



Scottsdale *Unified* School District

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## **Middle School Athletic Guidebook**

**2026-2027**



**SPORTSMANSHIP, RESPECT, and CHARACTER**

*To ensure all individual learners reach their full potential.*

## **ATHLETIC PROGRAM GOALS**

- Foster a culture of Sportsmanship, Respect, and Character.
- In practice and games, emphasize individual and team commitment toward excellence, rather than "winning at all costs" as the underlying theme.
- Maximize participation within budgetary realities.
- Emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
- Stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
- Achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
- Encourage leadership, use of initiative and good judgment by the players on the team.
- The Scottsdale Unified School District is interested in providing the best possible athletic programs for the students in its schools. It wants athletic participation to be a valuable educational experience which will help the students become better citizens. This means that the district expects the students to assume the responsibility of representing their schools in such a way that they, their parents, their teachers and the community can be proud of their participation.

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

- Show respect to visiting teams and to officials.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials.
- Respect the integrity, values, personality and individuality of each athlete.
- Know and enforce the spirit, as well as the letter, of all governing regulations.
- Maintain a high level of integrity and expect all others involved with athletic programs to exhibit the same.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanlike attitudes and behaviors so that the athletes may emulate them.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC GUIDEBOOK**

### **Introduction**

The middle school athletic program consists of multiple sports for both boys and girls and for sixth, seventh and eighth grades. The guiding philosophy of the middle school program is to promote participation in a competitive program with learning and teamwork as the primary considerations and winning as a secondary consideration.

The sports that are offered at SUSD middle schools are baseball, volleyball, softball, flag football, basketball, track & field, cross country, and spirit line.

The middle school athletic program consists of a two-tier program. Tier 1 is the All Included Season which includes three weeks of skill building, training and intra-squad games and an All-Included Saturday Festival which is held with teams from all SUSD middle schools competing at centralized sites. Teams for the Tier 2 Competitive Season will be chosen from students who participated in Tier 1 and the Saturday Festival to move to the next level (Tier 2). Tier 2 will follow the Tier 1 season. This season is designed to refine the skills learned and to build a team. The competitive games will occur over a period of six weeks between the teams that were selected from Tier 1. Cross Country and Track do not use Tiers and take place during the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter respectfully.

Finally, thanks to all the coaches and the middle school athletic directors for their efforts to make the middle school sports program a success. The middle school athletic directors will meet prior to the start of the program to discuss issues which affect middle school athletic programs. Any middle school athletic concern must be brought to the attention of the middle school athletic directors. Items can be put on the agenda in advance of a meeting by contacting the district athletic director or designee.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND/OR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

The principal is responsible for the athletic program in his/her school under Scottsdale Unified School District policies and procedures. The principal may delegate athletic management to the assistant principal and/or the middle school athletic director. The athletic administration shall direct the coaching staff, represent the school athletic program and work closely with the principal. The principal will communicate with the assistant principal to ensure that there is an administrator present at every athletic event where their school is designated as the HOME team.

- Communication between the schools and District departments such as Purchasing, Transportation, Maintenance and Grounds should be accomplished by one person per school at the administration's direction.
- Compliance with District regulations is a shared responsibility among coaches, athletic directors and building administrators. The principal assumes the primary responsibility to see that violations which would reflect negatively on the school are prevented.
- The administration has supervisory authority for all staff, including coaches. Matters that could affect or set precedents for the district athletic programs should be coordinated with the administration.
- Monitor student athlete compliance with the new minimum 2.0 GPA as set forth by SUSD Board on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012, and work with the middle school athletic director to ensure athletic eligibility of all participants.
- Work with the middle school athletic director to schedule transportation for athletic events.

- Work with the middle school athletic director to prepare and maintain the athletic facilities with District maintenance and grounds departments.
- Approve the scheduling of the school athletic facilities to ensure they are available and ready at the proper times.
- Supervise athletic fee payments.
- **Direct supervision of athletic contests until the last student is off campus.**
- Work with the middle school athletic director to ensure athletic eligibility of all participants.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

- Ensure that each athlete has completed registration with Register My Athlete prior to participation.
- Update and provide team rosters to coaches and the administrative office.
- Ensure each athlete has paid his/her Tier 1 athletic fee at the start of the season and the Tier 2 athletic fee prior to the first contest.
- Work with administration to ensure athletic eligibility of all participants.
- Maintain accurate list of athletic equipment and uniforms.
- Supervise coaching staff.
- Supervise all HOME athletic events.
- Report home game scores within 24 hours.
- Report any “no show” of officials at the time the officials do not show.
- Assist coaches with team selection when necessary.
- Understand District guidelines, policies, regulations and practices.
- Collaborate with the administration and the City of Scottsdale Youth Activities staff for after school programs.

### **COACHES**

- Head coaches assist the administration with the supervision of the assistant coaches.
- Ensure that each athlete has completed registration within Register My Athlete prior to participation in any practice or game.
- Update and provide team roster to the administrative office and athletic director.
- Ensure each athlete has paid his/her Tier 1 athletic fee at the start of the season and the Tier 2 athletic fee prior to the first contest.
- Establish and provide practice schedules to the students, parents and administration.
- Understand District guidelines, policies, regulations and practices.
- Provide direct supervision of athletes in locker room, buses, as well as during practice and games until all athletes are off campus.
- Maintain accurate list of athletic equipment and uniforms and keep accurate records of equipment issued to students.
- Supervise the collection of all equipment and uniforms. Students have a financial obligation for lost or damaged equipment and uniforms.
- Enforce all District travel and transportation guidelines.
- Review of the District Athletic Code of Conduct with team members.
- Cooperate with the time schedule, the officials and the timekeeper.
- Present referees and officials with specific rules.
- Exhibit superior conduct, sportsmanship and a child-centered attitude always.
- Always ensure the availability of water for practices and games. Athletes will not be denied water. All coaches are expected to make sure that drinking water is immediately available to all team members while traveling and at home contests.

- Coaches are required to take water to all away contests.
- Adhere to the Heat Advisory Report and recommended activity limitations provided by the district.
- Develop practice sessions and warm-up activities which emphasize conditioning, which will assist in preventing injuries.
- Follow District first aid procedures with all injuries. Coaches may not dispense or prescribe any medication or dietary supplements. (See Emergency Section)
- Require a doctor's release from any student who has been injured prior to allowing the student to participate in practice or a game.
- File a written report of any accident, injury or loss of property that occurs while involved with coaching activities. (See Student Injury Report)
- Check for player injuries following each practice and game and report any injuries to the school nurse for follow-up. (See Student Injury Report)

### **STAFF SUPERVISION AT ATHLETIC PRACTICES AND CONTESTS**

Students must always be under the direct supervision of a member of the certificated staff while in school or while attending a school-directed activity. No coach is to permit any individual to aid in coaching responsibilities without District approval. The principal is responsible for the enforcement of this regulation. The administration/athletic directors are responsible for the supervision and general conduct of all spectators and provide any game management support needed.

### **PHYSICALS AND PARENT PERMISSION**

A current annual physical examination must be uploaded to Register My Athlete prior to student participation in practices or games. Parent Consent must also be given with Register My Athlete. The physical examination for the following school year shall be given on or after March 1.

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY (NO PASS-NO PLAY)**

**No Pass/No Play:** Students with an 'F' or an 'I' will not be eligible to participate in competitive events.

**2.0 Minimum GPA\*:** SUSD has established 2.0 as the minimum GPA for all middle and high school students. Students having a GPA below 2.0 in the current marking period must participate in intervention or support systems or programs to maintain practice eligibility. Students who were identified to have a GPA below 2.0 and have participated in intervention and supports are then eligible to compete when the student presents evidence to administration that they have a current GPA of 2.0 or above. To begin participation in the extracurricular activity, a student having a GPA below 2.0 must have been participating in interventions/supports during the grading period prior to the activity beginning.

**Grade Checks:** Grade checks will be collected weekly throughout the Tier 2 portion of the season. Students are not eligible to play Tier 2 competitive games until both a minimal GPA of 2.0 and no 'F's in all classes are verified in writing.

### **ATHLETIC FEES**

The fee is \$75 for the All Included Tier 1 and \$40 for the Competitive Tier 2. The fees for the All Included Tier 1 are to be paid by all participants prior to the first practice. For Track/Field, Spirit line and Cross Country, the fee is \$90. The fees for the Competitive Tier must be paid prior to the first contest. State tax credit laws do not allow for refunds. All fees must be paid to the designated school administrator.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Coaches are responsible for the use and care, including proper storage, of equipment. This includes gym equipment such as volleyball standards; umpire stands and all other portable equipment. All equipment should be secure in a lockable area. An up-to-date written inventory of equipment should always be available. The coach should notify the administration immediately when replacement of equipment becomes necessary during the season. Students shall be held responsible for the replacement of any equipment that has been damaged or destroyed through disruptive behavior, incorrect use, etc. In such instances, the coach shall notify the administration of the school immediately and shall personally contact the parent/guardian of the student involved in the destruction. The policy also applies to any damage done to facilities or property within any facility either at the home school or at other schools at which the athlete may be representing the home school. Athletes are not allowed to borrow school equipment. The coach is responsible for listing the equipment needs for the next school year and delivering this list to the athletic director at the conclusion of each season.

## **UNIFORMS**

It is the athlete's responsibility to return all school issued athletic uniforms and/or equipment. Athletes are responsible for paying for loss or damage at replacement value. The coach is responsible for filling out and keeping on file a form for each uniform issued. The form should include the name of the athlete, the date of issue, the specific items issued (including jersey numbers, where appropriate) and the quantity of items issued. Uniforms should be collected immediately after the last contest. It is better to get them dirty or sweaty than not all. This means that team photos should not be scheduled after the season ends. Coaches are responsible for the recovery of missing uniforms. Be especially careful in recovering uniforms from players who quit, who move or who are out of school for long periods. No player will be allowed to participate in another sport until all uniforms and equipment previously issued are returned. Students will be held responsible for the replacement cost of any uniform not returned to the coach in a timely manner. The coach must inform the building coordinator, in writing, of players who do not return their uniforms. This should be done within one week of the end of the season. Do not forget! Students should understand that a single uniform costs much more to replace than it did as part of an entire team order. It will be this high replacement cost for which they will be held responsible. Give the athletic director a list of uniform needs at the conclusion of the season. Remember that broken sets are very difficult to fix. Purchasing replacements to fill out a broken set is very expensive.

## **EMERGENCIES/INJURIES**

Emergencies should be dealt with by following the procedures on the back of the parent permission form. Administer first aid as required and, in accordance with your training, determine if aid is needed (e.g. paramedics, ambulance--call them if needed). Call parents or send a responsible party to call parents at the number on the emergency card as soon as possible. Notify administration so that follow-up can be done with the parents. Each coach should carry a medical kit with basic first aid supplies for emergencies. The coach is responsible for replacing items in the kit. The school nurse may be asked to assist in procuring the necessary supplies for the medical kit. Each school should have five (5) fully supplied medical kits. It is the responsibility of the coach to make sure that the kit being used is fully supplied. The medical kits should travel with the teams. Coaches are required to report all injuries to parents - even those that seem minor. Before an injured athlete may return to practice or competition, a doctor's release is required if the initial injury required a doctor's care. If a student goes to the doctor, a signed release must be given to the coach and athletic director before the student may return to competition.

## **REPORTING INJURIES**

Unless the coach or some other responsible person witnesses an injury and takes the necessary steps to report the incident, the responsibility for reporting the injury to the coach rests upon the student and/or the parents or guardians. Injuries must be reported promptly, fully and accurately to the coach in charge. Before permitting the student to return to participation, the coach will require the injured student to present a written statement

from the attending physician stating the time and condition of discharge as well as the capability to return to participation.

### **EATING DISORDERS**

Athletes and parents should be educated on the maintenance of healthy weight through sound eating behaviors and appropriate exercise. Athletes who demonstrate unhealthy weight-control practices should be referred to the proper professional. Athletes who intend to gain or lose weight should do so under the direction of a physician and follow the established principles for healthy weight reduction or gain.

### **SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST**

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a sudden, unexpected loss of heart function. SCA occurs when the electrical system to the heart malfunctions and becomes irregular or nonfunctional. The ventricles may flutter or quiver (ventricular fibrillation), and blood is not delivered to the body. In the event of sudden cardiac arrest, the strongest determinant of survival is the time from cardiac arrest to defibrillation. Access to defibrillation within three to five minutes is essential. Each minute lost reduces the chance of survival by approximately 10 percent. Therefore, all coaching and athletic staff members are encouraged to receive CPR and AED certification. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that at least one adult at all athletic events on SUSD grounds knows where the closest automatic external defibrillator (AED) is kept and how to use it. AED protocol will be followed.

### **WEATHER**

#### **Extreme Heat Precautions**

Heat stroke, heat exhaustion, dehydration and severe sunburn can be very dangerous to students during outside sporting events. The following precautions should be taken:

- Be prepared to cancel practice or modify the practice schedules when extreme temperatures exist. Coaches will follow SUSD's Heat Advisory Report and recommended activity limitations provided by the district.
- Have ice and water on hand and easily accessible during all practices and games (both HOME and AWAY).
- Take frequent fluids and rest breaks. **NEVER WITHHOLD WATER BREAKS AS PUNISHMENT OR MOTIVATION!**
- Remove helmets and pads when not scrimmaging.
- Do not use salt tablets.
- Be attentive to heat illness and dehydration symptoms in athletes and treat them appropriately.
- Encourage athletes to drink fluids in the hours before practice (avoid soft drinks or beverage containing caffeine).
- In case of severe thunderstorms, move the students into the building when lighting is first noticed. **Do not wait until the storm is breaking to move inside.** Use the same procedure when sandstorms occur.

### **TRAINING AND PRACTICE RULES**

Coaches are expected to follow the District Athletic Code of Conduct. Any additional team rules should have administrative approval prior to communication with athletes and parents and provided to them in writing. Make every attempt to communicate with parents at least once prior to the start of the season. Sending home a copy of the training rules and a practice schedule is a good way to do this. Also send a copy of the game schedule. Give the office a copy of your try-out times and your practice schedule.

### **PRACTICE SCHEDULES**

The students and their parents need to know when and how long the practices are going to be. Make up a practice schedule. Give one to every student who tries out. Give a copy to the secretary in the office. If you must change a practice for some reason, notify the players well in advance. Also, please notify the office as

soon as you know of the change. To be eligible to participate in the Tier 2 Competitive Tier of the season, players must attend at least 50% of the practices during the Tier 1 and the Saturday Festival unless excused prior to by coach and athletic director. Having a set time and preplanned days for practice establishes a routine that makes it much easier for everyone. Parents dislike, and rightly so, last-minute changes in schedule. At no time may an athlete use the gymnasium, equipment or facilities without supervision by a coach or other certified personnel. Coaches are responsible for their teams when at home school or away from home school. Do not let athletes "roam free" on the campus of the school you are visiting or at the school home before or after the contest.

### **FACILITY PREPARATION**

Coaches are responsible for setting up facilities prior to a contest, including gym, court or field preparation, if necessary. See the middle school athletic director/administration for materials or other needs. Coaches and athletes are responsible for taking down, returning and securing all equipment used for the contest. Coaches will make sure that all athletes are gone before locking up and leaving the area. Athletes should not be left on campus unsupervised. Coaches are required to stay until every athlete on their team is gone. No non-District facility will be used for practice or home contests without a contract between the district and the outside vendor. All facilities used by Parks and Recreation are to be contracted. In instances where scheduling conflicts arise, the school-sponsored event takes precedence over the outside contract.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Coaches must ride to and from away locations on the bus with the team. They must also return with the team and provide proper control while on the bus. Incidents on the bus are to be reported to the assistant principal and athletic director. Following practice sessions or games after school hours, coaches are required to remain with the members of the team until all students have been picked up by parents/guardians or have walked home. Coaches may not leave the school campus until all team members are safely on their way home.

Travel Policy: Students go to and return from athletic contests by school-supplied or designated travel. If a student must travel to the contest with his/her parents, he/she must have his/her parents make the request in writing to the coach prior to the contest. If a student must travel from the contest with a parent, then the parent must give the request in writing to the coach in charge. Only individuals whose names are on the student's Alternate Transportation Document are authorized to pick up a student with parent's written permission. Once at the site of the contest, the athlete is not to leave the site without permission of the coach.

Late buses should be reported to the athletic director. You may call transportation if you wish, or, if no one is in the office, have someone else call. The number for transportation dispatch is 480-484-8553. Report problems with drivers to the administration at your school.

Other common bus rules that the coaches are expected to enforce include the following:

- Student vocabulary and reading materials shall be appropriate for a school activity.
- Gambling is not permitted at any time students are under the supervision of school personnel.
- Only water is permitted while riding in a school vehicle.
- Students must remain seated while the vehicle is in motion.
- Vehicle aisles should remain clear.
- Voices should be kept at a normal level.
- Students shall keep arms, feet and heads inside the vehicle always.
- Feet should remain on the floor.
- Shoes with cleats should be removed before entering the vehicle both on the way to a contest and on the way back to the home campus.

- Athletes are responsible for picking up any trash before leaving the bus.

### **UNAPPROVED TRIPS**

Any District employee who initiates, or is knowingly involved in, an unapproved field trip will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination. If a staff member fails to follow the process outlined above or follows the process and the district denies the request, the trip is unauthorized. For more information on field trips, see SUSD policy IJOA and IJOA-R, EEAF Special Use of Buses. The use of privately owned vehicles, 15 passenger vans and twelve passenger vehicles that do not meet federal school bus safety standards for the purpose of transporting students to and from school and school related activities to transport students on field trips is prohibited. For more information see policy EEAG-Student Transportation in Private Vehicles.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Coaches are responsible for effectively communicating with athletes, parents and SUSD staff. Information that should be shared with athletes, parents and administration includes, but is not limited to, practice schedules, injuries, penalties for disciplinary action and the coach's expectations for behavior and conduct. Please remind all students that the rules that govern their behavior during school hours also govern their behavior during practices, contests and special events. All of the Uniform Code of Student Conduct and Athletic Code of Conduct apply to all students at all school-sponsored activities. Athletes and parents need to be informed that students who violate District/school rules may be suspended or permanently removed from the team.

### **PROGRAMS, BANQUETS AND AWARDS EVENTS**

Some schools sponsor some type of athletic awards event. Each school may select its own pattern for recognizing award winners and for determining what awards will be given. Middle schools should strive for consistency in how awards and events are budgeted and conducted. The office needs to have an accurate list of athletes in order to mail invitations, prepare award certificates, etc. Coaches are expected to give the office an updated list at the end of each season. Coaches are expected to attend any special event for athletics and, if asked, to present awards to the athletes coached. Individual awards for athletes are to be determined by each school.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS CAMPS** – SUSD Community Education offers Athletic Camps during the school year and the summer. Proper documents must be submitted to Community Education 3 weeks prior to the camp. Athletes in season should not participate in sports camps.

### **OFFICIALS**

Officiating is an integral part of athletics and while we hope that all officials will perform perfectly, we understand that is not a reality. All stakeholders must remain respectful and model appropriate behavior with officials. Complaints regarding officials should be filled in by the coach or athletic director immediately after the contest to the middle school athletic director or designee in writing.

### **SCOREKEEPERS AND STATISTICS BOOKS**

Each school may employ one (1) adult to be responsible for running the game clock. That is the only responsibility that is to be assigned to that person. **Coaches may not request any score keeping or supervision duties of the timekeeper.** Coaches are expected to arrange for their own record keepers prior to the onset of the season. The use of student assistants is encouraged in order to provide additional opportunities for student participation in school activities.

### **PROBLEMS/NEEDS**

The Scottsdale Unified School District has a detailed communication protocol to assist all stakeholders resolve issues as they arise. This document is part of the Register My Athlete program and must be electronically agreed to.

### **SPORTS SCHEDULES**

Each school team will play seven competitive games if all schools have a team to participate in at that level. Games are not always rescheduled due to weather or when a school cannot field a team.

### **SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR COACHES OF TEAMS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX**

- Establish a simple, reliable means of calling for assistance.
- Do not remove any articles of an athlete's clothing unless it is necessary to provide care.
- Arrange for appropriate supervision of locker room. If you are the sole supervisor, do not enter the locker room unless:
  - a. It seems that a team member's safety or welfare would be endangered by your absence.
  - b. The administration requires, or you feel it necessary, that you check the area to be sure that all team members have left, the area is in order, and you are prepared to secure it.
- Arrange to be accompanied by another adult when entering the locker room. Under emergency circumstances involving the safety and welfare of a team member, the coach is permitted to enter the locker room. In such cases, a loud verbal announcement of intention to enter should be sufficient to alert team members.
- Establish a predetermined location at which you may be reached during all practice sessions or games so that team members always know where you are. This location should be near the locker room and a telephone.
- Establish a system by which the players are to notify you that the last person has left the locker room area and that you may check it for orderliness and security. Under no circumstances should the last team member leaving the locker room do so alone. Make sure that team members leave in groups of two or three so that there is no danger of one-to-one (coach-to-student) allegations.
- Provide parents with written information regarding your arrangements for supervision, your provisions for control of the locker room, your location during dressing out and your system for team member check-out following practices and games. This will ensure them your awareness of potential difficulties and of your intent to provide adequate supervision to ensure the safety and welfare of their students.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP RULE**

A coach or player ejected from a contest for any reason shall not participate for the remainder of that day and shall be ineligible for the next scheduled contest.

### **PARTICIPATION**

SUSD offers Junior Varsity teams for grades 6 and 7 and Varsity teams for grades 6, 7 and 8. 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are not permitted to play Junior Varsity, and no player may participate in more than one competitive game per day.

## SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2026-2027 MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

**All student/athletes are responsible to follow the guidelines in the SUSD Uniform Code of Student Conduct as well as the SUSD Athletic Code of Conduct.**

### PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Athletic Code of Conduct:** This document shall be electronically signed and agreed to by all participants.
2. **Birth Certificate:** Must be recorded and on file with the school administrative office.
3. **Enrollment:** Only students enrolled in SUSD schools in grades 6 through 8, inclusive, shall be eligible for athletics at that school. A home-schooled student may be eligible if said student follows A.R.S. 15-802.01(A) and has documentation provided by the office of the Arizona State Superintendent of Public Education. Students enrolled full-time in Scottsdale Online (SOL) are eligible to participate in their home school if they meet all other participation requirements.
4. **Insurance:** All athletes must be insured by his/her parent or guardian and evidence of insurance provided including insurance company and policy number.
5. **Physical Examination and Parent Consent:** Current yearly physical examination and parent consent must be on file prior to participation in the first practice. The physical examination for the following school year shall be given on or after March 1.
6. **Participation:** SUSD offers Junior Varsity teams for grades 6 and 7 and Varsity teams for grades 6, 7 and 8. 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are not permitted to play Junior Varsity, and no player may participate in more than one competitive game per day.
7. **Academic and Scholarship:** SUSD has established a 2.0 GPA (current GPA) as the targeted GPA for all middle and high school students as the minimal standard.  
**Eligibility Requirements:** SUSD has established a 2.0 current GPA as the minimal standard for participation.
  - State No Pass/No Play requirements are determined by no F's at the most recent marking period
  - All students below a 2.0 GPA or with an F in the current marking period will be ineligible for interscholastic competition.
    - ✓ Require weekly grade checks
  - If a student has below a 2.0 GPA the following applies:
    - ✓ Students are eligible to practice before the next grade check
    - ✓ Students who become academically ineligible are ineligible for one week and can compete when the student presents evidence to administration that he/she has a current GPA of above a 2.0 and no Fs after that week
    - ✓ Transfer students will be evaluated based on their current transfer grades
  - The general standards shall apply to special education students, including students eligible under Section 504, except that such eligibility shall be determined by a case-by-case basis in relationship to the respective students' Individual Education Program. The general standards shall apply to English language learners determined by a case-by-case basis in relationship to their Individual Language Learning Plan.
8. **Uniforms/Equipment:** Athletes are responsible for returning or paying for all equipment and uniforms issued to them. Debts created by not returning school equipment must be paid before going out for another sport.
9. **Attendance:** To be eligible for the Competitive Tier 2 of each season, students must be an active participant during the Tier 1 season and Saturday Festival unless excused prior to by coach and Athletic Director. The athlete must attend at school a minimum of 50% of the school day to participate or practice that day unless excused by the administration. In and out of school suspended students are not eligible to participate in practice or games. School-related events/field trips are not considered an absence.
10. **Athletic Fee:** Tier 1 athletic fees are \$75 and must be paid prior to first practice or Saturday Festival. Tier 2 fees are \$40 and must be paid prior to the first competitive contest and before any game equipment is issued. The fee for Track/Field, Spirit line, and Cross Country is \$90 for their season. State tax credit laws do not allow for refunds and all SUSD athletic fees are not refundable. Payments can be made online at [sUSD.org](http://sUSD.org) or at the site administration building. If payment is made online proof must be submitted to site administration.
11. **General Appearance:** An athlete must dress and look at the part of an athlete while participating during school. He/she should keep his/her hair well groomed, his/her skin clean, and his/her clothes neat and clean.
12. **Ejections:** If an athlete is ejected from a competition, they are ineligible for the remainder of that day and the entire next game. If it is the last game of the season, then the athlete is ineligible for the first game of their next sport.

## **TRAINING RULES**

In addition to the requirements and consequences set forth in the SUSD Student Code of Conduct, all student athletes are responsible for adhering to the training rules listed below. These rules apply on or off campus during the season of sport. Any violations of the rules stated below will carry consequences as stipulated by the SUSD Uniform Code of Student Conduct AND to be determined by the coach of that sport and subject to review by the Athletic Director. Alcohol and Other Drugs carry specific penalties as listed below:

1. **Student Conduct**: an athlete must always be a positive representative of the school and must be courteous to teachers, students, fellow athletes and adults.
2. **Conduct Detrimental to the Team**: An athlete may be cut from the team at any time the coach believes his/her behavior is detrimental to the team, or the coach may take other reasonable action to see that another infraction does not reoccur.
3. **Tobacco**: Possession or consuming any tobacco product, including vape and e-cigarettes is strictly prohibited.
4. **Travel**: Students must go to and return from athletic contests by school-supplied or designated travel. If a student must travel to the contest with his/her parent, he/she must have his/her parents make the request in writing to the coach prior to the contest. If a student must travel from the contest with his/her parent, then the parent must give the request in writing to the coach in charge. Once at the site of the contest, the athlete is not to leave the site without permission of the coach.
5. **Bullying, Harassment, Fighting, Threat and Intimidation**: Includes a broad range of negative acts that are intended to inflict physical, sexual, or psychological harm on another person is strictly prohibited.
6. **Hazing**: Includes any intentional or reckless act committed by an individual or group of students against other students where both of the following apply: (1) The act was in connection with an initiation into an affiliation with, or membership of, a school sponsored athletic team or group, and (2) The act causes, contributes to, or poses a substantial risk of physical or mental injury or degradation is strictly prohibited. Consequences for hazing include but are not limited to automatic suspension from athletic participation up to 9 days pending investigation and subject to removal from the team.
7. **Social Media usage**: The use of social media must be done in a manner that is respectful in nature and inappropriate use of social media could result in removal from the team as conduct detrimental to the team.

8. **Alcohol and Other Drugs**: Violation per the SUSD Uniform Code of Conduct.

**Level 1 Violation: This** includes first offense as defined in the SUSD Uniform Code of Conduct.

- a. The loss of eligibility from all participation will be for ninety (90) school days.
- b. The athlete will have an opportunity to regain eligibility after thirty (30) school days by completing the district-drug and alcohol counseling program.
- c. Athletes may practice, not compete, upon the school receiving confirmation that athletes have signed up for drug and alcohol counseling and producing a drug negative test from a state certified drug test facility. Failure to complete the district-approved counseling program will result in re-imposing the ninety (90) day suspension from all athletic participation.
- d. Athletes in drug and alcohol counseling should participate in twenty (20) hours of community service.

**Level 2 Violation: This** includes second offense within 365 days and/or distribution as defined in the Uniform Code of Student Conduct. As stipulated in the SUSD Uniform Code of Conduct, other first violations may be considered level 2 if other aggravating factors are present. Such determination is made by site administration.

- a. Removal from the team.
- b. During the last two weeks of a sport: Removed for the remainder of the season and suspension from the next sport the athlete participates in for the period to total three (3) competitive weeks.

## **1. DUE PROCESS**

1. All athletes will be presented with a written statement of the Athletic Code of Conduct and accompanying regulations and penalties at the beginning of the season and electronically agreed to.
2. Upon receipt of information regarding a violation of the code, the coach will discuss the matter immediately with the Athletic Director and athlete (s).
3. If the coach is sure a violation has occurred, he/she will:
  - A. Notify the athlete of the exact nature of the violation. The coach shall also notify the parents of the athlete, giving the same information before the penalty takes effect, or;
  - B. If two or more coaches are involved and the incident is sufficiently broad; the coaches will work collaboratively to determine disposition.
4. If the athlete and/or his/her parents are unclear as to the reason for the disciplinary action or are dissatisfied with it, they may request a meeting with the coach and Athletic Director.



**Scottsdale Unified School District  
Athletic Department Alternate Transportation Consent Form  
(Completion of this form required at the beginning of each Sport season)**

Student Athlete (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. # \_\_\_\_\_

Sport/Season (Year) \_\_\_\_\_ Coach \_\_\_\_\_

**This form must be completed and on file at the beginning of each sport season of the school year prior to any alternate transportation arrangements.**

I give my son/daughter permission to ride to and/or from any athletic event during this sport season with his/her parent(s) or the alternative parent designee(s) listed below (after I have completed a Permission form for that event and submitted prior to the event).

\*\*\*Note: No fellow students or teachers will be approved as parent designee(s) under any circumstances.

**My son/daughter has permission to travel with any of the following individuals (please print):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Phone
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Phone

By signing below, I acknowledge that either I or my designee above may have permission to transport my child from the destination. I understand that I or my designees are solely responsible and SUSD is not responsible for supervision and shall not be held liable for anything that occurs as of the time my child is signed out. Specifically, SUSD shall not be responsible for insurance and shall not be held liable for any damages or injuries of any kind that occur at or after the time my child is signed out from the activity. I agree that proper identification (such as a valid driver's license) will be provided to the appropriate SUSD personnel, before the designee(s) listed below will be allowed to sign my child out.

Student Athlete (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. # \_\_\_\_\_

Sport/Season (Year) \_\_\_\_\_ Coach \_\_\_\_\_