Round Lake Area School District #116

GENERAL ATHLETIC INFORMATION

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Purpose

The Round Lake Area School District #116 Athletic Department objectives for all athletic programs will be:

- Development and maintenance of individual health and vigor
- Perfection of playing skills
- Enjoyment of competitive play
- Development of sportsmanship and citizenship
- Contribution to school and community spirit and morale

Goals

Those students who participate in the Round Lake Area School District #116 Athletic Department will commit themselves to the following personal goals:

- A primary focus on academic development and attendance
- The presentation of a positive image through dress and grooming
- Avoidance of any action that would bring embarrassment or disgrace to themselves or their team
- Development of desirable personal health standards (which includes the avoidance of tobacco of any kind, vaping, alcoholic beverages, and illegal drugs & substances)
- Development of leadership skills
- Growth of a competitive philosophy, which includes sportsmanship and a consistent awareness of school and community pride

Eligibility

As a member of the Illinois High School Association, and the Illinois Elementary School Association, Round Lake Area School District #116 adheres to and enforces their policies of eligibility.

At the **high school level**, an athlete must be passing a minimum of five classes in the current semester and five classes in the previous semester to be academically eligible. At the **middle school level** an athlete must be passing all of their assigned classes to be academically eligible. Details regarding the academic eligibility policy are reinforced each season by the coaching staff.

Teachers will submit grades weekly to help monitor students-athletes grades. If students are found not to be academically eligible, they will not be allowed to participate in events until they bring their grades up to this minimum standard.

Illness

If a student is too ill to come to school, it is not appropriate for him/her to attend practice or competition. We strongly disapprove of student-athletes staying home on school days to rest for contests or practices that day or night.

High School:

Students must attend school for at least 5 periods at the high school to be able to participate in that day's activities. All periods missed must be excused absences. Any student with 4 or more excused or unexcused periods on the date of a practice or competition will be prohibited from participating in that day's activities. If a student is marked unexcused or tardy for less than 4 periods on the date of a practice or competition they will be disciplined based on the individual team or activities rules.

Middle School

At the middle school, students must attend at least half of the school day. If there is an emergency that prevents an athlete from attending school the athlete's parent should contact either the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director or Assistant Principal of Student Services for a waiver to the school day attendance/participation policy. Students eligibility to participate on Saturday after missing the entire school day on Friday will be decided on a case by case basis.

Individual Sports

Each head coach may establish additional, individual sports rules for his/her team regarding curfew, attendance at practice sessions, personal conduct, and personal appearance. These rules must be distributed to team members at or before tryouts and must be on file in the athletic office. It is also expected that coaches hold student-athletes accountable for missed practice and contests by having them makeup practice time through drills and conditioning and/or reduction in playing time. It is the expectation that student-athletes attend all practices and contest. An athlete that misses more than 5 practices or contest can be removed from the team by the Head Coach of the program.

Travel

All athletes shall travel to and from athletic events by school-sponsored transportation. Exception: Athletes may return from athletic events with their parents with the permission of the particular coach, and written parental permission must be submitted to the coach ***prior*** to the event. Extenuating circumstances will be handled by the athletic director. Parents should contact the athletic director well in advance of the event if there are any questions.

Equipment and /or Uniforms

All athletes are responsible for the care and return of equipment and uniforms provided to them by Round Lake High School. Athletes will be required to pay for replacing lost, stolen or damaged equipment and uniforms.

PARENT, PLAYER, and COACH RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of others and provide a greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communication you should expect from Child's Coach

- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as the players on the squad
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements
- Procedures should your child be injured during practices or games
- Discipline which results in denial of your child's participation.

Communication Coaches expect from Parents

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts *well in advance*
- Specific concerns in regards to coach's philosophy and expectations.

As your children become involved in the programs at Round Lake Senior High School, They will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussions with the coach are encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with Coaches

- Ways to help your child improve
- The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- Concerns about your child's behavior

Playing time is a very sensitive issue for the player, the parents, and the coaches. The coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe is best for all students involved.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with Coaches

- Playing time
- Team position
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important, however, that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the procedure listed below will be followed to help promote a resolution to the issues of concern.

Complaint Procedure (If you are not satisfied with the results of the first step, you move on to the next)

1. Student-athlete and coach should discuss concern
2. Parent should call to set up an appointment with the coach
3. Parent, student-athlete and coach meet
4. Parent, student-athlete, coach and Athletic Director meet
5. Parent, student-athlete, coach, Athletic Director, and Principal meet
6. Parents contact the Superintendent for appointment

Parents will demonstrate Good Sportsmanship

- Providing support for coaches and officials in order to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all student-athletes.
- Understanding that the game is for the student and not for the adults.
- Recognizing that student participation in athletics is a privilege.
- Using good sportsmanship as a spectator and conducting themselves in a manner that reflects well on both the team and the school.
- Promoting the team by being supportive and helpful of the school program.
- Refraining from coaching their child from the stands or sidelines.
- Expecting consistent student attendance at practices and games.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board of Education, administration, faculty, and coaches of Round Lake High School believe that our student-athletes represent our highest standards. Participation in athletics enhances the overall high school experience.

The implementation and effectiveness of this code is dependent on a collective commitment from students, parents, and school personnel, along with a proactive approach to prevention and assistance. While we strive to win as often as we can, we are mindful that how we win or lose tells more about us than the final score.

The Code applies 365 days of the year, ***both on and off campus***. Enforcement of the Code and its consequences begins with the student-athlete's and parent's initial signatures and runs throughout the student's entire high school career.

The student-athlete and his or her parents will be given the opportunity to respond to any charges. The Athletic Director will provide oral and written notice to a student-athlete found in violation of the Code. The student-athlete does have the opportunity to appeal within (3) calendar days. The appeal will be heard by the Principal or designee of the Principal. The consequence will remain imposed until after the appeal is heard.

Violations

Category I- Conduct Unbecoming an Athlete

Athletes will not display behavior on or off the playing field which, in the opinion of the athletic department, is considered to maintain a level of conduct which does not discredit themselves or their teams. Violations of this standard will include, but are not limited to:

- Lying to school officials
- Cutting class or excessive tardiness to class
- Cheating /Plagiarism
- Insubordination
- Unsportsmanlike behavior

All Category I consequences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, with the minimum consequence being loss of playing time and a maximum punishment being removal from the team for the remainder of the season.

During a Category I suspension, an athlete is expected to attend and participate fully in all required practices, attend all scheduled contests, and complete the season.

Category II- Improper/Dangerous Conduct

Athletes will refrain from activities that would be considered Improper or Dangerous Conduct. Any act that can be considered to be Improper or Dangerous Conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Gang-related activities
- Inappropriate physical conduct or fighting
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Maintaining or being identified on a blog site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior
- Bullying
- Hazing

-*Consequences -*

In Season: Loss of participation in 20% of sports contests in his/her current sports season.

Out of Season: Loss of 20% of his/her next sports season or loss of participation from 0% to 10% with completion of 15 hours of athletic service hours. Athletic service hours must be completed within 60 days, or before the start of the student-athlete's next scheduled sport season (whichever happens first). Failure to complete athletic service hours will result in the student-athlete serving the full 20% suspension. A second Category II offense will result in a loss of participation in 40% of the sports contests in the current or next sports season in which the athlete participates.

A third offense will result in removal from all athletic activities for the remainder of the student's high school career, with an opportunity to appeal after one calendar year of suspension. The appeal will be heard by at least 3 members of the school's administrative team.

Category III- Banned Substances

The sale, purchase, possession, distribution or use of tobacco of any kind, alcohol beverages, illegal drugs, other controlled substances or paraphernalia of any of the above-mentioned items shall not be permitted for any athlete. This prohibition includes the participation in a plan to sell, purchase, possess, distribute and or use tobacco of any kind, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, other controlled substances or paraphernalia of any of the above mentioned items.

-Consequences –

Loss of participation in 30% of sports contests in his/her current sports season or 30% of the student-athletes next season for the first offense. A second offense will result in loss of participation in 50% of sports contest in his/her current or next sports season. A third offense will result in removal from all athletic activities for the remainder of the student's high school career, with an opportunity to appeal after one calendar year of suspension. The appeal will be heard by at least 3 members of the school's administrative team.

Self-Admittance

An athlete or his/her parents may self-admit a substance abuse problem to the athletic department and face no penalty. This is a one-time offer only and may not be used to avert a penalty that has been, or will be, discovered through "normal" occurrences, i.e. the police have already made an arrest.

Once the athlete or his/her parents have come forward, the athlete will have to complete an approved substance abuse program at the family's expense. During this time the athlete is not under any athletic code penalty and will be allowed to practice and compete as normal.

While facing consequences for inappropriate behavior is a valuable lesson, the athletic department is also very concerned with development of all athletes well beyond their high school years. The self-admittance program is designed to offer to the athletes and their parents a tool with which to help foster good decision making throughout their life.

Category IV- Felony Arrest

A student, whether or not a juvenile, who has been charged or could be charged with committing a crime, or what would be a crime if the student were not a juvenile, [examples covered include: breaking and entering, assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a weapon, or otherwise endangering the lives of others] shall be held accountable as follows:

Students will be suspended immediately from all participation until due process has established his/her innocence. If guilty or determined to be delinquent, or if there is informal or other disposition which would show that the student committed prohibited acts, the student shall be suspended for one (1) calendar year from date of the infraction.

Regardless of the findings of civil authorities, if school authorities find that a student committed acts proscribed above, the student shall be suspended for one (1) calendar year from the date of the infraction.

Round Lake Senior High School

Athletic Code of Conduct

I have read the attached Athletic Code of Conduct and will abide by the rules therein. I understand that a failure to abide by these rules will result in sanctions by the coach and /or the athletic department.

_____ _____

Athlete's Name- PRINT Athlete's Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

_____ _____

Revised 2/24/18