STUDENT-ATHLETE MANUAL

Seneca Valley School District

2026-27

Welcome Letter

Seneca Valley School District
Athletic Manual Cover Page

Dear Parent and Sport Participant:

The purpose of this letter is to welcome you and your child to another year of Seneca Valley School District Athletics. It is our sincerest hope your child will enjoy all the experiences our programs offer.

In an effort to provide greater accessibility, the Student-Athlete Manual is now posted on the District's website – **www.svsd.net**. You can find the manual posted on the Athletics homepage under the Forms & Manuals tab. The Athletic Department will be happy to provide you with a printed copy of the manual at your request.

Each student-athlete and their parent/guardian should confirm **via the Parent Portal** they have read this posted document.

If you have any questions regarding the Athletics program or these procedures, please call the office at (724) 452-6040, ext. 1752.

Good luck this year and GO RAIDERS!

Sincerely,



Heather Lewis, Director of Athletics & Activities

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Administration and Contacts

ADMINISTRATION

Seneca Valley School Board of Directors

I. The Board of Directors, responsible to the residents of the District, is the governing body for the Seneca Valley School District. It is responsible for interpreting the needs of the community, crafting a vision for the District, and formulating strategies to meet those ambitions. Additional responsibilities include:

1. Developing policies, in accordance with state statutes and mandates;
2. Approving means by which professional staff may make these policies effective;
3. Engaging the community in public education; and
4. Evaluating the interscholastic athletic program in terms of its value to the community.

II. Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent is responsible for managing the District in accordance with adopted Board policies and Pennsylvania Department of Education school codes, rules, and regulations. It is his/her duty to annually prepare, approve, and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics. The Superintendent shall represent the District as Chief Executive Officer and foremost professional educator in its dealings with other school systems, social institutions, and businesses.

III. Athletics & Activities Director

The primary responsibility of the Athletics & Activities Director is the administration and supervision of the interscholastic athletic program for the Seneca Valley School District. These duties will be described in his/her job description and any others as designated. He/She will provide the leadership necessary for the day-to-day operations of the athletics and activities programs.

IV. Head Coaches

All Head Coaches shall be responsible to the Athletics & Activities Director for the total operation of their respective sport program. Head Coaches will be responsible for normal duties required of interscholastic competition, those duties described in their respective job descriptions, and /or any other duties delegated by the Athletics & Activities Director.

CONTACTS

Ms. Heather Lewis, Athletics & Activities Director ..... (724) 452-6040, x1752
Mr. Nii Sowa-Doku, Assistant Athletics & Activities Director ..... (724) 452-6040, x1752
Mr. Eddie Kurtz, Assistant Athletics & Activities Director ..... (724) 452-6040, x1752
Ms. Jamie Marcotte, Admin. Assistant, Athletics & Activities ..... (724) 452-6040, x1752
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Mr. Robert Ceh, Senior High Principal ..... (724) 452-6040, x1000
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Mission, Vision, and Core Values

MISSION, VISION and CORE VALUES

I. Mission Statement

The mission of the Seneca Valley Athletics program is to offer an exceptional student-athlete experience which complements classroom learning and enhances the overall development—academic, athletic, and social—of each of its participating students. Along with the pursuit of excellence, developing our student-athletes into respectful, honorable, and responsible citizens of the community is a principle objective and vital component of our success.

Middle School Athletics

In addition, the objective of our Middle School Athletics program is to familiarize our student-athletes with competitive interscholastic sport, introduce them to rules, rewards, and consequences, teach them about the team taking precedence over the individual, demonstrate the importance of learning and practicing fundamentals, and instill a level of discipline that traverses athletics into academics. We believe that winning is measured by more than just a scoreboard and that all participants should have reasonable opportunity to develop and demonstrate their skill in competitive opportunities.

II. Vision

The Seneca Valley Athletics program will take a leadership position in interscholastic athletics demonstrating that championship athletic experiences and commitment to academic excellence are not mutually exclusive. The student-athletes and coaches of Seneca Valley will embrace their responsibility as community leaders, honor their role as representatives of the District, and conduct themselves with the highest ethical standards.

III. Core Values

The student-athletes, coaches, and staff of Seneca Valley Athletics will commit themselves to the following core values:

- Loyalty
- Integrity
- Respect
- Honesty
- Humility
- Work Ethic
- Leadership
- Sportsmanship
- Team Before Self

IV. Departmental Commitment

The Seneca Valley Athletics program and its coaches embrace their roles of teacher, leader, and server. In our pursuit of excellence, we strive to represent a program founded on teaching valuable life lessons, modeling behavior of utmost character and integrity, and serving the community with a sincere sense of responsibility. As a department we commit to serve our students by:

- Recognizing the importance of and opportunity to develop their leadership skills
- Providing them with the tools necessary for success
- Supporting them through positive coaching, mentorship, and appropriate counsel
- Modeling inclusivity not exclusivity
- Leading calmly through adversity, thereby revealing the importance of character
- Emphasizing the importance of good sportsmanship in all scenarios
- Teaching teamwork and sacrifice are the foundations for success
- Competing with pride and honor in pursuit of victory
- Showing them how to win with humility and lose with dignity

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

I. Introduction—Fundamental Principles

Participation in interscholastic sports sponsored or authorized by the Seneca Valley School District (which includes club sports) is a privilege, not a right. Students who desire to participate in these programs are expected to accept the responsibilities granted to them by this privilege.

When participating in interscholastic athletic competition, student-athletes represent not only themselves, but their school, communities, coaches and families. All student-athletes are expected to conform to high standards of conduct which will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in interscholastic programs afford. Inappropriate conduct of student-athletes tarnishes the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic program. Thus, student-athletes must refrain from any conduct intended to disparage, degrade, provoke or otherwise discredit their opponents, game officials, administrators or spectators.

Participation in the District's athletic programs is subject to compliance with the rules, expectations, regulations, and policies of the Seneca Valley School District and its Athletics Department and, as applicable, of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA), Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) or any similar governing organization.

II. Expectations

- Student-athletes will demonstrate good sportsmanship and maintain emotional control at all times. Sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own bias and to not allow the desire to win from interfering with proper judgment and respectful behavior. Conduct worthy of a game suspension may lead to temporary or permanent removal from athletic participation.
- Student-athletes will not use physical confrontation, profanity, racial harassing or demeaning comments, obscene gestures or obscene language toward teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, administration or spectators.
- Disrespectful behavior aimed at opponents, officials, spectators, coaches, administration, and/or team members will not be tolerated. This includes no tolerance for taunting of opponents. Such behavior may lead to temporary or permanent removal from athletic participation.
- Student athletes will not purposefully seek to injure opponents.
- Student athletes will respect the integrity and judgment of calls and decisions of game officials. Game officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who have been trained to do their job and who can be expected to do it to the best of their ability.
- Student-athletes will win with humility and lose with dignity and will shake hands with opposing team members and coaches after each contest.
- Student-athletes will not engage in and will not be tolerant of violent acts, including assaults on persons or property, hazing, bullying or any other conduct prohibited by law or District policy. If a student-athlete witnesses such acts perpetrated by others, he/she will report them to their coach or another District authority immediately.
- Student-athletes will be held accountable to follow both the District's rules and individual team rules, as communicated by their coaches.
- Student-athletes will adhere to all school district academic standards and maintain a weekly minimum GPA of 2.0 in order to remain eligible.

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

III. Consequences

Any student-athlete whose conduct is determined to have been a violation of these principles and expectations shall be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Head Coach, Athletic Director, and/or Principal according to the nature and degree of the infraction. In addition to any disciplinary action otherwise applicable pursuant to Seneca Valley School District policies and/or league rules, the student-athlete may be suspended from participation in practices and/or competition, removed from the team or prohibited from future participation in any interscholastic athletic activity.

IV. Social Media

As the District has stated, it is a privilege to participate in interscholastic athletics and with that privilege comes certain responsibilities. As an advocate for technology, the District also recognizes the role social media plays in communication and outreach. It is the expectation our student-athletes will use social media platforms in a positive and respectful manner to engage with family, friends, and the community at large. Disrespectful, insulting, abusive, and/or threatening content—be it original, re-posted, "re-tweeted" or "liked"—has no place in Seneca Valley Athletics and will not be tolerated. Student-athletes who post offensive commentary or content will be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension from all team activities. Remember, it is a privilege to represent the Seneca Valley School District in interscholastic competition and we hold our student-athletes to the highest standards for integrity and ethical decisions.

Social Media Tips/Reminders

- ***Nothing is really private!*** Even though you may utilize privacy tools, everything you post is public information.
- ***Your content is your thumbprint!*** Once you post it, it is forever and it is you.
- ***Your audience is global.*** Consider the appropriateness as your audience is young, old, and everywhere. And they are watching!
- ***Who is watching?*** Just a reminder that college coaches and prospective employers often review social media sites to gauge the character of the student.

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

V. Hazing—School Board Policy #247

All student-athletes will be held to the standards established in regards to hazing. School Board Policy #247-Hazing is the governing document as it pertains to possible hazing activity.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and are prohibited at all times.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy **hazing** is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board.

- **Endanger the physical health** shall include but not be limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug, or controlled substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.

- **Endanger the mental health** shall include but not be limited to any activity that would subject an individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.

Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.

Authority

The Board does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any school sponsored student activity.[2][3][4][5][6]

No student, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall plan, direct, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity.

The Board directs that no administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.

The district will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.

The Board encourages students who have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to the building principal, Athletic Director or coach.

Title IX Sexual Harassment and Other Discrimination

A report of alleged hazing that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the provisions of Board Policy 103 (Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students) shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of a hazing investigation, potential issues of sexual harassment or other discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged harassment/discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged hazing.

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

V. Hazing—School Board Policy #247 (cont.)

All student-athletes will be held to the standards established in regards to hazing. School Board Policy #247-Hazing is the governing document as it pertains to possible hazing activity.

Delegation of Responsibility

District administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing and administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.

Students, administrators, coaches, sponsors, volunteers, and district employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct to the building principal.

The district shall annually inform students, parents, coaches, sponsors, volunteers and district staff that hazing of district students is prohibited, by means of:

- Publication in handbooks.
- Verbal instructions by the coach or sponsor at the start of the season or program.
- Posters in the locker rooms.

Guidelines: Complaint Procedure

When a student believes that s/he has been subject to hazing, the student shall promptly report the incident, orally or in writing, to the building principal, Athletic Director or coach.

If an incident is reported to the coach or Athletic Director, the coach or Athletic Director will document the incident and immediately report the incident to the appropriate building principal.

The principal shall conduct a timely, impartial, thorough, and comprehensive investigation of the alleged hazing.

The principal shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and recommending disposition of the complaint. Copies of the report shall be provided to the complainant, the accused, and others directly involved, as appropriate.

If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of hazing, the principal shall recommend appropriate disciplinary action, as circumstances warrant, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Additionally, the student may be subject to disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor, up to and including removal from the activity.

Eligibility

I. Age

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition upon attaining the age of nineteen years, with the following exception:

- If the age of 19 is attained on or after July 1, the student shall be eligible, age-wise, to compete through that school year. *(Per PIAA Manual)*

II. Amateur Status

A pupil must be an amateur in order to be eligible to participate in any PIAA sponsored interscholastic athletic contest. An athlete loses his amateur status for purposes of participation in any PIAA sport whenever:

1. The student or student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s), receives or agrees to receive compensation or other Consideration, or an award not permitted under Section 3 related to the student-athlete's athletic ability, participation, or performance.
2. The student-athlete receives Consideration for becoming a member of an athletic organization or school.
3. The student-athlete plays on, or enters into a contract to play on, a professional team or as an individual professional athlete in that sport.
4. The student-athlete signs a contract whereby the student agrees to compete in any athletic competition for Consideration.
5. The student-athlete sells or pawns the student's athletic achievement awards. *(Per PIAA Manual)*

III. Attendance—School Day

All students are to be in attendance at school on the day of team activities/competition. Upon arrival at school, students are expected to remain in school the entire day. Students who are absent from school or tardy after **11:00am** will not be eligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities, practices, or games on that day without prior approval from the principal or designee. If the activity or game occurs on a Saturday, the student must be in attendance by 11:00am on Friday. For two-hour delays, students must still be in attendance by **11:00am.** Students learning remotely are expected to abide by same attendance policy—logged in and attending class virtually by **11:00am.**

Students who have early dismissals are ineligible to participate in practice or games unless they have prior approval from the building principal or designee to do so. Students that do not receive prior permission from the principal or designee to participate following an early dismissal must return to school prior to the end of eighth period to be eligible for competition or practice on that day.

The School Day Leading into any School Holiday/Break: It is expected student-athletes meet the aforementioned attendance parameters on the last school day prior to all District holidays or breaks. Students must be in school by **11:00am** and **remain in school** for the remainder of the day. Any student-athlete who does not meet this attendance requirement will be ineligible for the entire duration of the holiday and/or school break.

IV. Attendance—Academic Year

A student who has been absent from school during a semester for a total of twenty (20) days shall not be eligible to participate in any athletic contest until he or she has been in attendance for a total of forty five (45) days following his/her twentieth day of absence. Attendance at summer school does not count toward the 45 days. Days absent from school do not count towards the 45 days. *(Per PIAA Manual)*

V. Attendance—School Suspension or Expulsion

A student-athlete who is suspended from school may not practice or play in any games during the period of suspension. The same applies for in-school suspensions. Accordingly, any student who has been expelled is ineligible for practices and games during the period of expulsion.

Eligibility

VI. Academic Eligibility—2.0 QPA

All students in grades seven through twelve who participate in athletics must attain a 2.0 quality point average (QPA) during a weekly academic eligibility report and be passing a minimum of four (4) courses. Teachers are required to enter weekly grades by Wednesday at 3:00 pm of each week. After the grades are processed, the Athletic Office will print out the grades for students who have below a 2.0 QPA. The student-athlete and their coach will be notified if the student is academically ineligible to participate. If a student is ruled ineligible, he/she will not be eligible to participate in competitions and must attend mandatory after-school enrichment (study hall) in the assigned location.

Ineligible student athletes will be **notified of their status on Thursday of each week**. The **period of ineligibility** will begin on the subsequent **Sunday and last until the following Saturday**. Once ineligibility is established, a student must sit out an entire week. Any work completed after Wednesday, 3pm will not count towards changing a student's eligibility status.

Enrichment study halls/tutoring will be held in the Senior High School for students in grades nine through 12 and in the middle school for grades seven through eight on Tuesday and Thursday. Once the enrichment program ends, the student will be permitted to attend practice. A student will be reinstated once he/she has achieved a 2.0 QPA or better based on the following week's eligibility report. In the event a student-athlete misses required enrichment study halls/tutoring, they will remain ineligible until the time is made up.

Students declared ineligible will not be permitted to play from Sunday through the end of Saturday.

In cases where a student's work in any proceeding grading period does not meet the standard (2.0 QPA), said student may be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for at least fifteen (15) school days of the next grading period where the school has four grading periods per school year.

For Cyber Courses: The **ACTUAL GRADE(s)** for all Seneca Valley cyber courses will be reported weekly to the Athletic Department and will factor into eligibility requirements. Cyber students **must stay on pace with their work each week.** Any work completed after Wednesday, 3pm will not count towards changing a student's eligibility status.

VII. Academic Eligibility—Initial Fall Eligibility

All student athletes must **complete the Spring semester with a 2.0 QPA** in order to participate in competition in any fall athletic activity. This calculation will be based on the following final grades:

- All year long courses
- All second semester courses

Please note that grades for classes that terminate at the end of the first semester are not factored into the formula used to determine initial fall eligibility.

Students from rosters of the previous academic year, who are determined to be academically ineligible based on the final grades of their second semester and full year classes, will be notified by letter at the end of the school year. This letter will contain a verified report of the student athlete's initial fall eligibility calculation, a statement from the athletic director regarding the period of ineligibility, instructions regarding mandatory attendance at study halls/tutoring, and permissible activities. An additional report will also be run at the start of each fall season, once rosters are confirmed, for final confirmation of student-athlete initial fall season eligibility status.

In cases where a student's initial fall eligibility grade calculation does not meet the standard (2.0 QPA), said student shall be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic scrimmage and/or game through the first fifteen (15) school days of the fall season. This includes scrimmages and/or games played prior to the first day of school. However, they may attend practice. Summer school may be used to correct academic deficiencies per PIAA Bylaws, Article X.

Eligibility

VIII. Curriculum

1. Only **full-time students**, regardless of age, may participate in scholastic athletics. *(Per PIAA Manual)*
2. To be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition, a pupil must **pursue a curriculum** defined and approved by the principal as a full-time curriculum. Where required, this curriculum or its equivalent must be approved by, and conform to, the regulations of the State Board of Education and the Pennsylvania School Code, as well as any local policies established by the local school board. The pupil must maintain an acceptable grade in such approved curriculum, as certified by the principal. *(Per PIAA Manual)*

IX. Semester Rule

A pupil shall not represent his or her school in interscholastic athletics if he or she has:

- Been in attendance more than 8 semesters beyond the 8th grade.
- Played six seasons beyond the 6th grade or four seasons beyond the 8th grade in any one form of interscholastic athletics.

X. Physical Examination

No student shall be eligible to participate in practices, inter-school practices, scrimmages, and/or contests unless the student has completed a Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation ("CIPPE") performed by an Authorized Medical Examiner, and the Authorized Medical Examiner has completed the PIAA Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form ("CIPPE Form").

By signing the PIAA CIPPE form, the Authorized Medical Examiner certifies that the student is physically fit to commence practice and participate in inter-school practices, scrimmages, and/or contests in the sport(s) approved by the student's parent. In certifying whether a student is physically fit to participate in practices, inter-school practices, scrimmages, and contests in a particular sport(s), the Authorized Medical Examiner (a) is expected to have or, if not already in possession of it, obtain, a working understanding of the physical requirements of the sport(s) in which the student is to practice and participate; (b) should review a health history of the student; and (c) should perform a CIPPE appropriate for the sport(s) for which certification is being sought.

The CIPPE **may not be signed earlier than May 1st** and shall be effective, regardless of when performed during a school year, until the following April 30th.

The CIPPE shall be returned to the Athletic Office for retention — **REMINDER for 2026-27:** paperwork for **ALL CLUB SPORTS** participation must be turned in to the Athletic Office.

Parents and student-athletes are encouraged to notify coaches of allergies or medical conditions that require monitoring and/or management.

Subsequent Sport(s) in the Same School Year: A student who submitted an initial CIPPE form and seeks to participate in tryouts, practices, inter-school practices, scrimmages, and/or contests in subsequent sport(s) in the same school year must complete Section 7 of the CIPPE form and handed in no sooner than 6 weeks prior to the first tryout. This page must be turned into the Athletic Office for retention before being able to participate. The trainer or Athletic Office will confirm Section 8 completion as needed.

XI. Parent/Guardian Consent (PIAA Article IV) and Health (PIAA Article V)

Student-athletes who have not met the requirements of PIAA Article IV (Consent of Parent and/or Guardian) and Article V (Health) are ineligible to participate in any tryout, practice, and/or competition. Student-athletes ineligible for competition according to other PIAA or District regulations will be given consideration to practice so long as all obligations (i.e., study hall) are met.

Eligibility

XII. Drug Testing

Pursuant to District Policy #227.1, any student interested in competing on an interscholastic athletic team will be subject to urine testing for illicit or banned substances as specified in District Policy #227.1. The entire drug testing policy can be found on the District website—Policy #227.1.

XIII. Concussion Testing

Any student interested in competing on an interscholastic athletic team must take a concussion baseline test every other school year, as administered by District personnel, prior to tryouts or competition. In addition, both student and parent/guardian must confirm their receipt and understanding of the District's annual concussion education program.

XIV. Equipment—District Issued

Any student interested in competing on an interscholastic athletic team must have on record return of any and/or all previously issued District athletic equipment.

XV. Home-School and Cyber-Charter Students

Parents of home-school and cyber-charter school students who wish to have their children participate in athletic and/or extra-curricular activities within the school district must register their children in writing with the Athletic Director at least two (2) weeks in advance to the start of the activity or in cases of athletics, two (2) weeks prior to the first Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association practice date. Parents/guardians should contact the Athletic Director's office by August 1 of the upcoming school year for activity/athletic schedules so that they may meet this two (2) week requirement.

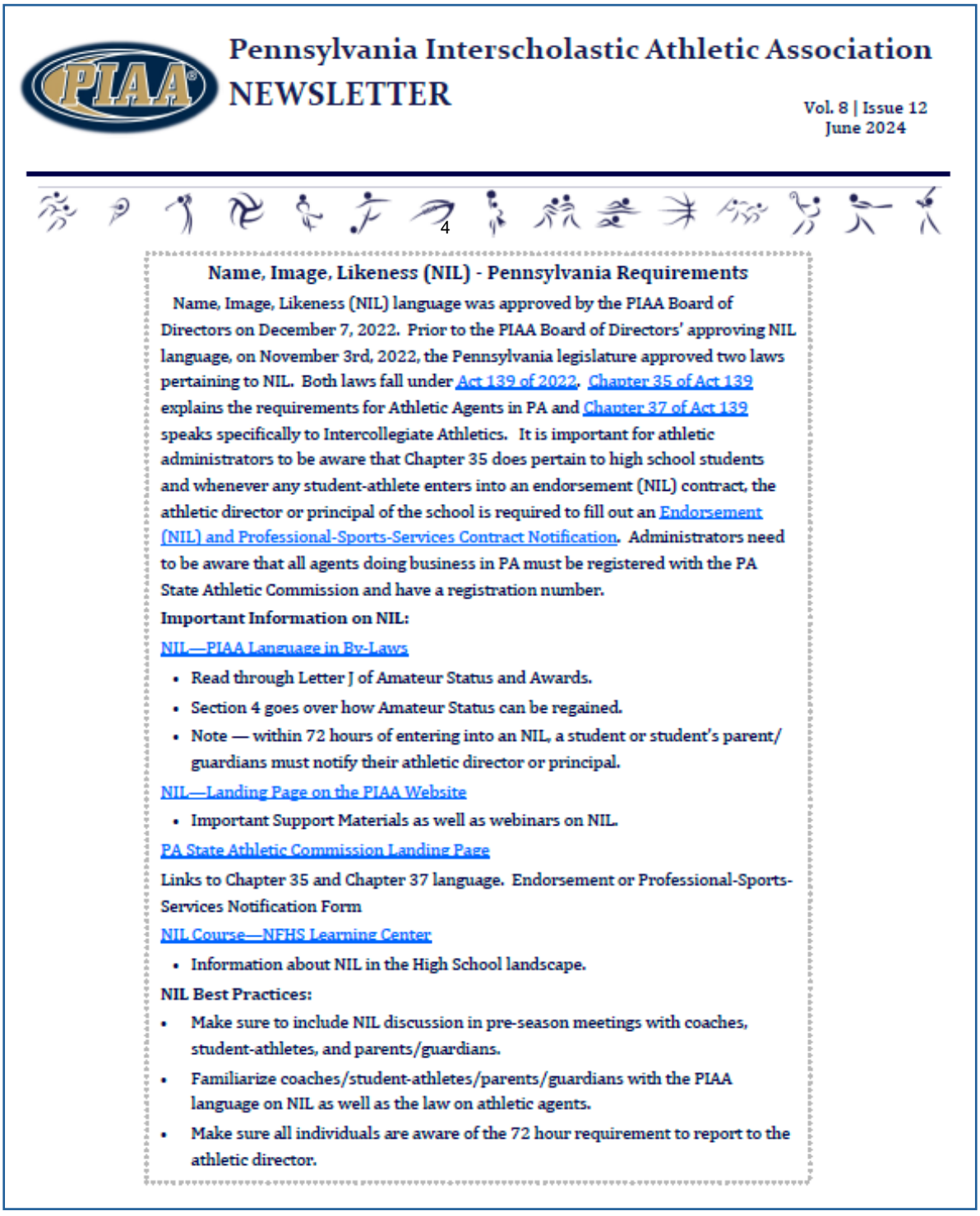
The following items must be verified by the parent of a home-schooled or by the student's cyber-charter school supervisor:

- The student was enrolled and maintained a 2.0 QPA during the last school year.
- All students in grades seven through twelve who participate in athletics must attain a 2.0 QPA based on the Seneca Valley School District's grading scale.
- Weekly academic eligibility reports must be submitted to the Athletic Office every Wednesday afternoon by 3 p.m. based on the student's grades as of that Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m.
- The student was not absent from instruction that school day and/or more than twenty (20) days during the previous semester unless eligible for exemption as stated in Article III, Section 2 of the PIAA By-laws.
- For participation in athletics, the student and his/her parent have completed the PIAA physical eligibility requirements, drug testing, concussion testing, and registration forms required to be a member of an athletic team.
- Evidence of insurance must be given to the Athletic Director (same as all other students).
- Pay to Participate fee obligation must be met prior to first contest.
- Home school and cyber-charter students are required to follow the same tryouts and audition procedures as enrolled students.
- Home-school and cyber-charter students must conform to the Discipline Policy of the district and to the team rules for the sport in which he/she is participating.

Eligibility

XVI. PIAA Name, Image, Likeness (NIL)

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association has provided the following document to assist in understanding the rules compliance around Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) for PA high school student-athletes. See Appendix F for more information.



Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association
NEWSLETTER

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Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) - Pennsylvania Requirements

Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) language was approved by the PIAA Board of Directors on December 7, 2022. Prior to the PIAA Board of Directors' approving NIL language, on November 3rd, 2022, the Pennsylvania legislature approved two laws pertaining to NIL. Both laws fall under Act 139 of 2022. Chapter 35 of Act 139 explains the requirements for Athletic Agents in PA and Chapter 37 of Act 139 speaks specifically to Intercollegiate Athletics. It is important for athletic administrators to be aware that Chapter 35 does pertain to high school students and whenever any student-athlete enters into an endorsement (NIL) contract, the athletic director or principal of the school is required to fill out an Endorsement (NIL) and Professional-Sports-Services Contract Notification. Administrators need to be aware that all agents doing business in PA must be registered with the PA State Athletic Commission and have a registration number.

Important Information on NIL:

NIL—PIAA Language in By-Laws

- Read through Letter J of Amateur Status and Awards.
- Section 4 goes over how Amateur Status can be regained.
- Note — within 72 hours of entering into an NIL, a student or student's parent/guardians must notify their athletic director or principal.

NIL—Landing Page on the PIAA Website

- Important Support Materials as well as webinars on NIL.

PA State Athletic Commission Landing Page

Links to Chapter 35 and Chapter 37 language. Endorsement or Professional-Sports-Services Notification Form

NIL Course—NFHS Learning Center

- Information about NIL in the High School landscape.

NIL Best Practices:

- Make sure to include NIL discussion in pre-season meetings with coaches, student-athletes, and parents/guardians.
- Familiarize coaches/student-athletes/parents/guardians with the PIAA language on NIL as well as the law on athletic agents.
- Make sure all individuals are aware of the 72 hour requirement to report to the athletic director.

Name, Image, Likeness (NIL)

Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) - Athlete Agent Registration

High School Athletes
(NIL) -Athlete Agent Registration Act (Know the Law)

All High School athletes should be aware that any athlete agent, doing business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, must be registered with the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission (doing business includes the signing of NIL-type contracts.)

This registration is one of the requirements of the Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act (RUAAA), effective November 3, 2022 (Act 139 of 2022).

All athlete agents, both in state and out-of-state, must first be registered with the State Athletic Commission before they directly or indirectly recruit or solicit a high school student-athlete to enter into an **agency contract** or act as an intermediary to **professional sports team or organizations.**

** **An agency contract includes both a professional-sports-services contract and an endorsement (NIL) contract.**

An athlete agent (which includes family members) is defined as an individual who "directly or indirectly (A) recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract; or (B) for compensation, procures employment or offers, promises, attempts or negotiates to obtain employment for a student-athlete as a professional athlete or member of a professional sports team or organization."

Upon signing any agreement, the Agent, and the student-athlete **(within 3-days)** MUST notify both the Athletic Director of the school and the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission.

A violation of this notification may result in the student-athlete being ineligible to compete in future events.

All agents must apply on a form supplied by the Commission. Registration requirements include the completed Registration Form and a Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check.

It is in the student-athlete's best interest to ensure that his/her agent is registered with the Commission. The current list of registered agents can be found at https://www.sac.pa.gov/#/page/raa.

Agents coming to all high schools or visiting student-athlete homes should be asked to produce their registration card. This card will clearly state the agent's name, registration number, and have a picture of the agent on the back.

The law also calls for a **Complaint Process.** This process is available to those individuals (particularly student-athletes) who want to file a complaint against an athlete agent. The toll free number for filing a complaint **is 1-877-868-2068.** The complaint form can be found on the Commission website under the Athlete Agents tab at https://www.dos.pa.gov/SAC.

Additional resources about Athlete Agents can be found on the Commission website under the "Athlete Agents" tab at https://www.dos.pa.gov/SAC.

If you have any further questions about this or would like to have someone from the Commission visit with your student-athletes feel free to contact the Commission office at RA SAC@pa.gov or 717-787-5720.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
2525 NORTH 7th STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17110

Ed Kunkle
Executive Director

Telephone: (717) 787-5720
Fax: (717) 783-0824

Endorsement (NIL) and Professional-Sports-Services Contract Notification

Name of the High School/College/University: _____

Address of the School: _____

_____

Athletic Director: (full name and telephone no.): _____

_____

Name of Student Athlete: _____

Type of Agency Contract (circle one): Endorsement (NIL) or Professional-Sports-Services

Name/address of the person the above Student Athlete is working with for this agency contract:

_____

_____

_____

If above person is a registered Athlete Agent, the PA registration number: _____
Ifabove person is a registered PA-licensed attorney, list ID#: _____

Date the contract/agreement was signed: _____

Duration of the contract/agreement: _____ _

Email completed form to RA-SAC@pa.gov.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
2525 NORTH 7th STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17110

Ed Kunkle
Executive Director

Telephone: (717) 787-5720
Fax: (717) **783-0824**

Athlete Agent Violation Complaint

Name of the High School/College/University:

_____

Name of the Student Athlete: .....

Name/address of the Person / Agent the violation is about:

Name: .....

Address: _____

Emaii address: _____

Telephone no: _____

Give a brief description of the violation(s):

Contact information for complainant (optional):

*Note that the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission only has jurisdiction over the AgenUPerson named in this notice and has no authority over the college/school or the student-athlete.

Email completed form to RA-SAC@pa.gov.

Student-Athlete Welfare

I. Injuries

When an injury of consequence occurs that might require medical attention, please notify the coach and the athletic trainer. If medical treatment for an injury is prescribed outside of the District, please notify our athletic trainers immediately so they are aware of such treatments.

Any time a student is seen by a doctor or recommended to be seen by the doctor or athletic trainer as a result of a possible injury, a medical release must be provided to the athletic office—by the treating doctor—indicating student is ***"cleared to return to full participation with no limitations"*** before the student may resume participation.

II. Athletic Trainer

The athletic trainer will be responsible for the prevention and treatment of all athletic injuries that occur in district-sponsored athletic events. All injuries must be reported to the trainer immediately.

III. Insurance

All students participating in Seneca Valley School District interscholastic sports, including cheerleaders, student coaches and managers, must be covered by either family hospitalization/medical insurance or by student accident insurance. Although varsity football team members may not use student accident insurance for coverage, all other participants may take advantage of this opportunity. In the event family accident insurance is unavailable, student accident insurance may be purchased.

Since voluntary participation in extra-curricular activities entails an inherent risk of injury on the part of the participants, it is mandatory that all participants be covered by insurance.

- ***Direct insurance inquiries to:*** Garman Murray Insurance
  525 Perry Way
  P.O. Box 520
  Zelienople, PA 16063
  (724) 452-4060

IV. Supervision

1. Athletes will not be permitted in any area of the building after school except those areas designated by their coaches or athletic director.
2. Athletes must return home at dismissal if supervision is not available after school for them to wait for a bus or the start of their game later that evening. Students are not to remain after school unless coaches are present.
3. Athletes should report immediately to practice following the dismissal bell in the afternoon.
4. No practice arrangements - formal or informal - are permitted without the presence of supervisory coaching personnel.
5. Athletes wearing spikes in a building will be asked to remove shoes promptly. ***NO spikes or cleats indoors!***
6. Athletes are to leave their automobile in the designated student parking areas.

V. Title IX

The Seneca Valley School District is committed to compliance with all Title IX regulations. All Title IX concerns related to the operation of the athletic department should be addressed through the athletic director. Additionally, the Seneca Valley School District has a Title IX Compliance Coordinator. Contact information for the Title IX Compliance Coordinator is listed below.

- Mr. Ashley Porter
  Director of Federal Programs & Title IX Coordinator
  Seneca Valley School District
  124 Seneca School Road
  Harmony, PA 16037
  (724) 452-6040, ext. 1651

Student-Athlete Welfare

VI. Concussion Management Protocol-Rationale, Education, and Awareness

Rationale: With the increased awareness of concussions and the effects they have on student-athletes' physical and cognitive performance, it is imperative that we follow a protocol that will care for our student-athletes. Currently, the Seneca Valley athletic training staff follows a protocol designed by the neuropsychologists for managing a student-athlete's return to competition.

1. Education and Awareness

a. All coaches must annually complete the online certification course for Concussion Management. The certificate of completion will be provided to the Athletic Office.

b. All student-athletes and their parents must review and sign the PIAA CIPPE form Section 3: Understanding of Risk of Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury via Parent Portal registration process.

c. All student-athletes are required to have completed a concussion baseline exam prior to the start of their season.

- Student-athletes should NOT take the concussion baseline exam in consecutive years.
- **Who takes the concussion baseline test in 2026-27:**
  - All incoming 7th grade student-athletes.
  - Any student-athlete in grades 8th – 12th who did not take a concussion baseline test in 2025-26 at Seneca Valley.
  - Any transfer student-athlete, new to the District in 2026-27.

  These concussion baseline tests must be entered into Seneca Valley's database and must be administered by District personnel.

- Student-athletes must complete a concussion baseline retest every two years. Future concussion baseline testing schedule is as follows.
  - 7th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 9th and 11th grades.
  - 8th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 10th and 12th grades.
  - 9th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 11th grade.
  - 10th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 12th grade.
  - 11th grader tested in 2025-26 will not need another baseline retest.

Student-Athlete Welfare

VI. Concussion Management Protocol—School Sponsored Athletics

1. Student-athlete who sustains a possible concussion during competition (school sponsored game, practice or conditioning session) shall be removed from activity immediately.
    a. The state law in Pennsylvania regarding concussions states that any athlete exhibiting the signs and symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury must be removed from the game or practice and must be evaluated by the appropriate medical professional before returning to play.

2. Coach immediately removes the student-athlete from participation and informs the Seneca Valley athletic trainer of injury. If the team is off the Seneca Valley campus, coach shall notify host school district's medical professionals for evaluation.
    a. If no medical professional is present on or off campus, coach automatically withholds the athlete from all competition (game, practice) until evaluation by the Seneca Valley athletic trainer takes place.
    b. NO student-athlete returns to competition unless cleared by Seneca Valley athletic trainer or host school medical professional.

3. Seneca Valley athletic trainer or host school district's medical professional performs a sideline Head Injury evaluation.

4. If a concussion is suspected:
    a. Parents are notified of the injury.
    b. Seneca Valley athletic trainer will review with the student-athlete and his/her parent(s) information pertaining to concussions (signs & symptoms, concussion protocol, ER/Physician Referral, etc.).
    c. Student-athletes with a suspected or actual concussion or head injury must be evaluated by a licensed physician of medicine or neuropsychologist trained in the management of concussions.
    d. Seneca Valley athletic trainer will work closely with the treatment protocol prescribed by a licensed physician of medicine or neuropsychologist trained in the management of concussions, to ensure proper treatment and a gradual, safe return to full activity.
    e. Student-athlete is not permitted to return to play until treating physician or neuropsychologist provides a "Return to Full Participation without any limitations" clearance to the athletic director's office.

5. Student-athletes symptomatic of a concussion or traumatic brain injury must be evaluated by a licensed physician of medicine or neuropsychologist trained in the management of concussions.
    a. Seneca Valley athletic trainers will follow all protocol as prescribed by treating licensed physician or neuropsychologist.
    b. Student-athlete may not return to competition (games, practice) until the Director of Athletics receives a clearance for "Return to Full Activity without any limitations" from treating licensed physician or neuropsychologist.
    c. Upon student-athlete's return, Seneca Valley athletic trainers and coaches will work collaboratively to ensure a gradual return to competition (games, practice.)

6. For any concussion or traumatic brain injury sustained from a non-Seneca Valley School District competition/event, all treatment must be prescribed and administered by a licensed physician of medicine or neuropsychologist trained in the management of concussions.
    a. Seneca Valley athletic trainers are not responsible for evaluation and/or treatment of any injury, including possible concussions, which occurred at a non-Seneca Valley event.
    b. Student-athlete may not return to competition (games, practice) until the Director of Athletics receives a clearance for "Return to Full Activity without any limitations" from treating licensed physician or neuropsychologist.
    c. Upon student-athlete's return, Seneca Valley athletic trainers and coaches will work collaboratively to ensure a gradual return to competition (games, practice.)

Student-Athlete Welfare

VII. Concussion Management Protocol—Club Sports

1. All club sport student-athletes are required to complete a concussion baseline exam prior to the start of their season.
    a. Student-athletes should NOT take the concussion baseline exam in consecutive years.
    b. Who takes the concussion baseline test in 2026-27:
        i. All incoming 7th graders.
        ii. Any student-athlete in grades 8th – 12th who did not take a concussion baseline test in 2025-26.
        iii. Any transfer student, new to the District in 2026-27.

    These concussion baseline tests must be entered into Seneca Valley's database and must be administered by District personnel.

2. Future concussion baseline testing schedule is as follows.
    a. 7th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 9th and 11th grades.
    b. 8th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 10th and 12th grades.
    c. 9th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 11th grade.
    d. 10th grader tested in 2025-26 will need baseline retest in 12th grade.
    e. 11th grader tested in 2025-26 will not need a baseline retest.

3. Club sport coaches shall immediately remove from participation a student-athlete who exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury. In the event that a club sport student-athlete should sustain a concussion, Seneca Valley Athletic Trainers are not responsible for the management of the injury.

4. Coaches and parents are required to notify the Athletic Director in the event that their student-athlete has sustained a possible concussion.

5. The concussion baseline exam report will be available for the treating physician's evaluation purposes. Parents must complete a release form **(Appendix E-Student Athlete Manual)** for the baseline report to be released.

6. All club sport athletes must present the athletic office with a signed ***"Return to Full Activity without any limitations"*** clearance from a licensed physician or neuropsychologist trained in the management of concussions prior to their return to practice and/or competition.

VIII. Concussion Management/Injury Protocol—Academic Accommodations Protocol for all Student-Athletes

It is the expectation of the athletic office that all students are clear of any academic accommodations in order to fully participate in their respective program. When a student is in need of academic accommodations due to a medical reason (i.e., concussion management, ankle sprains), such accommodations should be communicated to all of the following personnel: building principal, building guidance counselor, respective teachers, and the athletic director. Upon receipt, the athletic/activity director will notify the appropriate coaches and athletic trainers that the student should be immediately pulled from all athletic participation – including practices and games – until final full clearance is provided and no academic accommodations remain. These procedures are in place for all student-athletes regardless of the sport they participate in.

Secondly, when a student-athlete is injured and held out of athletic participation for an extended period (i.e., surgery required, concussion management), this information will be communicated by the athletic director to the student's building principal and/or guidance office for determination if any necessary academic accommodations shall be put in place.

Athletic Department Procedures

I. Letter Awards

Requirements for earning an athletic letter will be determined and communicated by the head coach.

Procedures for Awarding Varsity Athletic Letters
Basic rules that apply to all prospective athletic letter award candidates:

- All athletic programs must comply with all rules and regulations set forth by the Seneca Valley School District.
- Student-athletes must display sportsmanship and proper conduct at all times.
- Student-athletes must adhere to all training rules established by the coach for that given sport.
- Student-athletes must observe practice and game regulations as established by the coach in that sport.
- Student-athletes must return all the equipment issued to the satisfaction of the coach and/or athletic director.
- In the event of injury or any other legitimate extenuating circumstance, consideration for letter awards will be at the discretion of the head coach with Athletic Director approval.
- If the student-athlete has earned and has been awarded a letter and his/her conduct or behavior has been unbecoming, the award letter can be taken away by the coach or Athletic Director.
- Only one letter will be awarded to any given player in attendance at Seneca Valley High School. Letter awards in more than one sport will be designated by a suitable representative pin of that sport to be attached to the letter. Players who have earned a letter in a sport for more than one season will be given a service bar to be attached to the original letter.
- Certificates may be awarded with each year of lettering.
- Student-athletes must satisfactorily complete the season, including individual/team post-season competition.
- Coaches have the right to add their own requirements to the basic letter policy stated above and will communicate such additions to all potential team members and parents.

Junior Varsity / Junior High / Middle School Awards: Each participant of Junior Varsity, Junior High, and Middle School teams may be issued a certificate of participation if the above varsity guidelines are followed by the athlete.

II. Participation Conflict

Student-athletes are required to immediately communicate with coaches any potential conflict of missed practice and/or competition. This expectation of immediate communication includes academic conflicts, choral/band/musical conflicts, and/or family conflicts. As noted previously, missed practices and/or games for non-school athletic conflicts is not an acceptable absence and may result in team discipline, including possible loss of letter award.

III. Freshmen Promotion

When an athletic team has a junior high program, the 9th grade student-athlete should participate in the junior high program unless the coach and the athlete can show it would be more beneficial to the athlete to participate at the high school level. The coach must discuss the promotion with the parents of the student-athlete.

Athletic Department Procedures

IV. Poor Weather / Cancellations

Based on a cancellation or early dismissal of school as directed by the Superintendent of Schools due to inclement weather, the following may apply:

- All home activities involving spectators may be cancelled.
- All away activities may be cancelled.
- If an early dismissal occurs, all activities may be cancelled.
- All rehearsals/practices/competitions/performances are cancelled unless administrative approval is given. Administrative consideration will be given to the need for the rehearsal/practice based on the immediacy of the competition/performance and the severity of the weather/road conditions.
- All student activities coaches/sponsors may request permission to use school facilities on the day of cancellation. This must be done on a single day basis.
- Students cannot be required to attend an approved activity/practice/rehearsal during a school closing. Participation must be voluntary.

V. Travel / Transportation—Event Pick-Up/Drop-Off

It is the expectation that the District's transportation provider will pick up all athletic and/or activity participants on the secondary campus of the Seneca Valley School District and will only drop them off at the secondary campus of the SVSD. There will be no additional stops to load or unload students, athletes, coaches, chaperones, or any other participant. School personnel will not ask otherwise of the District's transportation provider. Coaches will discuss with the athletic director extenuating circumstances requiring alternative arrangements. Permission from the athletic director is mandatory to vary from this procedure.

A coach will remain with all students at the Seneca Valley secondary campus until transportation arrives for each student.

Students **cannot be transported** by other students to/from events. ***No exceptions!***

Travel / Transportation —Alternative Plans

Students are expected to ride District transportation to and from District scheduled events (scrimmages and/or competitions.) Alternative arrangements are allowed provided plans are pre-approved by both the coach and athletic office and parents have completed the required release form (Appendix B).

Travel release form (Appendix B) is used for the following alternatives:

- Parent is taking their son/daughter home directly from the District scheduled event (scrimmages and/or competitions.) ***Note:*** Face-to-face contact is required between parent(s) and coach(es) at departure.
- Parent is transporting their son/daughter along with another student, so long as both sets of parents have submitted signed release forms acknowledging such arrangements. ***Note:*** Face-to-face contact between the coach and "substitute" parent is required at the time of pick-up.
- Travel release forms shall be completed for each event; coaches cannot accept one form for the entire season.
- The release form **does not permit** students to transport other students from a District scheduled event (scrimmages and/or competitions.)

Coaches shall **not transport** students home after District scheduled events (including practices, scrimmages, and/or competitions.)

For competitions involving extended travel and/or overnight accommodations, it is the expectation per School Board policy #121 all student-athletes will travel according to the plans put in place by their respective coach. Any request for alternative arrangements must be submitted to both the head coach and athletic director for consideration.

Athletic Department Procedures

VI. Conflict Resolution

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a framework for student-athletes and their families to resolve conflicts that may arise in the course of a student's participation in both individual and team interscholastic sports sponsored by the Seneca Valley School District. Such a framework is necessary to ensure a uniform, fair, orderly, and prompt resolution of issues that arise concerning student-athletes and their participation in the sports sponsored by the District. The steps of the process are as follows:

Step 1 - Coach Level

- All conflict resolution meetings adhere to a strict 24-hour rule whereby any meeting with a coach shall wait a minimum of 24 hours following any contest ending.
- Student-athletes are encouraged to speak directly to their coach regarding any concerns they may have.
- Parents may request a meeting with the coach after their son/daughter has spoken directly to their coach.
- Meetings involving parent(s) will also include the student-athlete.
- Meetings at the coach level will always include at least two coaches.

Step 2 - Athletic Director Level

- If a student-athlete or family is not satisfied with the coaches' proposed resolution, a meeting with the athletic director, parent(s) and student-athlete may be requested. The coach will attend this meeting as well.
- Such meetings will occur at the earliest and most convenient time for all parties.
- The athletic director will not accept meetings with more than one family at a time.

Step 3– Building Principal Level

- If a student-athlete or family is not satisfied with the Athletic Director's proposed resolution, a meeting with the building principal may be requested. The Athletic Director and/or coach may attend this meeting.
- Such meetings will occur at the earliest and most convenient time for all parties.

Step 4 - Superintendent Level

- If a student-athlete or family is not satisfied with the building principal's proposed resolution, a meeting with the superintendent may be requested.
- Such meetings will occur at the earliest and most convenient time for all parties.
- The superintendent may consult with the Board as needed, possibly resulting in extended time prior to resolution.

Board Consideration

The purpose of this step-by-step procedure set forth above is to ensure that individuals most familiar with the situation (i.e. coaches and the athletic director) have an opportunity to respond to and resolve inquiries in a satisfactory and timely manner. The Board anticipates that most issues will be successfully resolved through the stated procedure. However, as with all issues about which members of the public have a concern, inquiries that are not resolved to the satisfaction of the family may be presented to the Board. In order to ensure the viability of the problem resolution procedure, the Board will entertain only those inquiries that have been fully processed through the steps of this Conflict Resolution procedure.

Anonymous submissions will not be processed.

Appendix A – Rules & Regulations

Seneca Valley School District
Student-Athlete Rules and Regulations

1. All student-athletes are held to the Student Code of Conduct Expectations outlined in the Student-Athlete Manual.
2. Athletes will not possess, use or consume drugs or alcohol. They will not possess any paraphernalia associated with drug use. Any violation of this rule may subject the athlete to consequences similar to those outlined in Seneca Valley School District policy number 227 or 227.1.
3. Harassment of any individual will not be tolerated. Allegations of any form of harassment are to be reported to the head coach immediately. Definitions of harassment and a list of examples that constitute harassment can be found in Seneca Valley School District policies #248 and #248.1 that address harassment.
4. Hazing is a specific form of harassment. Hazing is a type of harassment used for the purpose of initiation into a group. Hazing of any type will not be tolerated. Any act of hazing or perceived act of hazing must be reported to the coach immediately. Examples of hazing activity and the district definition of hazing can be found in your student athlete manual along with Seneca Valley School District policy #247 that addresses hazing.
5. All athletes are to be in attendance at school the day of the game. Upon arrival at school, students are expected to remain in school the entire day. If the game is played on a non-instructional day, the athlete must attend school on the immediately preceding instructional day. Students who are absent from school or do not arrive prior to **11:00am** will not participate in any co-curricular/extracurricular activities or practices on that day without the written approval of the appropriate building principal or designee.

   Students who have an early dismissal are ineligible to participate in after-school activities without a doctor's excuse and/or the written approval of the appropriate building principal or designee. Students must have permission from the principal or designee to not return to school on the day of an early dismissal.

   The School Day Leading into any School Holiday/Break: It is expected student-athletes meet the aforementioned attendance parameters on the last school day prior to all District holidays or breaks. Students must be in school by **11:00am** and **remain in school** for the remainder of the day. Any student-athlete who does not meet this attendance requirement will be ineligible for the entire duration of the holiday and/or school break.
6. Students who are assigned out-of-school suspension or expulsion may not participate in or attend any practice or game until the student is reinstated in school. (For example, a student suspended from school on a Friday will not be permitted to participate in a game on Saturday.)
7. Full participation and attendance at all competitions, practices, and events is expected of all participants. Athletes that miss practice or a game for any reason without prior permission from the coach may be suspended for one game for each missed event during the season. It is the athlete's responsibility to obtain advance permission. In the event absences become habitual the coach has the right to determine if the athlete may finish the season as part of the team.

   It is the expectation that all district teams take priority over travel/club team commitments. Missed practices or games as a result of travel/club team commitments subjects the student-athlete to the aforementioned discipline action.
8. Student participants are expected to strive to achieve the highest academic, as well as athletic, achievement. To this end, students are responsible for time management and prioritization of responsibilities so as to maintain their academic standing while participating in athletics. If, during the course of planned season activities, a situation develops which places an academic activity at risk, it is the student's responsibility to bring the issue to the attention of their head coach with a proposed resolution prior to the conflict. Students who are excused from class for participation in athletic activities have the responsibility to complete work assigned or completed during their absence.
9. While participating in and traveling to/from competitions, practices and activities, the student participant is subject to the student disciplinary policies of the Seneca Valley School District. Conduct in violation of school policies will be promptly reported by coaches to the building principal and/or athletic director for disciplinary action.
10. All student-athletes are held to the expectations of appropriate social media use as outlined in the Code of Conduct section of the Student-Athlete Manual.

Appendix B – Travel Release Form

This is to certify that _____ has my permission to not ride on District
(Student's Name)

transportation to/from the athletic contest/school event on _____ 20_____ at _____ .
(Date) *(Location of Contest)*

Please mark ALL appropriate boxes & secure all required signatures

❑ I certify that I am personally transporting the above-mentioned student to/from the contest/event.

== OR ==

❑ I give permission for my child to transport themselves to/from the contest/event.

The reason for not riding the bus is _____ .

❑ I certify that I give permission for _____ to transport
(Supplementary Parent/Adult Name)

my child _____ to/from the contest/event.
(Student's Name)

❑ I certify that I accept responsibility to transport _____ to/from contest/event.
(Student's Name)

I understand that the Seneca Valley School District rules require that students ride the bus to and from all district events and a departure from this requirement will release the Seneca Valley School District from all liability for any adverse results that may occur.

Students can not be transported by other students to/from the event. No Exceptions.

I agree to release the Seneca Valley School District and its employees from all liability with reference to the above stated transportation.

This form must be personally handed to the coach prior to the event by the parent.

_____ _____
(Signature of Parent or Guardian) *(Date)*

_____ _____
(As needed - Signature of Supplementary Parent or Guardian) *(Date)*

Appendix C – Sport Participation Checklist

I. TRYOUTS/PRACTICE

Any student-athlete (grades 7—12) interested in trying out for an interscholastic and/or club sport team must meet all of the following requirements prior to participation in tryouts or practice:

A. Parent Portal SIGNATURES and INFORMATION RECORDED - Available in portal starting May 1, 2026.

Complete the following sections for each child under the "Athletic Forms" section of the Parent Portal:
(Parent Portal located on homepage of District website: www.svsd.net)

- ❑ Indicate which (and ALL) sports you intend to tryout/compete for
- ❑ CIPPE Section 3: Understanding the Risk of Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Verification
- ❑ CIPPE Section 4: Understanding of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Verification
- ❑ Student-Athlete Manual Verification
- ❑ Travel Release (this is a different travel release form than actual game-day travel release form)
- ❑ Release from Liability
- ❑ Injury Risk

B. COMPLETE ALL HEALTH FORMS in PAPER FORM

- ❑ ***First Sport:*** Complete the paper forms of PIAA-required Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE) form—Sections 1, 2, 5, & 6 for the first sport and return to the athletic department following drug and/or concussion tests. Parents/guardians complete sections 1, 2, & 5. A private authorized medical examiner or school doctor must complete section 6 and form must be dated **after May 1, 2026.** Bring all completed forms to athletic office on test date.
- ❑ ***For Additional Sport(s):*** For subsequent seasons, parents/guardians complete paper form of Section 7 of the PIAA-required CIPPE form for each additional sport and return to the athletic department. If Section 8 is required, it must be completed by a licensed Physician of Medicine or Osteopathic Medicine.

  ALL Club sport paperwork is turned into the Athletic office. *(Sports: bowling, competitive cheer, fencing, ultimate frisbee, ice hockey, inline hockey, indoor track, boys' lacrosse, slow-pitch softball)*

C. DRUG TEST

This must be done through the Seneca Valley School District, NOT at a physician's office and is required only one time per year. **Keep receipt after drug test and turn it in to the athletic department.** Bring the following to the test date:

- ❑ Completed Seneca Valley School District Drug Testing Parental Consent Form
- ❑ Payment **($32)** in the form of cash or check made payable to ***S.V.S.D.***

D. CONCUSSION BASELINE CONCUSSION TEST

This must be done through the Seneca Valley School District, NOT at home or at a physician's office, and is required only every other school year. For the academic year of testing, it must only be done one time that year. Testing dates will be announced prior to each fall, winter, and spring season and is done at the Senior High School.

II. PARTICIPATION in PRACTICE and GAMES (following Tryouts)

Any student-athlete (grades 7-12) who successfully completes a tryout and is named to a District-sponsored sport roster must meet the following additional requirements:

A. PAY to PARTICIPATE (This does NOT apply to club sports.)

- ❑ For District-sponsored sport teams, pay the respective "Pay to Participate" fee.
- ❑ Payment of fee is due prior to the first game of the season. Practice is permitted in the interim.
- ❑ Please pay sport participation fee after tryouts and roster spot is confirmed.
- ❑ Payments may be accepted at any time at the Athletic Office located in the Senior High School or at any of the secondary school (i.e., I HS, RGMS) main offices.

	FEE	FAMILY CAP
Per Athletic Activity / Per Athlete	$125.00	$375.00

Appendix D – Drug Test Consent Form

INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT

Student's Name: _____ Student's ID #: _____ Grade: _____

(***Please Print***)

Sport/Club: _____ Student Driver ? **YES** **NO**

(***Please Print***) (***Please Circle***)

AS A STUDENT:

- I understand and agree that participation in athletics, activities, or in student driving is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of this policy.
- I understand and realize that there is risk of injury in participating in athletic activities.
- I understand that when I participate in any athletic program, activity, or in student driving, I will be subjected to initial and random urine drug testing, and if I refuse I will not be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic program, activity, or in student driving.
- I understand this agreement is binding while I'm a student athlete, participant in school activity, or a student driver at Seneca Valley.

_____ _____

Student Signature ***Date***

AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN:

- I understand that my son/daughter/ward, when participating in any athletic program, activity, or student driving will be subjected to initial and random urine drug testing, and if they refuse will not be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic program, activities, or continue driving and parking on school grounds.
- I understand that upon completion of my son/daughter/ward's activity, I have the option to remove them from the random pool with a signed letter to the building principal, assuming that they do not intend on participating for the rest of the year.
- I understand this agreement is binding while my son/daughter/ward is a student athlete, participant in school activity, or a student driver at Seneca Valley.

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian/Custodian Signature ***Date***

_____ _____ _____

Parent/Guardian/Custodian Printed Name ***Home/Cell Number*** ***Work Number***

For Office Use Only:

Date: _____ **Check #:** _____ **or** **Cash:** _____ **Initials:** _____

Appendix E – Concussion Data Release Form

PARENTAL PERMISSION TO RELEASE CONCUSSION BASELINE TESTING DATA

I, _____, give permission to the Seneca Valley School District
[Parent Name]

to release all concussion baseline testing data regarding my child _____
[Student Name]

to the following person or health care facility:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Signature:	**Date:**

Athletic Department Fax #: (724) 452-8357