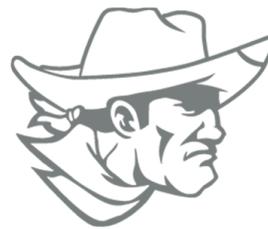




Family / Athlete **HANDBOOK**

2025-2026

- Rights and Responsibilities
- Health and Safety
- Drug Testing Policies and Procedures



High School & Middle School Sports

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Arizona Interscholastic Athletics (AIA) Opportunities in PV Schools

Fall Sports include flag football (girls), tackle football, cross country (boys and girls), indoor volleyball (girls), badminton (girls), swim/dive (boys and girls), and golf (boys and girls).

Winter Sports include basketball (boys and girls), wrestling, and soccer (boys and girls).

Spring Sports include baseball, tennis (boys and girls), track (boys and girls), softball (girls) and beach volleyball (girls).

Rights and Responsibilities

We believe that keeping athletes and parents well informed encourages an environment that greatly promotes camaraderie and reduces the potential for catastrophic injury. As a school district, we endorse the following statement from the American Medical Association committee on the medical aspects of sports (1959):

Bill of Rights for the Athlete

Participation in athletics is a privilege involving responsibilities and rights. The athlete has the responsibility to play fair, to give his/her best, to keep in training, to conduct oneself with credit to the sport and the school. In turn, the athlete has the right to optimal protection against injury as this may be assured through good technical instruction, proper regulation and conditions of play, and adequate health supervision.

1. Athletic Participation - High School

1.1 Academic Qualifications

- A. A student is eligible to compete in athletics if they are;
 - a. Enrolled as a student at one of our PVUSD High Schools,
 - b. Enrolled as a student at our Alternative School,
 - c. Enrolled as a student at our Online School (PVOnline), or
 - d. Are a Home-School student domiciled in the PVUSD attendance zones
 - i. Home-Schooled Students are eligible to participate at their boundaried home-school.
 - e. Transfer students should talk with their school or District Athletic Director about their eligibility status. PVSchools follows AIA by-laws.
- B. Freshman, Sophomores, and Junior students must be enrolled in at least five (5) classes or 2-1/2 blocks in order to participate. Seniors must be enrolled in four (4) classes or two blocks to participate.
- C. Students must be passing all classes at **1st quarter, 1st semester, 3rd quarter and 2nd semester** to be eligible.
 - a. A failing grade at the time of grade checks will result in disqualification for a minimum of 15 school days.
 - i. It is the responsibility of the athlete to apply for reinstatement through the Athletic Director. The student must be passing all classes to be eligible for reinstatement.
 - ii. Second semester failure grades can be made up by taking any credit-bearing course in the summer* (incoming freshmen athletes will have their 4th quarter grades from their eighth grade year checked for initial eligibility).
 - iii. While academically eligible for team membership, individual coaches may require students to maintain passing grades during the quarter in order to participate in games.
 - iv. Please call your school's Athletic Department or the District Athletic Office for assistance.

1.2 Health

- A. Students must be cleared by a physician for participation in sports.
- B. Physical exams are required annually (after March 1st).
- C. Following an ~~illness~~ or injury a medical clearance may be required for return to practice or play.
 - a. An athlete returning from an injury is a process that includes communication between the student-athlete, their family, the school nurse, the trainer, and the coach.
- D. Following an illness a medical clearance may be required for return to practice or play.
 - a. An athlete returning from an illness is a process that includes communication between the student-athlete, their family, the school nurse, the trainer, and the coach.
- E. Athletes found to be using illegal drugs, including steroids, will be suspended from the team.
 - a. Athletes suspended from school for a drug/alcohol related offense will lose eligibility.
 - b. Please contact the Athletic Department for more information.

1.3 Attendance

- A. Students must be in attendance on the day of games at least 50% of the day in order to participate.
- B. Students must be in attendance on the day of practice at least 50% of the day in order to practice.
- C. Excessive absences may result in poor grades and loss of playing privileges.
- D. Excessive absences may result in students dropping below the enrollment requirements and therefore result in elimination from team membership.

1.4 Emergency Information

- A. A completed and signed emergency card on file is required before an athlete may participate.
 - a. This is completed through the Register My Athlete (RMA) process.
- B. Coaches will carry emergency information with them to all practices and games.
- C. Parents/Guardians are expected to keep the coach updated on any change in emergency information.

1.5 Insurance

- A. The Paradise Valley Unified School District does not provide medical insurance for student athletes.
- B. Parents/Guardians must have health insurance for their students and provide insurance information to coaches. Parents/Guardians are responsible for medical bills incurred as a result of participation in athletics.
- C. Parents/Guardians may purchase school activity insurance. Forms are available from the athletic department. (<https://www.kandkinsurance.com/Pages/Home.aspx>)

1.6 Athletic Fees and Expenses

- A. Athletes pay a fee of \$200 for AIA athletic participation in each sport. Families are capped at \$400 each school year regardless of the number of individual athletic participation fees they may have. (This also includes Middle School Festival Sports, Speech and Debate, Robotics, and eSports).
- B. The fee helps to defray expenses for AIA dues, coaches' salaries, equipment, off site facility rentals, etc.
- C. In some sports, the athlete is expected to purchase athletic shoes, socks, and other basic apparel. The coaches will explain these charges before the season begins.
- D. Contact your Athletic Director and/or Coach with further questions regarding fees or fee reduction.

1.7 Equipment

- A. In most sports, the equipment manager checks out uniforms and other necessary equipment for the athlete.
- B. The athlete is expected to take care of the uniform and to return it in good condition based upon the normal wear and tear.
- C. Lost or stolen uniforms and equipment checked out to the individual athlete becomes his/her and parents/guardians financial responsibility.

1.8 Residence

- A. Generally speaking, athletes must reside and/or be enrolled within the Paradise Valley Unified School District in order to participate in our high school programs.
- B. Athletes establish eligibility on the first day of attendance in high school in our district.
- C. Parents/Guardians and athletes should consult with the school's athletic director for information regarding other eligibility requirements.
- D. In all cases, the AIA constitution/bylaws supersedes any rules printed by the school district. Please communicate with your school's athletic director or the District Athletics Office for AIA bylaw/rules interpretations.

1.9 Informed Consent

- A. Athletes and their parents/guardians must view the Informed Consent Sports Injury Video online prior to participating in their sport. (<https://www.pvschools.net/Page/6189>)
<https://www.pvschools.net/programs/athletics/high-school-athletics/participate-in-athletics>
- B. Athletes and their parents/guardians must sign the informed consent notification before participation can occur. This is done through Register My Athlete (RMA).

2. State of Arizona Male, Female, or Coed Designation Regarding Interscholastic and Intramural Sports Participation

As per A.R.S. §15-120.02, each interscholastic athletic team or sport that is sponsored by a public school shall be expressly designated as one (1) of the following based on the biological sex of the students who participate on the team or in the sport:

- A. "Males," "men" or "boys."
- B. "Females," "women" or "girls."
- C. "Coed" or "mixed."

Athletic teams or sports designated for "females," "women" or "girls" may not be open to students of the male sex.

Any student may participate in any interscholastic/intramural athletic team or sport designated as being for "males," "men" or "boys" or designated as "coed" or "mixed."

3. Non-School Participation

Athletes must practice with their team in order to participate in games and maintain team membership. Sometimes athletes are members of local private organizations and may practice with private coaches. It is important that the athlete knows the AIA regulations relating to participation in private clubs and our requirements that the athlete maintain full membership and participation in PV schools' program. Under no circumstance may an athlete participate on one of our teams without practicing with that team. Please refer questions to the Athletic Director and/or the AIA bylaws regarding non-school participation.

4. Team Selections

In some sports, there is a limit to the number of athletes that can be selected for the team. Our coaches have developed selection procedures that have been approved by the school principal and athletic director. Each athlete who shows up for tryouts is given a fair opportunity to demonstrate his or her skills and attitude. The decisions by the coaches are final.

5. Athlete Health and Safety

Parents/Guardians and athletes must accept a degree of risk from participation in sports. An informed consent signature is required of both parent/guardian and athlete before participation in practice. Athletes who are mentally, emotionally, and physically conditioned for an activity are less susceptible to injury.

Following are listed minimal health requirements that are considered shared responsibilities between parents/guardians, coaches, staff and the athletes themselves:

- A. Annual physical examinations performed by a qualified doctor are required before a student may participate in a sport. This physical must be completed after March 1st to be eligible the following school year.
- B. Athletes are expected to be drug free. Athletes will be informed about the dangers of using drugs.

- C. Parents/Guardians and Student Athletes must also sign the “Statement of Understanding” form, completed through Register My Athlete (RMA), which explains the consequences if an athlete is suspended from school for possession, or being under the influence of drugs while in school or at school-sponsored events.
- D. Workouts will be scheduled during cooler morning and evening hours when the weather is hot. Please refer specific questions regarding practice during heat restrictions to the Athletic Department.
- E. Athletes will be acclimated to hot weather activity by carefully graduated practice schedules.
- F. Adequate body fluid levels are critical. Water intake is to be encouraged before practice. Fluid intake during practice is to be monitored.
- G. Athletes are not allowed to use dehydration devices.
- H. Athletes may be provided with recommendations for off-season conditioning programs, including information on nutrition and motivation.
- I. Athletes will not be required to perform beyond his/her current level of progress with regard to physical conditioning, performance techniques, or level of competition.
- J. An athlete will not be allowed to return to physical activity after a serious illness or injury without written permission of the athlete’s doctor.
- K. Year round conditioning is beneficial to the athlete’s health, and a vital part of any sports program for maximizing performance and minimizing injury.
- L. Each high school has a Certified Athletic Trainer on staff. Certified trainers are qualified in the care of and prevention of athletic injuries and are available to the athlete for help and advice. Please note that in-season athletes do have priority when it comes to injuries and injury prevention.

Parents/Guardians and school staff must be willing to fully share all information regarding the athlete’s health, including injuries, illnesses, and other symptoms, no matter how slight. Decisions regarding medical treatment are left to qualified physicians and the athletic trainer. The coach and/or athletic director must receive written clearance to continue participation after any physician treatment is completed.

6. Athlete Behavior

Our administrators, teachers, and athletic staff expect athletes to demonstrate good sportsmanship and citizenship at all times. Athletes not living up to this expectation may lose team membership or playing privileges.

6.1 Student Athlete Drug Prevention Program (Random Drug Testing)

A. Drug Prevention Program

The Governing Board believes that the use of illegal drugs presents an especially hazardous threat to the health, safety and welfare of students who participate in athletics. For example, athletes who use steroids cause damage to their own bodies and may participate in a sport in a manner that could endanger the health and safety of other participants. While the Governing Board encourages students to participate in athletics, it also believes that the opportunity to try out and play is not an absolute right. Rather, it is a privilege offered to students on an equal opportunity basis.

B. Program Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect the health, safety and welfare of all students participating on teams and using our athletic facilities for conditioning during the school year. Before a student is eligible to try out for a team, he/she must agree to submit to testing for the use of drugs according to the procedures included in this handbook. It is understood that the testing procedures will be on a random basis to be conducted seasonally (fall, winter and spring). Testing occurs at a school up to seven times each season across a random number of athletes.

Random testing will occur on all sports teams. Athletes in all district AIA-sanctioned sports are subject to this policy. A student athlete who refuses to provide a sample when randomly chosen will be considered a positive test. Refusal or failure to provide a sample results in loss of eligibility.

C. Illegal Drugs Identified

The following drugs will be tested for: Alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates (downers), benzodiazepines (bennies or uppers), cannabinoids (marijuana), carisoprodol (soma), cocaine (coke), MDMA (ecstasy), opiates (codeine, heroin, morphine, methadone), oxycodone, phencyclidine (PCP, angel dust), propoxyphene, stimulants (speed), and anabolic steroids. A “positive” test sample will mean a predetermined level of detection has been exceeded and that level is unacceptable. Please refer to the detection levels chart at the end of this section. (Table #1).

D. Procedures Governing Implementation of the Drug Prevention Policy

- a. **Parent/Guardian and Athlete Orientation:** As a part of the informed consent meetings, both athletes and parents/guardians will be instructed on the dangers of drug abuse.
- b. **Signed Consent Required:** Both parent/guardian and athlete must sign the "PVUSD Athletic Information Form." These forms are used for students to be eligible to participate in practice and contests, and can be found in Register My Athlete (RMA).
- c. **Random Drawing of Assigned Numbers:** All athletes will be assigned a number at the start of practice for each season. The numbers will be maintained on a spreadsheet by the school athletic office. The District Athletic office, at the start of each season, will schedule six to seven drug testing dates. On the date of each drug test, each school will have two student athletes witness the selection of up to seven numbers drawn on a random number generator. Those numbers will be provided to the nurse and designated school administrator and up to three student athletes will be escorted to the office for testing. Students are to be selected from the top of the list generated. The testing is conducted based on numbers drawn of attending student athletes. Due to the test being random, an athlete may be tested more than once.
- d. **Testing:** Tests will be conducted on urine samples collected by the school nurse. The tests will be conducted throughout the season. The athletes selected will provide a urine sample to be collected confidentially and in private at the school. The sample will be collected under the supervision of the school nurse, and/or an assistant principal (hereafter referred to as supervisor).
 - i. The water in the toilet bowl will be colored and the supervisor will wait outside the stall until the sample is given to him or her.
 - ii. If the sample is in any way out of temperature, then two more tests can be administered to the student athlete. If a student does not provide a proper specimen by the third attempt, then a "Refusal to Test" will be declared.
 - iii. The sample will be divided into two containers in the presence of the athlete, one sample to be used to test for drugs of abuse and the other to be used to test for anabolic steroids.
 - iv. The supervisor will seal the samples. Both the student athlete and supervisor will initial the sample containers and master list to verify it is that athlete's sample.
 - v. The supervisor will place the samples in a locked refrigerator.
 - vi. The samples from all schools will be collected the same day and sent to the lab for testing.
- e. **Examples tested using emit and gc/ms: positive tests are confirmed:** All positive urine samples will remain under refrigeration at the lab for at least six months. The lab will first test the sample to assure it has not been adulterated. The lab personnel will analyze urine samples using EMIT (enzyme multiplied immunoassay technique, a drug screen), and always confirm any positive indication with GC/MS (Gas chromatography mass spectrometry). Steroid samples will be tested with the GC/MS procedure. The lab forwards the results under confidential cover to the school nurse.
- f. **Samples screened for adulteration:** If the test shows evidence of adulteration, the athlete will be subject to loss of eligibility consistent with a positive test.
- g. **Parents/Guardians may request an additional confirmation test:** If the athlete and his/her parent/guardian desire another test of the remaining portion of the sample (which is held at the testing facility), and are willing to pay for the test, the principal will arrange for the additional confirmation analysis at the same lab. If the parent/guardian objects to the second confirmation being conducted at the same lab, arrangements will be made to ship or courier the sample to another lab whose standards and procedures meet the testing requirements of the District. The athlete is suspended upon the first positive test. They will be reinstated if the confirmation test is negative.
- h. **Laboratory Requirements (Prescription/OTC Use):** The testing lab will need information on prescription medications and over the counter (OTC) medication use to account for potential detection. If the student has been on prescription medication within the past 30 days, evidence of such use must be provided in case there is a connection with the test results. Athletes should inform the Administrator/Athletic Director in advance of drug testing of any recent prescription/over the counter drug use. In all cases of positive results, the student athlete will be given an opportunity to explain the results. No decision to suspend the athlete from activity will be made until he or she is given that opportunity. If it is determined that a positive test is due to the presence of a doctor-prescribed drug or over-the-counter drug, the test will be considered negative.
- i. **Positive test results in loss of eligibility:** A student athlete found to have an illegal drug in his/her system will lose athletic eligibility according to the procedures included in this handbook. The consequences for a positive test result will not affect school attendance or academic standing. *Test results will not be disclosed to any law enforcement agency.*

In all cases, the consequences will be limited to a period of ineligibility from competition and possibly practice.

For the first positive test:

1. The loss of eligibility from all participation will be for forty-five (45) school days.
2. The athlete will have an opportunity to regain eligibility after fifteen (15) school days by completing a district approved counseling program and submitting a negative drug test consistent with district drug testing expectations.
3. Athletes may be reinstated to participate in practice (other than competition) upon the school receiving a negative test. The athlete still must complete the district approved counseling program within the 15 school days. Failure to complete the district approved counseling program will result in re-imposing the forty- five (45) day suspension from all participation.

For the second positive test:

1. The loss of eligibility from all athletic participation for one calendar year.
2. The athlete may appeal for re-admittance to participate in a district appeal committee consisting of the director of student services, school level administrator, athletic director, and parent/guardian . This appeal may be made up to 365 days after a second positive test is identified. Members of the committee may not be current representatives of the athlete’s school. The athlete must provide evidence of further counseling from a district approved counseling program and a negative drug test consistent with district drug testing expectations to file an appeal.

For a third positive test:

1. The loss of eligibility will be permanent with no appeal.
 - A. **Testing following a return to eligibility:** Student athletes who resume full eligibility, (practice and competition) after the first positive test experience (whether they completed a drug counseling program or not) , will be required to submit to one additional test during the next three to six weeks of athletic participation. The one additional test will be paid for by the district and conducted in the same way as stated previously.
 - B. **Athletes testing positive are not reported to law enforcement:** Consistent with Governing Board Policy IGAI, athletes who test positive or who volunteer for help will not be reported to any law enforcement agency.
 - C. **Volunteering for help component:** Athletes with drug dependence may voluntarily be tested and obtain intervention.

6.2. (Drug Detection Chart)

Drug panel	Cutoff (ng/mL)
Alcohol	0.02
Amphetamines	500
Barbiturates	300
Benzodiazepines	300
Cannabinoids	50
Cocaine Metabolite	150
MDMA	500
Methadone	300
Opiates and Opioids	2000
Phencyclidine	25
Propoxyphene	300
Oxycodone	300
Anabolic steroids	Cutoff (ng/mL)
Boldenone/Bolasterone	5
Chlorotestosterone/Clenbuterol	5
Mesterolone/Danazol/Drostanolone/Fluoxymesterone	5

Nandrolone/Methandienone/Methenolone/Methyltestosterone	5
Norethandrolone/Trenbolone	5
Oxandrolone/Oxymesterone	5
Oxymetholone/Probenecid	5
Stanozolol/Methandriol	5
Testosterone/Epitest	6

7. High School Athletic Code of Conduct

This high school athletic code of conduct is only enforced if conduct violations are not covered under the district random drug testing policy.

7.1 Definitions

- A. *Season of competition* is defined as those weeks where regularly scheduled contests occur including any post-season play.
- B. *Suspension* from a team, in most instances, is defined as not participating in practice and not taking part in any remedial conditioning prescribed by the head coach, and not being able to suit up or participate in scheduled contests. However, the decision to practice with the team will ultimately be left up to the head coach. In the event an athlete does not accept a suspension, removal will result.
- C. *Removal from a team*, in most instances, is defined as being barred from participating in the next sport for the remainder of the season of competition or twenty (20) school days from the effective date, whichever is greater.

7.2 Code

- A. *Academic*: Any athlete who becomes ineligible due to grades will be suspended until the deficiency is made up per district and AIA policy. (Please refer to section 1.1 C)
- B. *Alcohol/Drug Abuse (including steroids)*: If any athlete is discovered to be in possession and/or using alcohol or drugs during the season, that athlete will be suspended from the season of competition, consistent with the results of a positive test. See section 6.1, D. i, 1. A second offense will result in automatic removal from the team.
- C. *Vaping/Tobacco/E-Cigarettes*: If any athlete is discovered using tobacco during the season, that athlete will be subject to specific school and team policies.
- D. *Quitting a Sport*: Any athlete who quits a team will be denied participation in the next sport until the season of competition ends, unless the head coach provides a release. Freshman will be allowed to quit a team without penalty until the season of competition begins.
- E. *Reporting Violations by Law Enforcement*: Violations reported by law enforcement agencies will result in the implementation of the code.
- F. *Hazing*: Any violation of the hazing policy can result in loss of athletic participation indefinitely.
 - i. Hazing is defined as any intentional knowing or reckless act committed by a student(s), whether individually or in concert with other persons, against another student(s), and in which both of the following apply:
 1. The act was committed in connection with an initiation into, an affiliation with or the maintenance in any organization that is affiliated with an educational institution.
 2. The act contributes to a substantial risk of potential and/or actual physical injury, mental harm or degradation.
 - ii. PVUSD has a zero tolerance for any acts of hazing. Student athletes and parents/guardians must watch the PVUSD Hazing Video along with the Informed Consent Video prior to athletic participation (<https://www.pvschools.net/programs/athletics/high-school-athletics/participate-in-athletics>). If a student suspects hazing is taking place or has been affected by hazing, then they must let their Coach, Athletic Director and/or Principal know immediately.
- G. *Additional Site-Based Policies*: Individual school sites/coaches may have additional athletic codes of conduct rules and consequences for their respective school or team. Student athletes and parents/guardians are encouraged to discuss specific team rules with their coaches and school administration.
- H. *Miscellaneous*: It is impossible to anticipate every situation that may require disciplinary action. In general, the athlete should understand that actions, which are detrimental to him/herself, and/or the high school athletic program, would result in suspension and/or removal from a team.

7.3 Code Of Conduct Summary

Infraction	Consequence
Possessing and/or using drugs	45 school days of no athletics (If counseling is attended, may be reduced to 15 school days)
Second Offense of possessing and/or using drugs	Removal from team
Tobacco/Vaping	School/Team policies
Inability to complete drug test	45 school days of no athletics (If counseling is attended, may be reduced to 15 school days)
Quitting the team	Not eligible for another sport until the current season is concluded (in most cases)
Hazing	Suspended indefinitely

7.4 Social Media Misuse

Parents/Guardians and students should be aware of the Arizona Revised Statute (ARS 13-2916) regarding the use of social media. The statute states, "It is unlawful for any person, with intent to terrify, intimidate, threaten or harass a specific person or persons, to do any of the following:

- A. Direct any obscene, lewd or profane language or suggest any lewd or lascivious act to the person in an electronic communication.
- B. Threaten to inflict physical harm to any person or property in any electronic communication.
- C. Otherwise disturbed by repeated anonymous, unwanted or unsolicited electronic communications the peace, quiet or right of privacy of the person at the place where the communications were received."

****Any student's misuse of social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) may be subject to the athletic code of conduct.***

8. Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA)

PVUSD Athletics is a proud partner with Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) in character education for athletes, coaches and parents/guardians. Creating a culture of positive behavior aligned with values can develop the ultimate goal of "Better Athletes, Better People." As a District, we will follow the PCA principles of the acronym ROOTS:

- **Rules** are put in place for the betterment of contests and the safety of the student-athletes participating.
- **Opponents** are a necessity. We will treat our opponents with dignity and respect in victory and defeat.
- **Officials** are also a necessity. We will treat the officials with dignity and respect in victory and defeat.
- **Teammates** are what make our teams strong. We will honor our teammates by treating them with respect regardless of their role within the team.
- **Self** We will practice good sportsmanship and be a great teammate.

Through these important principles, PVUSD athletes, coaches and staff will *Honor The Game!*

9. Coaches Expectations

We expect our coaches to develop their programs in a manner that fosters an educational-based athletic experience. This experience is based on supporting academic achievement, mastery of skills, leadership, sportsmanship and developing quality citizens rather than a "win at all cost" mentality.

We expect our coaches to engage with student-athletes, school representatives, parents/guardians and the community in creating a positive culture and healthy experience for all those involved.

We expect our coaches to encourage multi-sport athletes and collaborate with colleagues in the sharing of student-athletes.

We expect coaches to be fair and unbiased.

We expect coaches who lead both high school and club programs to ensure that no student-athlete ever feels pressured to join the coaches' club team and club involvement should never be a requirement to participate on a high school team.

10. Parent/Guardian Expectations

We expect the parents/guardians to join the staff in setting good examples. The school staff is charged with the responsibility for taking corrective steps when spectators create or contribute to fan behavior problems. We respectfully ask our parents/guardians to join in an overall effort to help make student sport participation a happy and healthy experience. In most sports, spectator bleachers are provided. We expect the fans to stay in seating areas while respecting the visibility and access of all spectators and not interfere with the coaches' responsibility on the court or field of play.

A. Parent/Guardian Support and Involvement

Parents/Guardians of our athletes and students involved in other student activities are encouraged to become involved in our school booster club organizations. These groups are organized and run by parents/guardians boosters with the support of the school staff. Parents/Guardians may contact the school administrators or the athletic director for information regarding membership or any other means the parent/guardian may wish to support the program.

B. Parent/Guardian Concern with Coaching

If a parent/guardian has a concern involving a coach, they may follow the district's formal Parent/Guardian Concern Policy. This policy is found in the District Family/Student Handbook.

<https://www.pvschools.net/families/family-student-handbook>

C. Accommodations for Spectators With Disabilities

The Paradise Valley Unified School District will provide reasonable accommodations for spectators with disabilities at sporting events. In addition, when attending events hosted by other districts, OUTSIDE DISTRICT athletic directors are encouraged to seek disability accommodations in advance upon a OUTSIDE DISTRICT spectator's request. The Paradise Valley Unified School District shall make every effort to accommodate all spectators with disabilities.

11. Transportation

Transportation to and from game sites is provided by the school district in most cases. Parents/Guardians and or an athlete may transport themselves if approved by the school's athletic department and have a completed transportation consent form on file.

Please note, student athletes may not carpool with other student-athlete drivers or families.

Student athletes may be signed out by their parents/guardians or anyone on their emergency contact list recorded in Infinite Campus. Parents/guardians who are not on the emergency contact list may not transport other student athletes.

12. Admission Fees to Athletic Events

Some sports require an entry fee into the competition, such as Football, Basketball, wrestling, and soccer. Other sports, like track, may involve an entry fee to larger invitationals.

13. Athletic Participation - Middle School Festival Sports

13.1 Mission Statement

The Paradise Valley Unified School District believes that extracurricular athletic participation is an important part of the middle school educational experience. Every student is given the opportunity to participate in a healthy, positive and developmentally appropriate athletic program. Each sport will include fundamental instruction, an emphasis on sportsmanship, positive reinforcement, inclusion and the rewards of team play. The goal is to develop confident and motivated student athletes who have the opportunity to contribute to their school communities. Revised 5/21/12

13.2 Description of the Program

- A. Instructional Weekly clinics in most sports by middle/high school coaches and athletes/mentors.
- B. Intramural Supervised practice and play at site, incorporating fundamentals taught in clinics.
- C. Festival Culminating day which provides an opportunity to compete against other PVSchools middle schools.
- D. All Stars 7th and 8th grade teams selected to compete in district-wide competition.

13.3 Major Elements of Instruction

- A. Accountability: Expected to show consistent attendance and adherence to rules, regulations, academics, and behavior.
- B. Commitment: Learning the importance of setting aside time and committing to goals of improving skills.
- C. Healthy Perspective of Competition: Learning to appreciate the rewards of participating and giving best effort and handling temporary setbacks without the overwhelming pressure of winning at all costs.
- D. Inclusion: All students eligible and allowed to participate regardless of level of skills and talent.
- E. Positive Reinforcement: Medals given at festival competition.
- F. Role Modeling: High school athletes from feeder schools will be demonstrators and mentors during weekly fundamental clinics.
- G. Sportsmanship: Constantly stressed and reinforced throughout activities that involve team and individual competition.
- H. Team Building: Learning to sacrifice for the good of the team.

13.4 The Festival Sport Instruction Day will consist of:

- A. Three times a season, the middle school will send an invitation to high school coaches and players asking them to participate in a middle school practice session.
- B. High school coaches and athletes may lead the middle school students in instruction, drills, and scrimmages.

13.5 Festival Sports

- A. Boys' Basketball Begins Sept/August
- B. Girls' Softball Begins Sept/August
- C. Boys' and Girls' Track Begins October/November
- D. Boys' Passing League Football Begins December
- E. Girls' Volleyball Begins December
- F. Girls' Basketball Begins February
- G. Boys' Wrestling Begins April
- H. Team Make-Up

Each school will field a 7th grade team and an 8th grade team, with the exception of Track and Field. In situations where the school does not have enough players to field two separate teams, the School's Athletic Director will consult with the District Middle School Athletic Director. A combination 7th and 8th grade team will play the schedule of the grade level to which the majority of the players attend.

- I. Middle School Athletics will follow the State of Arizona Male, Female, or Coed Designation Regarding Interscholastic and Intramural Sports Participation. See High School 2.0 on page 2.

13.6 Fees

- A. Festival Sports - \$70.00
- B. All Stars - \$30.00
- C. Admission Fees to the Festival - \$2.00/12 and over. Athletes in their Festival Shirt are not charged.

These fees are general guidelines and are subject to change.

13.7 School Positions

- A. Middle School Festival Sports Director: Michael Selmo
 - a. Administrative Assistant: Andrea Luna
- B. Athletic Directors
 - a. Desert Shadows Middle School: Cielo Echenove
 - b. Explorer Middle School: Kayla Trammel
 - c. Greenway Middle School: Shani Kmetko
 - d. Mountain Trail Middle School: David Moore
 - e. Pinnacle Peak Preparatory: Deni Ewell
 - f. Shea Middle School: -
 - g. Sunrise Middle School: -
- C. Festival Coaches
 - a. Two per sport.

13.8 Informed Consent and Code of Conduct for Middle School Parents and Students

We believe that keeping students and parents well informed encourages an environment that greatly reduces the potential for catastrophic injury. As a school district, we endorse the following statement from the American Medical Association committee on the medical aspects of sports. "Participation in athletics is a privilege involving both responsibilities and rights. The student has the responsibility to play fair, to give his/her best, to keep in training, to conduct himself/herself with credit to the sport and the school. In turn, the athlete has the right to optimal protection against injury as this may be assured through good technical instruction, proper regulation and condition of play and adequate health supervision."

- A. Parents and Students must be aware of and accept a degree of risk from participation in sports. Coaches/sponsors accept responsibility for instructing students to the full extent of and reasons for rules of safety related to their activity. Parents must accept responsibility for reinforcing these rules.
- B. Parents are to be informed in writing regarding minimum health requirements. Students who are mentally, emotionally and physically conditioned for an activity are less susceptible to injury.
- C. Outside practices will be modified if temperature exceeds 100 degrees and the combination of temperature and humidity is above 150. Students will be acclimated to hot weather activity by carefully graduated practice schedules. Adequate body fluid levels are critical. Students are encouraged to practice proper hydration on a daily basis as a part of their regular daily activity. Fluid loss and intake during practice is to be monitored. Students are not allowed to use dehydration devices.
- D. Parents can assist coaches/sponsors in watching for signs of trouble, in the determined student, who may not want to report discomfort.
- E. Jewelry must be removed from the athlete's person unless it is religious affiliated or cannot be removed. In such cases, the jewelry must be taped and covered, following AIA guidelines.
- F. A student will not be allowed to return to activity after a serious illness or injury without written permission of the student's doctor. †
- G. The Governing Board of the PVSchools believes that drugs and alcohol have no place in school academics and activities. Students who are in possession or under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs are suspended nine school days for the first offense and are expelled (by board action) for a second offense. Students who sell or in any way provide alcohol and drugs are expelled on the first offense.
- H. Year round conditioning is beneficial to the student's health and is a vital part of any sports program for maximizing performance and minimizing injury. Parents/guardians and school staff must be willing to fully share all information regarding the student's health, including injuries, illness and other symptoms, no matter how slight.
- I. Parents and students will inform the coach/sponsor if the student is taking prescription and/or non-prescription medication.
- J. Before a student may participate in practice sessions, all necessary forms must be signed.
- K. Athletes must practice with their team in order to participate in games and maintain team membership. Under no circumstances may an athlete participate on one of our teams without practicing with that team. They must attend at least a ½ a day of school to practice to compete with the team.
- L. Transportation to and from weekday game sites is provided by the school district. Parents may not transport student athletes, except in emergency situations approved by the school administration. In those cases, the necessary paperwork must be filed with the school. All athletes participating in Saturday Festivals are responsible for providing their own transportation to the game site.
- M. Our administrators, teachers and athletic staff expect students to demonstrate good sportsmanship and citizenship at all times. Students not living up to this expectation may lose team membership or playing privileges.
- N. We expect parents to join the staff in setting good examples. The school staff is charged with the responsibility for taking corrective steps when spectators create or contribute to fan behavior problems. We respectfully ask our parents to join in an overall effort to help make student sport participation a happy and healthy experience. In most sports, spectator bleachers are provided. We expect fans to stay in the seating area and not interfere with the coaches', sponsors or officials' responsibility on the court or field of play.
- O. In some sports, there is a limit to the number of athletes that can be selected for the team. Our coaches have developed selection procedures that have been approved by the school principal and athletic director. Each athlete who is interested in All Stars is given a fair opportunity to demonstrate their skill and attitude. The decisions by the coaches are final.
- P. There is a NO PASS NO PLAY Policy. An "F" is considered a no passing grade. Each school may choose to make a more stringent policy. By the completion of the third week of practice, any Festival participant interested in pursuing the All Star team must have a grade check. Wrestling and Track policy – athletes must be passing prior to the first match/meet to travel and compete.
- Q. Practices are for coaches and athletes. If a parent/guardian is interested in volunteering a district volunteer packet needs to be turned in along with coach/administration permission. This process takes time. If you are interested, apply over a month before the season begins.

13.9 Risk Management for Festival Sports

1. PVSchools has determined that physicals for Festival Sports are not required.
2. All coaches are required to be Basic First Aid and CPR certified.
3. A certified person will monitor all Festival Sports activities and all Interscholastic Sports.
4. The Athletic Director and coaches of each school will coordinate provisions for water and make it available at all Festival sites.
5. The Athletic Director will coordinate and monitor this safety issue and supply water.
6. Every school will be afforded a home base location on the site where the athletes may rest.