



Churchville-Chili Central School District

Where learning leads to a lifetime of opportunities

Athletic Placement Process (APP)

The Athletic Placement Process (APP) is a program for evaluating students who want to participate in sports at higher or lower levels. The intent of the APP is to provide a protocol to allow students in grades 7 and 8 to move up; or for students in grades 9-12 to move down, allowing them to participate safely at an appropriate level of competition based upon physical and emotional readiness and athletic ability rather than age and grade alone.

The steps to complete this process are as follows. Please note that all steps must be completed in order. Only students who successfully progress through all parts of the APP are permitted to try out.

Step 1 – Varsity Coach Recommendation: The varsity coach must complete the evaluation form and return it to the Athletic Director.

Step 2 – Administrative Approval: The Athletic Director will review all information and decide if the student is suitable for consideration, which includes the likelihood that the student would play in at least 50% of the games. Additionally, because of the increased time demands of participation, the student's academic performance should be in good standing. Furthermore, the student's emotional readiness to socialize with students at the requested age level, and knowledge of the sport will be considered. If the student is not academically, physically, or socially ready, the student will not proceed further through the APP.

Step 3 – Parent/Guardian Permission: If steps 1 and 2 are completed and approved, all students must obtain written parent/guardian permission. Parents/guardians must complete the permission form and return it to the athletic office.

Step 4 – Registration and Medical Clearance: Like all other students who wish to participate in athletics, the student must register for the sport, have an up to date physical and be medically cleared by our school nurse.

Step 5 – Try Outs: The student is allowed to try out for the sport and level requested. There is no guarantee that the student will be granted a spot on the team. Approval through the APP process simply allows a student to try out for that team. NYSPHSAA has defined tryout periods that are sport specific and must be adhered to.



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Varsity Coach Evaluation

As the varsity coach of the team, your complete assessment of this student's skill level is a required part of the APP. Please remember that the number of students who are allowed to compete outside of their grade level should be few and far between. This program is intended only for the limited number of students who may benefit from competing at another level. Students approved must have the physical maturity, physical fitness, and sport skills to be placed with other athletes outside of their grade level. According to NYSED, districts may not use APP to fill roster vacancies, provide extra playing opportunities, replace a modified athletic program, or to reward a student. Should a student be approved through this process and be placed on a higher level (JV or varsity) team, they are not eligible to return to a lower level (modified) team in that sport in that season.

Please complete, sign, and return this form to the athletic office. If you approve of allowing the student to tryout for a team different than their grade level, please note that there are other steps that are needed prior to allowing a student to attend any practices or tryouts. Your approval starts the process, and your denial ends this process. Coaches should not allow any students to tryout for their team until full approval from the athletic office and school nurse are granted.

Name and Title of Coach: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Age: _____

Student Grade Level: _____

Sport: _____

Recommended Level to Tryout: _____ Modified _____ JV _____ Varsity

What percentage of playing time per contest would you estimate this student would receive at this level? _____

On an attachment, or on the back of this document, list or provide documentation of any evidence of sport skills and/or reasons in respect to why you are recommending this level of participation. Some type of supporting information is required and would be helpful in determining proper placement. If you are not familiar with the student, you may wish to contact his/her former coaches or someone who would have knowledge and evidence.

Coach's Signature: _____

Date: _____



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Athletic Placement Process **Parent/Guardian Permission**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has a program that permits students to try out for an athletic team that is outside of their grade level. It is called the Athletic Placement Process (APP). Your child _____ has been invited to tryout in the sport of _____ at the _____ level. To complete this process, we must have your permission.

The APP involves an evaluation of your child's emotional and physical maturity, as well as athletic ability, physical fitness level, academic standing, and knowledge of the sport in relationship to other student athletes at that level. At higher levels of play your child will be exposed to the social atmosphere that is common among older students in a high school environment. Therefore, it is important to consider your child's ability to handle the additional demands.

If you approve, and all other steps have been successfully followed, your child will be allowed to try out for competitive high school athletics during 7th and/or 8th grade, or at the modified level if in grades 9-12. Under normal circumstances, a student is eligible for high school athletic competition in a sport for only four consecutive seasons, beginning with the student's entry into the ninth grade. However, by meeting the Athletic Placement Process requirements, your child's eligibility can be extended to permit:

- a) participation during five consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into the eighth grade; or
- b) participation during six consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into the seventh grade.

It is important for you and your child to understand that if he/she is accepted as a member of the team at a higher level (JV or varsity), he/she cannot return to a lower-level team (modified) in that sport in that season.

If you agree to allow your child to compete at a level outside their grade level, please complete and sign below and return this form to the athletic office. Feel free to contact me at (585) 293-1800, extension 3110 regarding this program or to discuss any aspect of your child's athletic level of placement.

Sincerely,

Michael Murray
Director of Health, PE & Athletics

I have read the APP information, and I understand the purpose and eligibility implications of this process. My child _____ has my permission to tryout in the sport of _____ at the _____ level. I understand that this does not guarantee my child a position on a team but does permit them to try out.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____