

ALBERTVILLE
CITY SCHOOLS



Student and Parent
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK
2025-2026

MESSAGE FROM OUR ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Dear Albertville High School Athletes, Parents, and Supporters,

Welcome to another exciting year of Aggie Athletics!

At Albertville High School, we take great pride in our tradition of excellence—on the field, in the classroom, and throughout our community. As Athletic Director, it is my honor to support and guide a program built on hard work, integrity, sportsmanship, and a relentless pursuit of success. Our vision is clear: to be **the model interscholastic athletic program recognized for both academic and competitive excellence.**

This handbook has been carefully crafted to outline our expectations, policies, and procedures. It serves as both a guide and a reflection of our shared commitment to building a championship culture—one that values personal growth, team unity, and competitive greatness.

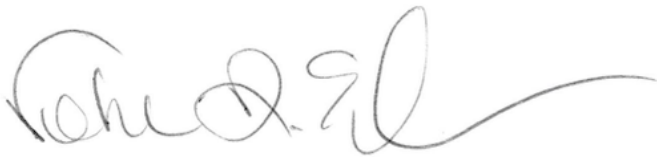
We believe athletics play a vital role in developing student-athletes into well-rounded leaders. The lessons learned through sport—discipline, resilience, respect—are the same traits that will serve our young people for a lifetime. Whether you wear the Aggie uniform as an athlete, cheer from the stands as a parent, or support behind the scenes, your role is essential in our collective success.

Let us all commit to excellence in every aspect of our athletic programs. Together, we will continue to raise the standard and represent Albertville High School with pride and purpose.

Thank you for your continued support of Aggie Athletics.

Go Aggies!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vohn D. Enloe", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Vohn D. Enloe
Athletic Director
Albertville High School

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CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

Parents of athletes should never request meetings with the Superintendent or Principal before meeting with the head coach. To ensure concerns are addressed in a productive manner, we ask all athletes and parents to follow the proper chain of command. If steps 1 and 2 are bypassed, the matter will be sent back to the coach.

- Step 1 - Player to Coach
Athletes are encouraged to speak directly to their coach regarding any questions, issues, or concerns. This should happen before any parent meeting begins. It is vital that we teach young people to advocate for themselves.
- Step 2 - Parent to Coach
If further clarification is needed, a parent may reach out to the head coach to discuss concerns in a constructive way. Coaches will NOT meet with parents immediately following a contest. To ensure healthy communication and productive conversations, we require at least 24 hours after a game before reaching out to a coach.
- Step 3 - Parent to Athletic Director
If the issue remains unresolved after speaking with the coach, a parent may contact the Athletic Director.
- Step 4 - Parent to Principal
Should the concern remain, it may be brought to the Principal for review.
- Step 5 - Parent to Superintendent
If the matter still requires attention, it may be directed to the Superintendent.

DEPARTMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

MISSION STATEMENT

Grounded in the Albertville Advantage: a superior education today, tomorrow, together, the mission of Albertville High School Athletic Department is to support the educational, athletic, and personal development of our student-athletes. We believe commitment to excellence, teamwork, and good sportsmanship are essential to success both on and off the field.

VISION

The Albertville High School Athletic Department will be the model interscholastic athletic program recognized for both academic and competitive excellence.

PURPOSE OF THIS HANDBOOK

This handbook is designed to inform student-athletes and their parents of rules, policies, and expectations that guide our athletic programs. As a member of the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA), Albertville High School and Albertville Middle School adhere to regulations set forth by the organization. The AHSAA handbook may be accessed here: [AHSAA Handbook 25-26](#)

It is the responsibility of the Athletic Department to establish rules that uphold a positive competitive environment. These rules serve as the minimum requirements for all teams. Coaches and school administrators may implement additional sport-specific guidelines to enhance the focus of their teams.

This handbook in no way supersedes or replaces policies set forth in the Albertville City Schools Student Handbook, which may be accessed here: [AHS Student Handbook 25-26](#) or [AMS Student Handbook 25-26](#)

OUR COMMITMENT

The Athletic Department shares a deep commitment to our student-athletes. We promise to prioritize their well-being, promote their growth, and celebrate their achievements on the field, in the classroom, and in life. Through participation in athletics, students develop foundational characteristics such as discipline, resilience, leadership, and accountability. We also recognize that athletics flourish through strong partnerships. Support from families and the community is vital in shaping each student's athletic experience. By providing clear communication and shared expectations, this handbook aims to help all stakeholders foster an encouraging and unified environment for every student who participates in Albertville athletics.

CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR

SPORTSMANSHIP FOR ATHLETES

Involvement in sports is a privilege. Student-athletes should represent their team and school with integrity. All participants are subject to rules and regulations as cited in the ACS Code of Conduct and in conjunction with AHSAA policies. Athletes should strive to be role models on and off the field.

Lead by example. Your actions should reflect your commitment and character.

Effort. Give your best in every practice, every game, and in the classroom.

Accountability. Own your actions and words.

Discipline. Stay focused, follow team rules, and do what's right.

Encouragement. Support your teammates and build a positive culture.

Respect. Honor the game, your team, and your school.

SPORTSMANSHIP FOR COACHES

Coaching leadership should reflect the highest standard of professionalism and character, as coaches play a key role in shaping the ideals that guide their team.

Show leadership. Raise the bar for integrity and commitment to excellence.

Prioritize well-being. Support physical and emotional wellness of every athlete.

Outreach. Communicate with athletes, family, and community.

Recognize. Appreciate contributions of athletes, officials, and fellow coaches.

Teach. Share your knowledge of the game and shape character.

Support the program. Foster unity among all teams and sports.

EJECTION POLICY

Penalties for coaches/players ejected from a contest mandated by the AHSAA are listed below. If a coach/player is fined, they will be held responsible for paying the full amount. All fines are due within 30 days.

- First Ejection: \$300 fine. An athlete's fine may be reduced to \$100 if they take a designated Sportsmanship Course online within 10 days of the ejection.
- Second Ejection: \$500 fine and a one game suspension.
- Third Ejection: \$750 fine and minimum penalty of suspension for the remainder of the season.

SPORTSMANSHIP FOR PARENTS

Parental support plays a vital role in the success of our athletes, teams, and school community. Here are a few ways you can make a positive impact.

Attend games. Show your school spirit. Your child notices and it matters.

Give encouragement. Cheer loudly for all players.

Grow community. Build positive relationships with other parents.

Invest trust. Support coaches' leadership and decisions.

Esteem. Respect players, coaches, fans, and officials. Never confront or insult.

Set an example. Keep your attitude positive, win or lose.

SPORTSMANSHIP FOR SPECTATORS

The ideals of sportsmanship should be evident in all aspects of athletic events. The Aggie family should display these values in the stands and bring positive energy to every game.

Stay committed. Show up and stick around through the highs and lows.

Praise effort and teamwork. Applaud good sportsmanship.

Inspire others. Cheer with enthusiasm and encourage those around you.

Respond with maturity. Handle wins, losses, and calls with grace.

Inform yourself. Learn the rules of the game.

Team first. Put the team above personal opinions and emotions.

OFFENSES AGAINST SPORTS OFFICIALS

Under state law, it is a crime to assault a sporting event official that is performing duties at an athletic event. The Alabama Criminal Code may be found here: [AL Code 13A-11-144](#). Albertville City Schools is committed to upholding the law and maintaining a safe, respectful environment at all school-related athletic events. Any form of harassment or threatening behavior towards a sports official will not be tolerated.

ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Football	Boys/Girls Basketball	Baseball
Cheerleading	Cheerleading	Softball
Flag Football	Wrestling	Boys/Girls Soccer
Volleyball	Indoor Track & Field	Boys/Girls Golf
Cross Country		Boys/Girls Tennis
E-Sports		Track & Field
Swim		E-Sports

TRYOUTS

Each head coach is responsible for establishing their own tryout procedures. Some programs have limited rosters and not all students who try out may be selected for the team. The coaching staff will make decisions regarding team placement, level of participation, and playing time.

ATTENDANCE

It is expected that students making an athletic team attend all practices, games, and activities applicable to that team. Each coach will determine designated practice times. Practices or games may be scheduled on weekends and during school breaks. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to communicate any absences directly to the coaching staff in advance if possible. Consequences for missed practices, contests, or meetings are at the discretion of the coach.

INSURANCE

All athletes are required to have medical insurance. Proof of Insurance must be uploaded into DragonFly prior to the start of each athletic season. Medical expenses are the responsibility of the parent/guardian. AHSAA provides catastrophic insurance, but in no way should this replace regular insurance.

DRUG TESTING POLICY

All students who participate in extracurricular activities are subject to randomized drug testing per ACS policy.

MULTISPORT ATHLETES

The athletic department encourages student-athletes to participate in multiple sports. We believe this promotes well-rounded development and strengthens the athletic program. We recognize that scheduling conflicts may arise from time to time, however, all parties must work together in a spirit of cooperation to support the student-athlete.

- One sport must be completed before beginning participation in another, unless otherwise approved by both head coaches.
- Coaches should work collaboratively to accommodate shared athletes and minimize overlapping events.
- Coaches should consider the significance of each event and the student's role when addressing dual obligations.
- Students involved in multiple school-sponsored activities must communicate scheduling conflicts in a timely manner.
- Students may participate in two sports during the Spring season with prior approval from both head coaches and the Athletic Director.

DISMISSAL/VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM A TEAM

- A head coach may suspend or dismiss a student for reasons including, but not limited to, repeated violation of team rules, academics, attendance, or discipline. Each head coach is responsible for setting and communicating their teams rules and expectations. An appeal may be heard by the Athletic Director if the circumstances warrant consideration.
- Student-athletes who voluntarily leave a team during the season are NOT eligible to join another team in any capacity until the season of the sport they left is complete. A team's season, as defined by the AHSAA, begins the day of the team's first contest and ends on the day of the last contest.
- Students who leave a team for any reason must return all uniforms and equipment to the coach immediately. Failure to do so will result in fines placed on the student's financial account. These fines must be paid in full prior to graduation or receiving withdrawal paperwork to transfer to another school.
- Any fees incurred are non-refundable.
- The student may be removed from the athletic period and placed in an alternate class by a counselor.

ELIGIBILITY

VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to be athletically eligible and certified by the NFHS, students/parents must adhere to the following guidelines. All forms must be uploaded or completed in Dragonfly. The athletic department will assist students in completing the required documentation.

- Dragonfly is a program/application used by AHSAA to collect and store required athletic forms. A Dragonfly account should be opened for every athlete. [Dragonfly Login](#). Do not create another account if you already have one. If coming from another school, just add Albertville High School.
- Provide a copy of certified birth certificate
- Have a current physical exam form signed by a doctor (M.D. or D.O) on file. AHS offers free physicals each spring conducted by a licensed physician. This is a convenient option for students who need a physical to participate in athletics. [Pre-Participation Physical Form](#)
- Provide a copy of the student's medical insurance card.
- Read and sign the student release form. [Student Release Form](#)
- Read and sign the concussion information form. [Concussion Form](#)
- Read and sign the sudden cardiac arrest form. [Sudden Cardiac Arrest Form](#)
- Complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course and upload the certificate. This is a one-time requirement. [Sportsmanship Course](#)
- Read and sign AHS Athletic Handbook Acknowledgement and Athletic Transportation Authorization Form.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

- A student must be enrolled in the school system within the first 20 days of the semester.
- A student must be under the age of 19 on/after August 1st of the current school year.
- Students are eligible for eight consecutive semesters after entering the 9th grade.
- No student may participate in any one sport for more than four seasons after entering 9th grade or six seasons after entering 7th grade.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- Students entering the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades must have passed (with at least a 70% average) 4 core classes and 2 elective courses in the previous two semesters. English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies are core curriculum classes.

- Students entering 8th or 9th grades must have passed (with a least a 70% average) 4 core classes and 1 elective course.
- Students entering 7th grade for the first time are eligible.

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS

- Students enrolled in Albertville Innovation Academy and Albertville Virtual Academy are eligible to participate in athletics at Albertville High School, provided they meet AHSAA general and academic requirements.
 - *Students who live outside of the Albertville City Schools district and attend Albertville Innovation Academy are NOT eligible to participate with Albertville High School athletics.*
- Home School students are eligible to participate in athletics at Albertville High School provided they meet AHSAA general, academic, and residency requirements.
- Home school students in grades 9-12 must enroll in two elective (this can be athletic) classes. Students in grades 7-8 must enroll in one.

OUTSIDE PARTICIPATION RULE

Participation on non-school teams in the same sport during the school season is governed by the AHSAA. Please refer to the AHSAA handbook or consult your Head Coach/Athletic Director for clarification beforehand. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in fines, forfeiture of contests, and student-athlete ineligibility.

- A student who is a member of any school athletic team (grades 7-12) may NOT participate (including practice) on a non-school team of the same sport during the school season of that sport. The team's season begins with the first contest and ends with the last.
- Members of a school team may receive group instruction ONLY with members of that team.
- Private, individual instruction is not considered an outside activity and is allowed with coach and principal approval.
- A soccer player is allowed ONE outside activity (ODP, College ID camp/tryout) per month during the school season. Practice or tryouts with a club team is NOT allowed.

INDEPENDENT RULE

- Track, cross country, or wrestling participants may compete as an independent in TWO outside (not sanctioned by AHSAA) activities during the school season with permission of the school principal.
- Tennis, golf, bowling, and swimming participants are not limited to the number of outside events.
- The schedule of the school team always takes precedence over any individual participation.

TRANSPORTATION

DROP OFF/PICK UP

- Any non-driving age student should be dropped off and picked up at the designated ACS facility for that sport. Please make sure students are picked up in a timely manner.

AWAY GAME TRAVEL

- Transportation to and from away athletic events is provided by the Athletic Department when appropriate.
- All school bus rules remain in effect for athletic travel.
- Coaches may allow students to check out with a parent or designee at the conclusion of the event, provided they sign out with a coach.
- At times, parents/guardians may be asked to transport their athlete to a contest. Students may be allowed to ride with another student's parent, provided that appropriate documentation is on file.
- If school transportation is not provided, a student with a valid drivers license may drive themselves to an event. However, they are NOT permitted to transport another student.
- Coaches should avoid transporting student-athletes to or from athletic events in non-school-provided transportation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

- Uniforms and equipment will be issued at the beginning of the season.
- Any equipment required for the sport and not provided by the school is the responsibility of the athlete/family.
- Uniforms and equipment should be handled responsibly. Students may be required to cover the replacement cost for any items lost or damaged beyond the normal wear and tear.
- When in uniform, students are ambassadors of Albertville High School and are expected to act respectfully and responsibly.

ATHLETIC TRAINING SERVICES

- ACS training rooms are open to all athletes. Students are offered a wide variety of services to meet the demands of athletic competition.
- ACS has three athletic trainers on staff to evaluate and treat injuries as they may occur.

- ACS athletic trainers should be the first to respond to and assess any injury sustained while participating in Albertville High School athletics.
 - The trainer may recommend home care of any injury to the parent/guardian.
 - If an injury requires a visit to a physician or hospital, written verification is required if the injury restricts athletic participation. This documentation should include a projected return date or medical clearance before an athlete may resume activities.
- It is the responsibility of the student to communicate any injury or discomfort to the coach/trainer immediately.

FACILITY USE

- The proper care of athletic facilities are the responsibility of each coach and athlete.
- Damage to any equipment or facility should be reported to the Athletic Director immediately.
- A member of the coaching staff or other approved adult supervision must be present for all activities in athletic facilities. No student is allowed access to any facility without proper supervision.

FINANCIAL

- Student-athletes may be required to participate in fundraising projects for the sport in which they participate.
- Mandatory fees may be assessed for any gear the athlete gets to keep.

SOCIAL MEDIA

ACS recognizes and supports its students' rights to freedom of speech, including the use of social networks. Athletes are reminded that participation in sports is a privilege. As representatives of their team and school, athletes are expected to use social media responsibly and demonstrate positivity and respect for their team online. Examples of inappropriate social media use include, but are not limited to:

- Derogatory or discriminating language
- Offensive or inappropriate photos
- Engaging in cyberbullying or harassment
- Any online behavior that violates team, school, or athletic department policies