

# AMERICAN LEADERSHIP --- ACADEMY



**PARENT/STUDENT  
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

**2024/2025**

# **AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

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## **Participation Clearance Procedure**

The athletic office must clear students prior to participating in a sport.

1. Student must complete athletic registration via Register My Athlete.
2. All past due Infinite Campus fees must be paid.
3. Student must meet minimum grade standards (no F's and a minimum 2.0gpa)

Athletic fees must be paid before athletic competition.

- Junior high sports - \$100 per athlete, per sport
- High school sports - \$150 per athlete, per sport

## **Equipment/Uniforms**

Students are responsible for all equipment and uniforms signed out to them for the season. Signed out uniforms and equipment must be returned immediately following the conclusion of the season. All checked out items must be returned and signed in at the Patriot Athletic Office. Students will be charged for any equipment/uniforms that are unreturned or returned damaged beyond normal use.

## **Awards/Lettering**

All students who have fulfilled the requirements of the varsity athletic sports may receive a letter. Each athlete will receive a pin for every time they letter however; they will only receive one chenille letter. Athletes are required to hand in all equipment and uniforms before receiving letter awards.

## **Commitment**

Once a student has tried out and officially made a team or committed to a sport, the student-athlete is expected to fully participate in all practices and competitions. Students will notify coaches, in advance, if they will not be available to practice or compete. Coaches may hold athletes from athletic competitions if they have missed practices.

## **Detention/Suspension**

Students with discipline issues resulting in detention or suspension, even if this means missing practice or game time will be expected to serve punishment within the allotted time given by administration. Suspended students are not permitted to attend practices or games during suspension. Failure to serve will result in additional punishment. If the student misses school

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and/or practice time due to suspension or after school detention, additional disciplinary action may be assigned per individual sport by the coach.

## **In-Season Athletic Eligibility**

- Student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better with no failing grades.
- Student may not have received any "Yellow" discipline cards the week of and the week prior to game day.

## **Eligibility Duration and Deadlines**

- An eligibility report will be pulled every two weeks using the school's student information system. If a student's cumulative GPA is below 2.0 or a failing grade, in any subject, they will be academically ineligible for a two-week period. If there was an inaccuracy in the eligibility report due to teacher input of grades, a student may be determined eligible with a signed statement from the teacher indicating circumstances leading to the error. The Athletic Director has final say in any eligibility disputes.
- The eligibility report will be pulled on Wednesday mornings and enforced for a two-week period.

## **Academic Ineligibility Consequences**

- Student may still attend home games and practices
- Student will not dress-out for games
- Student will not compete in games
- Student will not be released early from school to attend games
- Student may participate in game day attire during school day

## **Behavioral Ineligibility Consequences**

### **Yellow Card or Team Infraction**

- Student may still attend home games and practices
- Student will not dress-out for games
- Student will not compete in games
- Student will not be released early from school to attend games
- Student may participate in game day attire during school day

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## **School Attendance**

Students are required to be at school on the day of a competition for at least half of the day. Failure to be in school for the appropriate amount of time will result in the student-athlete not being able to play that day.

## **Enrollment**

Students must be enrolled and taking their courses at ALA, either online or in-person, to be eligible to participate in athletic activities.

## **Home Schooled Students**

Home school students will be allowed to participate in non-cut athletic activities at ALA. Examples of non-cut sports would include cross country, wrestling, track & golf. The student must reside in the Maricopa County boundaries to be eligible to compete in ALA program athletics as a home-schooled student.

## **Coaches Expectation of Players**

- Each player will be treated as an individual in regard to any discipline situation. However, any athlete who demonstrates poor behavior not conducive to the spirit of good sportsmanship and citizenship or is in violation of ALA policies may be subject to disciplinary action, including possible exclusion or suspension from the program.
- Team members will abide by all school rules and display conduct as a representative of ALA. He/she shall demonstrate the utmost respect to administrations, teachers, coaches, and staff at all times.
- Any obscene or vulgar language will not be tolerated at any time.
- Any player ejected from a game will be suspended for the following game and required to meet with administration prior to clearance to rejoin the team.

## **Alcohol, Tobacco, Steroids, and Controlled Substances**

Members of any and all ALA athletic teams shall not, at any time, use or attempt to use, have in the possession, or aid and abet anyone else to use tobacco, alcoholic beverages, steroids, or any form of narcotics or controlled substances, unless prescribed by a physician. Possession means having any knowledge of, or any control over, an item. Control includes, but is not limited to, having access to an item in a school locker, personal effects, a vehicle, or other place where the item is located. It is not necessary that a student intend to control the item. A student may acquire knowledge of an item visually, by being told about the item, or through other sensory perception. A student's knowledge will be based on the surrounding

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circumstances, not just the student's statements. For example, "forgetting" that an item is in one's locker, personal effect, or vehicle doesn't not constitute lack of knowledge.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **Players**

- Be committed to the team. Be prepared. Attend all practices, games, fundraisers and activities with a positive attitude.
- Embrace whatever your role on the team may be. If you are in a reserve role, take your responsibility seriously, to push your teammates to be the best they can be. Encourage and cheer on teammates, whether participating in the game or not.
- Be a good student.

### **Parents**

- Honor your students' commitment to the team. Do not plan activities that would make he/she break that commitment.
- Practices are closed to parents. Attend as many games as possible and cheer on your child AND the rest of the team.
- Do not make comparisons between your child and another player. Realize you may not see the whole picture. Trust the coaches.
- Be a good example of positive dialogue regarding your child's teammates, coaches, opponents and referees.
- If there are questions or concerns regarding playing time or other issues, encourage your student to talk to coaches directly. We love to see the students take responsibility in addressing concerns as they develop the leadership qualities taught at ALA.
- If you, as a parent are upset or have a problem to address, wait a day to talk to the coach.
- No parents coaching from the sidelines. It is distraction. Please cheer but refrain from coaching and trying to get the player's attention during the game.

### **Coach to athlete/parent Communication**

Coaches are expected to provide athletes and parents the following information:

- Coaching philosophy
- Coaching expectations of your athlete, as well as, all players on the team
- Location and times of all practices and games
- Team requirement, i.e. fees, special equipment, fundraising, off-season conditions, camps/clinics

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- Discipline that will result in the denial of your athlete's participation
- The procedures to follow in event of an injury while in the coaches' supervision

## **Parent to Coach Communication**

Parents and athletes are expected to provide the coach with the following information:

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concern in regard to coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- Advisement of any health concerns or injuries

## **Appropriate Topics to Discuss with Coaches**

- Mental and physical treatment of your athlete
- Ways to help your athlete improve
- Concerns about your athlete's behavior

## **Topics Inappropriate to Discuss with Coaches**

- Playing time
- Team strategies
- Play calling
- Other Athletes

## **Parent Code of Conduct**

Parents, fans and coaches who follow this simple code can help reinforce what sports are all about and will make the sporting experience a GREAT one for all involved.

- I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will remember that the game is for the youth involved; not for the parents.
- I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
- I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage good sportsmanship showing respect and courtesy and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
- I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
- I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.

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- I will demand that my child treats other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard.
- I will refrain from ridiculing or yelling at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will respect the officials at all times.
- I will not question, discuss or confront a coach at an event. I will take time to speak with the coach at an appropriate time and place.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the "official" coaches.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary actions that could include but not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by official, head coach or administration
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension
- Parental season suspension

## **Student Code of Conduct**

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six core principles: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Good Citizenship. The code applies to all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in Arizona.

*I understand that, in order to participate in high school athletics, I must act in accord with the following:*

### **Trustworthiness**

Be worthy of trust in all I do.

- *Integrity* – live up to high ideals of ethics and do what's right even it's unpopular or personally costly.
- *Honesty* – live and compete honorable, don't lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- *Reliability* – fulfill commitments; be on time to practices and games.

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- *Loyalty* – be loyal to my school and team. Put the team above personal glory.

## Respect

Treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of other student-athletes.

- *Class* – live and play with class. Be a good sport, be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity, give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre and post-game rituals.
- *Disrespectful Conduct* – don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or racial nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- *Respect Officials* – treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

## Responsibility

- *Importance of Education* – be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Remember that many universities will not recruit student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.
- *Role Modeling* – remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right and that I am expected to represent my school, coaches and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct myself as a positive role model.
- *Self-Control* – exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.
- *Healthy Lifestyle* – safeguard my health; don't use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight. When I am injured, I will get appropriate medical advice and I will follow that advice.
- *Integrity of the Game* – protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble or cheat. Play the game according to the rules.

## Fairness

- *Be Fair* – live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded, always be willing to listen and learn.



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## Caring

- *Concern for others* – demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to other or myself.
- *Teammates* – help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by immediately reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

## Citizenship

- *Play by the Rules* – maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.
- *Spirit of Rules* – honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest tradition of sportsmanship.

**Suspension or termination of the participate privilege is within the sole discretion of the school administration.**

**Return bottom portion to Athletic Director**

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

Student Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_