastic but not show favoritism while making announcements, and never publicly question or criticize the players, coaches, or officials.

### **Coaches**

- Will exemplify high moral character, behavior, and leadership, lead by example, and set a standard for players and spectators to follow both on and off the athletic arena
- Will teach players the rules of the game and to respect the game, and will take action when athletes exhibit poor sportsmanship.
- Will respect the integrity and judgment of officials and will not publicly criticize or question the decisions of officials.

- Will be aware of the competitive balance of contests and will manage the score in a manner that is sportsmanlike and respectful of opponents.

### **Student Participants**

- Will accept the responsibility and privilege of representing their school and community by learning and showing teamwork, sportsmanship, and discipline in all aspects of the game.
- Will demonstrate respect for self, coach, teammates, opponents, officials, and spectators by exhibiting good character and conducting themselves as a positive role model
- Will win or lose graciously
- Will cheer for your team, not against your opponent.
- Will congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.

### **DRESS CODE ON GAMEDAY**

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Head coaches will decide their team's dress code on game day. Our participants must project a positive image to their classmates and the public. The coach must take responsibility for the way his/her team looks and acts.

### **CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

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1. An athlete and head coach should first attempt to resolve any issues through a scheduled meeting.
2. If the conflict is not able to be resolved between the athlete and coach, the athlete should make an appointment to include their parents in a meeting with the head coach.
3. If the problem is still unresolved, then the athlete, head coach, and parents should schedule a meeting to include the Athletic/Activities Director.
4. If the problem is still unresolved, then the athlete, head coach, parents, and Athletic Director should schedule a meeting to include the Principal.
5. Communication Sequence for conflict resolution:
  - a. Participant - Coach
  - b. Participant - Parent - Coach
  - c. Participant - Parent - Coach - Athletic/Activities Director
  - d. Participant - Parent - Coach - Athletic/Activities Director - Principal

Areas that will not be discussed include the following: playing time, discussions about other student-athletes, and game strategies.

## **ACTIVITY PASS & ADMISSION PRICES**

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District Family passes can be purchased via online student fees or in the HS and MS office for \$150. This pass will grant admission to 4 members of a family throughout the year. Post-season games are not covered.

### **Piper High School**

Piper High School students can purchase a student pass for \$40 in the HS office. This pass grants admission to any home athletic season game. Post-season games are not covered.

#### *United Kansas Conference Admission Prices:*

Ticket Prices: Adults \$7, Students \$5. \$20 Household max per night

- a. Senior Citizens age 65 or older are admitted free to conference events.
- b. Sub-varsity ticket prices are set by the home school.

### **Piper Middle School**

Piper Middle School students can purchase a student pass for \$20 via online student fees or by purchasing at the MS office. This pass grants admission to any home MS athletic season game.

#### *Kaw Valley League Admission Prices:*

Ticket Prices: Adults \$5, Students \$3

- a. Senior Citizens age 59 and older are admitted free

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

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If school is canceled due to inclement weather, a decision on activities will be made later in the day to determine if practices or competitions will occur. If school is canceled and practices do occur, the practices are optional and cannot occur until after 2:00 pm.

Piper High School will use the KSHSAA guidelines in all inclement weather-related issues. Those guidelines are reviewed yearly with the coaches in their annual pre-season meetings.

## **HIGH SCHOOL LETTERING POLICY**

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Each coach/sponsor has determined their own lettering policy for their activity. Once the season is over, the coach/sponsor will turn in the student-athletes names to the HS office for letters and bars. These items will be presented to the student-athlete by the coach/sponsor. All student-athletes must complete the season in good standing to obtain a varsity letter. Also, all coaches will have the authority to deem a varsity letter to any student-athlete that has contributed to the team in a positive manner without meeting the requirements set forth.

## LOCKER ROOM POLICIES

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Locker rooms and changing into sport-specific clothing are necessary parts of interscholastic athletics. Each student-athlete has an expectation and a right to privacy in the locker room. This expectation of and right to privacy must be adhered to in all Piper Locker Rooms. The use of any recording device, including cameras, cellphones, smart watches, or any device capable of capturing pictures or video in the locker room are strictly prohibited.

Pictures or videos taken inside a locker room, may result in any or all of the following consequences:

- Notification of student conduct to local law enforcement
- Felony charge of distribution of child pornography
- Title IX investigation of student conduct
- Suspension and/or dismissal from the team
- Suspension from school

## PERSONAL CONDUCT

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Piper School District athletic and activities participants will follow established guidelines in the Piper Student Code of Conduct. Participation in extracurricular activities is an extension of the classroom. The following items will lead to disciplinary consequences affecting participation in activities at Piper School District: disrespect or defiance of a game official, issues that occur during transportation, in the locker room, on the playing surface of the activity, or practice location of that activity, verbal assault or threat to another person, inappropriate behavior, repeated personal misconduct, and/or be removed from a contest.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** Student-Athlete will be suspended according to the KSHSAA rules; if nothing is stated, then it will be half of the next contest, and submit the completion of the NFHS Sportsmanship course online. A meeting with the activity director and student-athlete will take place.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** Student-Athlete will be suspended for the next three contests and will have a meeting with the activity director, principal, and parents.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:** Student-Athlete will no longer be able to represent Piper for that activity.

\* The sanctions listed above are the minimum standards that may be enforced. The administration/coaching staff reserves the right to impose additional sanctions based on the severity of the offense.

The following behaviors will be considered serious violations of the athletic code and school rules and will result in disciplinary action:

- A. Civil law and criminal infractions

- B. Theft and malicious destruction of individual, private, or school property.
- C. Physical Assault/Battery
- D. Misconduct by a participant that is potentially detrimental to the athletic or activity program, school, or school district.

Disciplinary actions could include up to suspension, expulsion from the team, or prohibited participation of activities not yet in season, as deemed appropriate by the principal or athletic director.

## **SIGNING DATES FOR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES**

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Three signing dates will be used throughout the school year to recognize the accomplishments of our athletes and congratulate them. All official paperwork should be coordinated through the college/university and the student/parents. Piper High School will not manage any part of the NLI process. Signing dates are aligned with national signing dates.

Waiting on confirmed dates for signing calendar

Fall: November

Winter: February

Spring: April

**Appendix I**

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**Piper School District Extracurricular Programs Parent/Guardian Release Form**

Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that submission of this request at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance is recommended before the event and at the discretion of the coach/sponsor involved. However, I would like for my child \_\_\_\_\_ to be released to his/her parent (s) or guardians and accept full responsibility for his/her welfare.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Release:

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\*\*Please turn in directly to your child's coach/sponsor



## APPENDIX II

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### Piper High School Extracurricular Programs Release Form

Notice to parent/guardians: The following extracurricular activities require private transportation: bowling, cross country, dance, golf, tennis, softball, and swimming. In such cases, the parent/guardian must be responsible for ensuring that the student follows district guidelines. Please communicate with your students in order to know whom they may be riding with. Students who fail to conform to district policies may be subject to disciplinary action. All three (3) questions must be answered.

1. Student riding with other licensed drivers (other than authorized district personnel):

I give my consent for \_\_\_\_\_ (student name) to ride with other licensed drivers, including other students, to and/or from school-related activities or practices:

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

2. The student providing his/her own transportation:

I give my consent for \_\_\_\_\_ (student name) to drive an automobile owned or leased by them or me to and/or from school-related activities or practices.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

3. The student transporting other students:

I give my consent for \_\_\_\_\_ (student name) to transport other students to and/or from school-related activities or practices.

Yes\_\_\_\_\_

No\_\_\_\_\_

If you answered 'Yes' to either #2 or #3 of the above questions, please complete the following section:

\_\_\_\_\_ (student name) is 16 years of age or older and holds a valid driver's license. He/she is insured by an automobile liability insurance policy, which is in compliance with the requirements of the Kansas Law.

Students's Drivers License No. \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### APPENDIX III

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#### Piper School District Dual Participation Contract

Any Piper student wishing to participate in dual activities during the same season must complete this form prior to the start of the dual season in which they wish to participate. No student will be allowed to begin participation (including practice) in either activity until this contract has been completed and filed with the athletic director and both coaches/sponsors. If this contract cannot be agreed upon by all parties involved, the student will have to choose which activity he/she wishes to participate in.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Application Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Dual Activities: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

No coach/sponsor at Piper will be allowed to keep a student participating in the activities listed on this completed contract as long as those activities do not fall on the same day. In the case of conflicting activities, \_\_\_\_\_ chooses to participate in \_\_\_\_\_ as their priority activity. If a coach/sponsor feels that the student's performance in his/her activity is adversely affected by the student's participation in the other dual activity listed on this contract, it remains the option of that coach/sponsor to reduce or curtail the student's participation in their activity. It is the expectation of the Piper administration that decisions of this nature will be made by the coach/sponsor strictly on a student-performance basis. The administration of Piper School District reserves the right to suspend this contract if the student involved suffers academically from dual participation.

Other Conditions:

1. Students must be at try-out dates (times and arrangements are to be cleared by both coaches/sponsors).

2. Collaboration and communication between athletes, parents, coaches, and administration is essential to success in dual-sport participation.
3. Students must be at competing activity practice prior to the competition date.
4. Students must have an average GPA from the previous semester of at least 2.667 (B-).
5. If a student chooses to discontinue participation in the secondary activity, all parties are to be notified, and all equipment is to be turned in before competing in the primary activity.
6. The student will not be allowed to discontinue the primary activity to become a full-time member of the secondary activity. Exception: A meeting with students, coaches, and administration occurs, and the decision is agreed upon by all parties.
7. In the occurrence of two events occurring on the same day, participation may be allowed with written consent from parents and both coaches. Transportation between events is the responsibility of the parent/guardians.