

Amanda - Clearcreek High School/Middle School



Athletic Handbook 2026-2027

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Statement of Purpose

Information in this handbook is designed as a set of guidelines, rules and responsibilities for Amanda-Clearcreek Students in grades 7-12. Values such as good sportsmanship, integrity, character education, a winning attitude and the complete development of the individual in team and individual settings shall be promoted. We believe athletics truly are a major part of a well-rounded educational experience. We are intentionally making efforts to foster a family atmosphere in our athletic programs. By ***“family”*** we mean student athletes, parents, coaches and school administration and staff working together to develop responsibility and accountability. Our goal is to develop and promote what the Ohio High School Athletic Association calls Clique I athletes, parents and coaches. Let's work together to make Athletics at Amanda-Clearcreek a meaningful educational experience.

Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman, Middle School and Club Interscholastic Sports

Boys and Girls Cross Country
Football
Cheerleading
Golf
Boys and Girls Soccer
Volleyball
Boys and Girls Basketball
Wrestling
Baseball
Softball
Boys and Girls Track and Field

Amanda - Clearcreek Athletic Philosophy

The Amanda-Clearcreek School District believes that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunity and experience that assists students in personal growth, self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. The Amanda-Clearcreek Athletic Department strives to provide a positive environment dedicated to achieving excellence in academic and athletic performance and inspiring personal development which prepares student-athletes to benefit society in a lasting and meaningful way.

Athletics play an important part in the life of Amanda-Clearcreek Schools. Young people learn a great deal from their participation in interscholastic athletics. Lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition and how to win and lose gracefully are an integral part of each team in our athletic program. Athletics also play an important part in helping the individual student develop a healthy self-concept as well as a healthy body. Athletic competition adds to our school spirit and helps all students-spectators as well as participants-develop pride in our school.

Amanda - Clearcreek Athletic Mission

- I. *Ensure a high quality, comprehensive program founded on uncompromised integrity.*
 - A. Meet and exceed the spirit of the Amanda-Clearcreek School District, Mid State League and Ohio High School Athletic Association.
 - B. Encourage honesty and ethical standards in interactions with all persons.
 - C. Insist on high moral standards for athletes that include fairness, character and respect for others.
- II. *Achieve the total development of the student-athlete.*
 - A. Emphasize positive interaction and relationship-building with fellow students.
 - B. Emphasize intellectual growth leading to graduation and a productive life thereafter.
 - C. Emphasize athletic achievement in interscholastic competition.
 - D. Emphasize service to the community.
- III. *Enhance the academic mission of the school district.*
 - A. Complement classroom experiences.
 - B. Provide an opportunity of positive statewide exposure for the district through athletic accomplishments that contribute to the overall success of the school.

Amanda - Clearcreek Student - Athlete Mission Statement

As the student-athletes of Amanda-Clearcreek, we will strive for individual and team success in and out of competition. With strong leadership and communication, we will emphasize the importance of academic and athletic excellence. This commitment will enable us to develop our character, establish our roles in life and serve our community.

The Athletic Department will:

- I. Host a meeting at the beginning of each season for all parents of high school and middle school athletes to discuss the current Athletic Code of Conduct and OHSAA Guidelines. Parents and athletes must sign the Athletic Code of Conduct form before the athlete may participate in any athletic activity.
- II. Provide opportunities for high school and middle school athletes to be positive role models for Amanda Clearcreek students and the community.

Amanda - Clearcreek High School and Middle School Coaches will:

- I. Distribute written expectations specific to their sport during or prior to the first week of the regular interscholastic season.
- II. Discuss the current Athletic Handbook and team rules with their team during or prior to the first week of the regular interscholastic season.
- III. Enforce the Athletic Handbook and team rules with expectations specific to their sport.
- IV. Consistently emphasize the importance of the high standards set for all athletes.

**Rules are established for the conduct of athletes and the administration of Amanda - Clearcreek athletics within the pages of this handbook. Student athletes, parents, and coaches are responsible for knowing the contents of this handbook and for following the guidelines set forth herein. A student participates in athletics by choice. In doing so, the student also chooses to adhere to the athletic*

*participation rules. An "Aces" student athlete will not do anything that will jeopardize their chances for playing or their team's chances of success". **These rules and procedures are applied during the entire sport season, on and off school grounds, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.** Failure to comply with these rules and procedures may result in a suspension from participation in Amanda-Clearcreek athletics. In addition to these rules, each coach or advisor will develop regulations and penalties that apply to that sport or activity. Students may also be suspended from an activity or sport for a violation of general school rules as set forth in the student conduct code.*

Athletic Expectations & Code of Conduct

Student-athletes are representatives of their school. As Ambassadors of the Amanda-Clearcreek community, it is incumbent upon them to represent their school with class, respect, dignity, integrity, good sportsmanship and compassion for their fellow competitors and their communities.

This Athletic Handbook serves as a supplement to the ACHS/ACMS Student Handbook which is enforced during all extracurricular activities. Students are subject to the conditions and expectations of both the Student Handbook and the Athletic Handbook. Violations of either, or both, of the handbooks could have implications at school and in the participant's extra curricular activity.

Attendance & Vacation Policy for Extra-Curricular Activities

Students involved in extracurricular activities must be in attendance to participate in their activities after-school. **Students must be in attendance by 7:45 am the day of a contest, and by 9:00 am the day after a contest.** (Exceptions may be made for home schooled students). Student-athletes not in attendance according to these requirements shall not be eligible to participate that day. The principal and/or Athletic Director - according to the situation -may make exceptions, especially if the student has a doctor's note. The same guidelines apply to students participating in academic extracurricular activities. Students must be at school to attend dances or other school functions in the evening. If students have an anticipated excused absence, students are to provide written documentation to the middle school/high school office prior to the absence. Students not following these guidelines are also subject to disciplinary action. Students must be in attendance for the entire school day to practice, play or participate in any Amanda-Clearcreek extracurricular activity.

Fairfield County Fair Week

During fair week, student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and scheduled contests. Missed practices that are fair-related must be approved in advance between the student, parent and head coach.

Students who miss events without prior arrangements may be assigned extra conditioning, face reduction in playing time, or be cut from the team.

Vacations

Student-athletes are responsible for letting their coaches know, well in advance, of any planned

vacations during the season. Although we highly discourage vacations to be taken while in season, these trips MAY be excused by their coaches. Conversely, reduction in playing time or removal from the team MAY be the consequence if proper notice is not given OR is deemed the appropriate action.

Concussion Policy

Injury Definition: A *concussion*, also known as a mild traumatic brain injury (TBI), occurs when a force causes the brain to accelerate and decelerate in the skull. In most cases, this injury only disturbs the function of the brain as opposed to the structure. As a result of this rapid brain movement, symptoms and signs may include but are not limited to:

- Loss of consciousness
- Memory loss
- Fatigue
- Balance problems
- Headaches and/or pressure in head
- Blurred vision
- Confusion
- Dizziness
- Difficulty Concentrating
- Sensitivity to light and/or noise

Symptoms are usually rapid but are short in duration and resolve suddenly over a period of time. Despite a fast rapid onset, the symptoms of a concussion may not present immediately. Recovery periods of a concussion vary from one individual to another. The sports medicine staff and team physician will determine if the student-athlete can return-to-play once asymptomatic and can perform sport specific functional tasks.

General Guidelines:

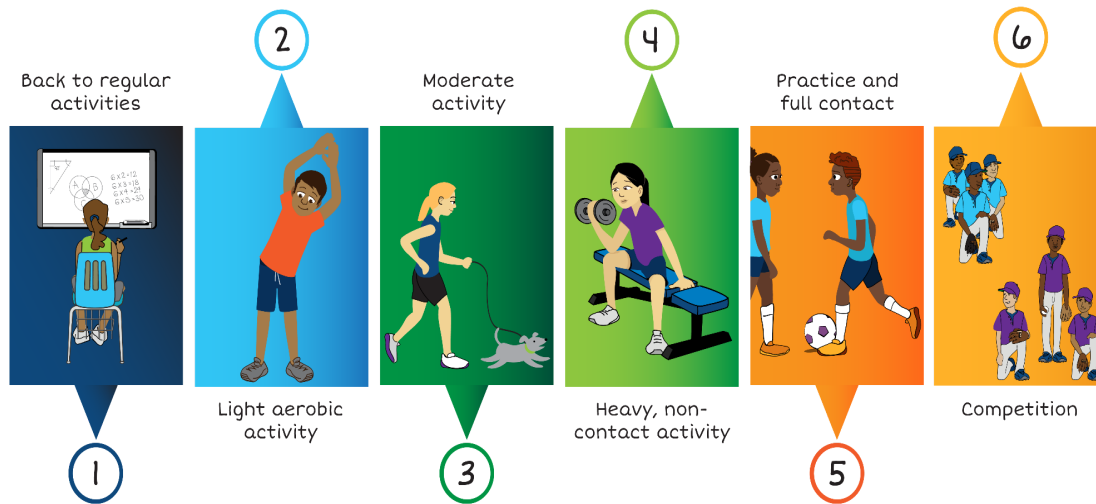
- I. Any athlete who has been referred to a Physician by the athletic trainer and/or denied participation by a physician will not be permitted to practice or play in a game/event until a Physician's release has been granted, in writing.
- II. The Board of Education's hired Athletic Trainer has the authority to deny participation to an injured athlete if the athlete's safety is in question or if ongoing medical issues require clarification.
- III. A coach, parent, or athlete cannot override a Physician's or Athletic Trainer's denial of participation for injury.

Due to recent and rapid changes in concussion evaluation and management and the potential dangers of allowing concussed athletes to continue to participate in athletics while symptoms are present, OhioHealth has created a concussion management policy for our contracted schools using guidelines established by the 4th International Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport (Zurich), the American Academy of Pediatrics, House Bill 143/Ohio's Return-to-Play Law, and the Ohio High School Athletic Association. This policy is designed to protect the student-athlete from serious injury using the "best-practices" model from the most current research available on pediatric concussions.

For **ANY** student athlete that is suspected of having a head injury, the following steps will be used:

- I. Evaluation of Concussion
 - A. According to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) any athlete suspected of sustaining a head injury should not be returned to activity within the first 24 hours of that injury.
 - B. Send the athlete to the emergency department after injury if the athlete exhibits signs/symptoms of worsening injury.
 - C. Referral to a Physician in a timely fashion as deemed necessary by an Athletic Trainer (AT)
 - D. The Athletic Trainer will notify the faculty of a suspected concussion.
 - E. Coach/athlete has the responsibility to notify the school AT of any suspected head injury within 24-48 hours.
- II. Subsequent medical evaluation with AT:
 - A. A student-athlete may be referred to a Physician if symptoms are not resolving as expected, or there is resistance of a parent or coach to AT management.
- III. Return to Play:
 - A. No athlete should ever return to play while still symptomatic from a concussion physically, cognitively, or behaviorally.
 - B. No athlete (pursuant to ORC) should ever return to play within a 24 hour period of the injury, even if all symptoms have cleared.
 - C. Eligibility to begin the return to play progression:
 1. Athlete must meet the following criteria:
 - a) All athletes under the care of a Physician must have a **return to participation document** from the appropriate medical provider.
 - b) Completely symptom free
 - c) Fully functional in the school setting
 - d) Not using any medication, OTC or prescribed, to alleviate concussion symptoms
 - D. The school's assigned team physician may retain the final decision on return to play if there are conflicting recommendations on an athlete's status.
- IV. How to return to play:
 - A. **The return to play decision must come from one of the following: MD, DO, and/or AT. The return to play decision CANNOT come from a family member that is a MD, DO, AT, or a coach that is employed by the district and also an MD, DO, or AT. Once a student-athlete starts concussion protocol, they must complete the full progression before returning to play.**
 1. The return to play progression must be completed under the direction of the Board of Education's hired athletic trainer.
 2. Clearance/release from a physician (MD/DO) after a concussion should be considered clearance to begin the progression back to play as described below.
 3. Athletes must be symptom free for a minimum of 24 hours before beginning progression and must remain symptom free during each stage to continue to advance
 - a) Light aerobic activity (walking, stationary bike)
 - b) Sport-specific activities and training (running in soccer, skating in hockey)
 - c) Non-contact training drills (begin light resistance training)
 - d) Full-contact practice training after medical clearance by physician or AT
 - e) Game Play

4. A minimum period of 24 hours is mandatory before progressing to the next level
5. If an athlete experiences signs or symptoms of concussion during the progression, the athlete should rest until asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and then return to the last stage that did not cause symptoms. If symptoms recur, the athlete should be evaluated/re-evaluated by a physician.
6. Return to play progression may be lengthened if the physician feels it is in the best interest of the athlete's health and safe return to play.



Return to Learn:

The student-athlete may also be affected in the classroom due to symptoms. The athletic trainer and/or another healthcare professional may provide them school accommodations while they are in recovery. The Return to Learn is a protocol that is structured to ease cognitive load while they are recovering from their head trauma. This is a collaborative effort which will include the athletic trainer, parents and/or guardians, and the student-athlete. Accommodations can include the following but are not limited to:

- Reducing Homework Load
- Reducing Screen Time/Reading Time
- No quizzing and/or testing while symptomatic
- Postpone deadline dates
- Can wear sunglasses throughout the day
- Can be excused to nurse's clinic if they feel worse during class

Second Impact Syndrome:

The athletic trainer and other healthcare providers will need to make sure that the student-athlete makes a full recovery before returning. If the student-athlete does not make a full recovery, then they can suffer what is called second impact syndrome. This occurs when a person does not fully recover from the first concussion. In other words, additional head trauma right after the first concussion can cause the brain to swell which can be fatal. It is imperative to call 9-1-1 or go to the emergency department if symptoms worsen due to another blow to the head while they are in the process of recovery. Therefore, it is important for the student-athlete to be honest with their symptoms to prevent this event from happening.

Tobacco/Alcohol/Vape Possession/Use

A student athlete shall not possess, use, transmit, sell or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage. A student athlete who finds himself/herself at places where underage drinking is taking place is expected to leave the area to avoid being associated with that behavior. A student athlete shall not use or possess tobacco in any form (including but not limited to snuff, chewing tobacco, smoking tobacco, e-cigarettes or vapes on or off the grounds

- I. **First Offense:** The student will be immediately excluded from participating in all extracurricular activities for a period of 3 days, including the next scheduled activity (game, competition, performance, ect.), to be coordinated by advisors, coaches, and administration.
- II. **Second Offense:** The student will be immediately excluded from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the current sports season.
- III. **Third Offense:** Any student found guilty of a third offense will be excluded from all extracurricular activities for a minimum of one calendar year (not a single season).

Drug Use/Abuse/Testing

Students participating in extracurricular activities are expected to obey all pertinent laws. Participating in extracurricular activities is a **privilege**, not a right. The school may exclude students from participating when they become involved in behaviors that may jeopardize their safety. If students are caught, or determined through a school investigation to be using, abusing or being in possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia, the following procedures and penalties shall apply in relation to extra-curricular activities.

Since participation in athletics is a voluntary act on the part of the participants and is, therefore, subject to more stringent expectations than are placed upon students not involved in extracurricular activities. The United States Supreme Court has upheld that schools may drug test students that choose to participate in extracurricular activities. The primary purpose of such a test is for the protection of each student-athlete. An athlete that uses illicit drugs or alcohol is vulnerable to added risk of injury to themselves or to others. It is the belief of the administration that student-athletes that use drugs or alcohol may be in need of help. The established testing policy is meant to provide a way to detect drug-abuse among student-athletes and has been established by the Board of Education. Student-athletes must comply with all the provisions of the drug and alcohol policy described herein.

- I. **First Offense:** The student will be immediately excluded from participating in all extracurricular activities for a period of 5 days, including the next scheduled activity (game, competition, performance, ect.), to be coordinated by advisors, coaches, and administration.
The student would be required to attend 6 weeks of counseling services and in that time would be required to begin drug testing on the following Monday and continue to do so every other Monday for a six-week time period.
- II. **Second Offense:**
 - A. The student will be immediately excluded from all extracurricular activities.
 - B. To be reinstated, the student will have to complete an approved medical drug and alcohol program approved by the Amanda-Clearcreek Administration including a negative drug screening at an approved medical facility.

- C. All costs for the assessment and treatment will be the responsibility of the student and his/her parents or guardians.

III. **Third Offense:**

- A. Any student found guilty of a third offense will be excluded from all extracurricular activities for a minimum of one calendar year (not a single season).
- B. The student will be required to complete drug/alcohol assessment (at his or her own expense) and be enrolled in a treatment program before he or she can be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity.

**Any violation after the third offense will result in exclusion from extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's school career. Records of student violations will be secured in the Superintendent's office.*

Eligibility

Below is a list of eligibility requirements for participation in Athletics at ACHS:

- I. No student shall be kept from participation in Athletics at ACHS due to his or her race, religious beliefs, gender or socioeconomic status.
- II. Students are required to meet certain academic requirements as set forth by the local Board of Education and the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Examples of these policies include:
 - A. Students must have a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) during the preceding grade period (nine weeks) in order to be eligible for athletic participation.
 - B. Students must be passing at least **5** one-credit classes or the equivalency.
 - C. Students must have passed at least 75% of their assigned classes during the previous grading period.
 - D. Students must have clearly established their legal residency in the district in order to participate in Athletics. Open enrollment students must meet OHSAA guidelines in order to participate in Athletics at Amanda-Clearcreek.
 - E. Students deemed ineligible on the first day of practice for a sport can still remain a member of a team for practice only. Upon becoming eligible per OHSAA and Amanda-Clearcreek rules and regulations, that player may begin participating fully in that sport. A student may not be added to a team once a "cut" has been made.
- III. Students must submit a completed physical form and complete the entire list of forms on the **Final Forms** site **prior** to the **first practice** in order to be eligible to participate in athletics at ACHS. Students must submit a completed and signed proof of insurance form, parental consent form, and eligibility form **prior** to the **first contest**.
- IV. Fees and financial obligations must be paid in full **prior** to the **first** contest of each sport season. In the event of financial difficulties, arrangements can be made with the Athletic Director or Principal to pay these fees at a later time.
- V. Student-athletes must participate in a random drug testing program, with guidelines and administration policies as adopted by the Board of Education. If a student-athlete does not submit

to a drug test prior to the start of the season, the student-athlete shall not be permitted to participate in the athletic program(s).

**Failure to comply with the grading period eligibility requirements results in extracurricular ineligibility for the entire succeeding grading period. If a student is ineligible, that student may not participate in any extra-curricular field trips, etc, during the next grading period. Students who become ineligible at the end of the spring semester cannot regain eligible status via Summer School.*

Grievance Procedure

While the common hope is that all athletes, parents and staff members work for the common good of the individual and the school, disagreements are a part of High School Athletics. For the purpose of **improving relations between all parties involved**, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- I. **If a parent has a complaint about a coach. they shall refrain from confronting the coach in public before or immediately after a contest or practice. Parents are required to wait 24 hours before addressing their concerns with the Coach.** A parent may contact the coach to establish a meeting to discuss their complaint. If - after this meeting - the matter is not resolved, the parent shall contact the Athletic Director to establish a meeting. If the matter is not resolved at this second meeting, the parent shall then contact the building Principal and arrange for a third meeting. If the matter is not resolved at the third meeting, the parent shall then contact the Superintendent and arrange for a final meeting. The Superintendent's decision will be final. Coaches are subject to the terms of employment as set forth by the Board of Education, and parents may request that a complaint be noted in the Coach's annual evaluation, but the decision as to whether or not to include a specific item in the evaluation will remain with the administration.
- II. Coaches, parents and the administration shall not discuss other players or family members. Conferences shall focus on the complaint and a remedy to the problem that is most agreeable to all the parties involved. Part of the established policy is that coaches are not obligated to play all players equally. The determination of who plays and who does not is determined by the Coach at his or her discretion based on criteria including, but not limited to: ability level, experience, work ethic, attitude and past performance.
- III. Board members and administrative officials may be contacted by parents and members of the community about a concern regarding a player or coach. However, they shall inquire as to whether or not the issue has been addressed with the Coach first. When appropriate, these parties shall direct the inquiring person to contact the Coach, Athletic Director, Principal or Superintendent (in order). Any written correspondence should be passed on to the appropriate personnel, giving them the opportunity to respond. Anonymous notes, letters, and phone calls will receive no attention or official action. However, if school officials believe that the safety or well-being of student-athletes may be in jeopardy, an investigation may be advised.
- IV. When a meeting is called, the Coach shall be told who will be in attendance prior to the meeting. The Coach shall also have the right to request anyone he or she believes necessary to be present at any meetings called by the parent or Principal/Athletic Director. However, if the Athletic Director,

Principal, or Superintendent orders any Coach to be present at a meeting - it is part of the Coach's contractual obligation to follow the reasonable request of their superiors and be present at the meeting.

- V. Coaches will establish their own rules and schedules (supported by the Athletic Director) within guidelines that have been established by the Board of Education. It shall be up to the Coach when to have practice, how long to practice and what to practice. Decisions regarding strategy, personnel and scheduling shall be made by the Coach. Both players and their parents should be given important information at the beginning of the season. **Preseason Parent Meetings are required per the Ohio High School Athletic Association.** If parents have questions regarding a Coach and his or her rules, they should first be addressed to the Coach. All policies that govern the Ohio High School Athletic Association shall supersede any rules set forth by the Coach. It is the responsibility of the Coach to know these rules and to abide by them.
- VI. Coaches may have to cut players from their respective teams. In order to try out for a team, an athlete must be present the first week of practice during the **try-out period**. If a Coach has to cut, he or she shall first discuss the issue with the Principal/ Athletic Director. Players shall be notified, as soon as possible, whether or not there will be cuts. The Coach shall tell each individual player in a private conference if they have been cut from the team. Coaches shall not post a list of cuts or players that have made the team. **Parents should NOT purchase expensive clothing or equipment until they are certain that their son or daughter has made the team.**

Hazing

- I. Hazing is defined in Ohio Revised Code 2903.31 as follows: ... "hazing" means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.
- II. The statute does not require serious or substantial physical or mental harm, but only the substantial risk of mental or physical harm. Therefore - in theory - any fear, embarrassment or pain caused by an act of hazing is not acceptable.
- III. Under law, schools MUST take action to prevent such hazing, actively enforcing policies against hazing, including reasonable discipline when appropriate.
- IV. Ohio Revised Code specifically creates civil liability for any administrator, employee or faculty members "...who knew and/or reasonably should have known of the hazing and who did not make reasonable attempts to prevent it."
- V. Hazing may result in criminal sanctions against both the participants and any school employee who recklessly permits its occurrence.

Hygiene, Appearance, and Decorum

"Class always shows, whether you win or lose. People can tell instantly if you have class by watching you perform and interact with others. If you have class, you don't need much of anything else to be a winner. If you don't have it, whatever else you have won't make up the difference."

The Edge, 1-23

Student-athletes represent the school to their peers, parents, and members of this and other communities. It is, therefore, important that they look, act, and play like student-athletes. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that the players do so in a manner that represents the individuals, the team, the school and the community in a positive light. Players who fail to abide by these rules are subject to disciplinary action and may have their participation withheld until they comply with the coaches' rules.

While it is difficult to create a policy that is able to accommodate everyone, there are reasonable standards which can easily be met by student-athletes relative to their grooming, appearance and decorum. Below is a list of these reasonable ***expectations***:

- I. Players are encouraged to shower after practices and games. Facilities are provided and maintained so that players may practice good hygiene to prevent the spread of infections and diseases that may be transmitted throughout the course of athletic participation.
- II. Players are not to share towels, soap, deodorant, or other products which may transmit infection and disease.
- III. Regular checks may be made of players' skin to ensure that players do not participate without a doctor's release because of a skin rash or other condition.
- IV. Uniforms - both game and practice uniforms - should be regularly washed and properly cared for by the athlete.
- V. Coaches have the authority to make decisions regarding policies for game day appearance such as wearing jerseys or dressing up to school. Players are expected to dress according to a Coach's specifications and should dress in a way that reflects the unity of the team. Each athlete is responsible to dress and groom appropriately while attending competitions. The wearing of inappropriate attire could result in the removal from team competition on the specific day the infraction occurs. See your Coach or Athletic Director if you are concerned about specific attire. Please take pride in your appearance and your team.
- VI. During contests, players' uniforms are to be worn as specified by the coaches according to what is appropriate for that sport and that uniform. For example, Softball, Volleyball and most Football uniforms are not tucked in, while Golf shirts, Basketball jerseys, and Baseball uniforms are all to be tucked in. These determinations are expressed by the Coach at the beginning of the season and will be included in a Coach's team rules and regulations.
- VII. Players may not wear earrings or other jewelry while competing in their respective sport. Visible tattoos are to be covered during interscholastic contests.
- VIII. During practices, students are to wear proper attire. If a practice uniform is provided, they are to wear the practice uniform. Coaches may make rules and establish consequences for those athletes who do not bring their practice clothes. Players are not to take shirts off during practice (no "shirts vs. skins") and female athletes must wear appropriate tops over sports bras. While shirts and shorts do not have to adhere to the policies specified in the student dress code for school, a degree of modesty is expected and clothing shall not be excessively revealing or worn inappropriately.

- IX. Players should be neat and generally well-groomed. Hair should be clean, neatly combed and worn in a manner appropriate for athletic competition. Hair should not be in a player's eyes or face. As a general rule - a male athlete's hair should not go beyond his collar and a female who wears her hair long should keep her hair pulled back while practicing and playing.
- X. Players are expected to refrain from the use of profanity, vulgar language, and rude gestures. Coaches will establish consequences for players who use inappropriate language which may include, but not be limited to: running, push ups or other exercises, benching, or suspension from the team depending on the severity of the situation and the number of times the issue has been addressed.
- XI. Coaches have the authority to establish rules and regulations for their athletes that fall under the umbrella of these guidelines. They shall have the full support of the Athletic Director and building Principals in making decisions regarding these issues. The intent of this policy is to create a reasonable set of minimum standards for athletes to protect them from infection and disease, to ensure their safety, and to promote the ideals of class and integrity throughout the Amanda-Clearcreek Athletic Program.

Multiple Sport Athletes

Playing multiple sports during the same season can be done with a written agreement between coaches of the respective sports. The player and parents must also have a written agreement in place before the sports season begins. The player must designate one sport as their ***primary activity***.

Participation Fees

The Amanda-Clearcreek Board of Education has established a policy of pay-to-participate fees in the amount of ***\$100.00 per student athlete, per season***. Payment is due ***prior*** to the first regular season contest. Participation may be denied if payment is not made prior to the first regular season contest.

However, for the 2026-2027 school year, the Amanda-Clearcreek Local Board of Education has waived participation fees.

Relationship with Teachers

Athletes are expected to be examples of good behavior in all aspects of their school life. If a faculty member reports an incident of unacceptable behavior or negative classroom attitude, the act will be discussed with the player and disciplinary action - if necessary - will be determined by the principal, athletic director and coach.

Sportsmanship

Due to the players being respected and admired, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behaviors of the spectators. The display of Sportsmanship is to be expected, encouraged, and rewarded. The following sportsmanlike behavior is to be adhered to by our players and spectators.

- I. Shake hands with opponents before (captains) and after the game.
- II. Respect the official's judgment in interpretation of the rules. Never argue or indicate a dislike for a decision.
- III. Accept both victory and defeat without being boastful or bitter. Be gracious whether the team wins or loses.
- IV. Cooperate with the coach and fellow players in promoting good sportsmanship.
- V. Accept the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and the community.
- VI. Use appropriate language in all public settings when representing their School/Team; this includes the playing floor/field, bench area/dugout, and the bleachers.
- VII. **ANY** spectator ejected from an athletic event will be required to set up a meeting with the superintendent prior to being allowed to attend another athletic event. If the same spectator is ejected a second time they will be banned from all athletic events for a calendar year.

Violations of the Code of Conduct & Discipline Procedure

The following individuals have the authority to impose discipline: Principal, Athletic Director, and Coach. They shall notify a student of his/her proposed discipline from an extracurricular activity, and the reason(s) for the discipline. They shall also notify the student's parent, guardian, or custodian. The notice shall include the reason for the discipline and the right to appeal the decision.

The imposition of the penalty shall not be stayed pending appeal. Appeals regarding a proposed discipline from extracurricular activities shall be taken to the Superintendent. Such appeals must be made in writing within 48 hours after receiving notifications of the suspension. The Superintendent shall hear the appeal and provide the student's parents, guardian, or custodian with an opportunity to present their version of the incident. The Superintendent will then notify, in writing, the student's parent, guardian, or custodian of his/her decision concerning the proposed discipline.

A coach shall have the right to remove any student from immediate participation in any extra-curricular activity under that coach's supervision, if the student's presence poses a continued danger to persons or property or an on-going threat of disrupting school, travel, or any school-provided transportation. This also applies to any school-sponsored activity held on or off school property. Within 24 hours of the discipline of a student from extracurricular participation, the coach/advisor shall either reinstate the student's participation privileges or issue a proposed-discipline of the student to the Athletic Director and Principal.

The disciplinary provisions of this handbook apply only to the removal of a student from extracurricular participation for a period of time of one day or more. The provisions are not applicable in the case of routine disciplinary procedures in which a student is removed from participation for a period of time of

less than one day. The provisions have no applicability whatsoever to a coach's day-to-day decisions related to selection of students for any activity or competition, the level of participation of a student in a particular activity, or the discipline of a student by a coach/advisor that consists of any penalty other than the complete removal of a student from extracurricular participation. (For example, a coach may determine that a student may attend a practice or contest, but may determine that the student will not participate in the event. This is not considered to be a removal from participation as defined in this policy, since the student is still attending the activity as part of the team).

Student Athlete Information Sheet and Handbook Agreement

WE HAVE READ AND ARE FAMILIAR WITH POLICIES AND GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN THE AMANDA - CLEARCREEK SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK. WE ARE ALSO AWARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS IN PROVIDING STUDENT ATHLETES WITH A SAFE AND POSITIVE ATHLETIC EXPERIENCE. AS A RESULT, WE AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS ATHLETIC HANDBOOK. WE HAVE ALSO VIEWED AND DISCUSSED THE OHSAA - REQUIRED PRESENTATIONS/DOCUMENTS ON SPORTSMANSHIP, ELIGIBILITY, AND CONCUSSIONS.

Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

Principal/Athletic Director

Signature

Date Received

Amanda - Clearcreek Local Schools

Athletic Accident- Insurance Waiver
2026-2027 School Year

My student, _____, will be participating on an Amanda-Clearcreek interscholastic sports team. Please check one of the following items which pertain to insurance coverage for the above participant:

- ☐ 1. Participant wishes to purchase a school accident insurance policy.

(Please check below the type(s) of insurance you wish to purchase.)

- ☐ A. Football only – this insurance covers high school football players for this season only. (See insurance application for premium.)

- ☐ B. School Time Insurance – this policy does not cover high school football players, but it does cover Jr. High football players and all other Jr. & Sr. High interscholastic sports. (Please review the policy for additional information and premium.)

- ☐ 2. Participant is a member of a family of a home insurance plan and does not wish to participate in the insurance plans discussed in part 1.
- ☐ 3. Participant has no insurance coverage, but we as parents and/or guardians accept full liability and responsibility of the participant in case of an accident, injury, or illness.

Participant's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date