DRISCOLL ISD ATHLETICS

7th & 8th Grade Athletics Syllabus

2026–2027 School Year

Driscoll Dragons Athletics
Grades: 7th–8th
Program: Junior High Athletics – All Sports

Program Purpose

The Driscoll ISD Junior High Athletics program is committed to developing successful student-athletes through discipline, teamwork, responsibility, sportsmanship, and hard work. Athletics provides students with opportunities to improve their physical fitness and athletic skills while developing character traits that contribute to success in the classroom, in competition, and in life.

Participation in Driscoll Athletics is a privilege. Student-athletes are expected to represent themselves, their families, their teams, and Driscoll ISD with pride and integrity.

Athletic Program Goals

Student-athletes will be expected to:

- Develop strength, endurance, coordination, flexibility, and overall physical fitness.
- Learn and improve fundamental athletic skills.
- Demonstrate teamwork and effective communication.
- Develop self-discipline, responsibility, and accountability.
- Demonstrate respect for coaches, teachers, teammates, opponents, officials, and school personnel.
- Practice good sportsmanship in both victory and defeat.
- Understand the importance of preparation, effort, and perseverance.
- Represent Driscoll ISD positively at school and during athletic events.

Student-Athlete Expectations

All athletes are expected to arrive prepared and participate fully each day.

Student-athletes must:

- Be on time and prepared for athletics.
- Follow coaches' instructions promptly and respectfully.
- Give consistent effort during practices, conditioning, and competitions.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude.
- Treat teammates and opponents with respect.
- Use appropriate language and behavior.

- Take care of athletic facilities and equipment.
- Follow all campus, district, team, and UIL expectations.
- Maintain appropriate academic progress and eligibility.
- Communicate directly and respectfully with coaches when concerns arise.

Behavior that disrupts the team, creates an unsafe environment, or reflects poorly on Driscoll ISD may result in disciplinary consequences and/or athletic consequences.

Conduct & Sportsmanship

Driscoll student-athletes are representatives of the school district. Higher standards of conduct are expected of students participating in athletics.

Unsportsmanlike behavior, disrespect toward officials or opponents, fighting, bullying, hazing, inappropriate language, deliberate rule violations, or other unacceptable conduct will not be tolerated.

Athletes are expected to demonstrate the **Dragon standard** by showing:

Discipline • Effort • Respect • Responsibility • Teamwork • Sportsmanship

Participation & Grading

Athletics is a participation-based course. Grades will reflect a student's daily preparation, participation, effort, skill development, and ability to meet course expectations.

Grades may include:

- Daily participation
- Preparation and punctuality
- Effort and work habits
- Conditioning and fitness activities
- Skill development
- Following instructions and safety procedures
- Teamwork and sportsmanship
- Proper athletic attire
- Completion of assigned athletic activities

Simply being present does not guarantee full participation credit. Students are expected to participate appropriately and give reasonable effort.

Students who cannot participate because of illness or injury should communicate with their coach and follow campus procedures regarding parent or medical documentation when applicable.

Attendance

Consistent attendance is essential to athletic development and team success.

Student-athletes are expected to attend scheduled athletic periods, practices, games, meets, tournaments, and other required team activities.

Athletes should notify their coach as soon as possible when an absence is unavoidable. Excessive or unexcused absences may affect playing time, participation, team standing, and/or the student's athletics grade when permitted by district policy.

Missing a practice may require an athlete to make up conditioning, instruction, or other missed activities before returning to full competition.

Athletic Uniform & Daily Dress

Students are expected to dress out in the required athletic uniform each day.

Athletes should:

- Wear the designated Driscoll athletic clothing or coach-approved workout attire.
- Wear appropriate athletic shoes.
- Keep athletic clothing clean and in good condition.
- Label personal athletic items when appropriate.
- Bring required clothing and equipment each day.
- Avoid jewelry or other items that create a safety concern during physical activity.

Students are responsible for issued uniforms and equipment. Lost, damaged, or unreturned school property must be handled according to district procedures.

Locker Room Expectations

The locker room is an extension of the classroom and must be treated accordingly.

Students are expected to:

- Keep the locker room clean and orderly.
- Respect the belongings and privacy of others.
- Keep personal items secured.
- Use only their assigned area or locker when applicable.
- Report damaged or missing equipment to a coach.
- Avoid horseplay, running, throwing objects, or other unsafe behavior.
- Follow coaches' directions regarding entering and leaving the locker room.
- Leave the locker room promptly when instructed.

Bullying, hazing, harassment, theft, fighting, or tampering with another student's belongings will not be tolerated.

Students should not photograph, video, or record others in locker rooms or changing areas.

Equipment & Facilities

Athletes are expected to take pride in Driscoll ISD facilities and equipment.

School-issued equipment must be used properly and returned when requested. Students should immediately report damaged equipment or unsafe conditions to a coach.

Intentional misuse or destruction of equipment or facilities may result in disciplinary action and responsibility for replacement or repair in accordance with district policy.

Academic Responsibility & Eligibility

A Driscoll athlete is a **student first and an athlete second**.

Student-athletes are expected to:

- Attend class regularly.
- Complete assignments.
- Maintain passing grades.
- Follow classroom expectations.
- Seek assistance when struggling academically.
- Meet applicable UIL and district eligibility requirements.

Athletes who become academically ineligible will follow applicable UIL and district procedures regarding participation in contests and other activities.

Health & Safety

Student safety is a priority.

Athletes should immediately report injuries, illness, dizziness, unusual pain, or other health concerns to a coach. Students should never attempt to hide an injury to remain in practice or competition.

Students must meet all applicable district and UIL requirements for athletic participation before participating when required.

Athletes are expected to follow instructions regarding hydration, conditioning, equipment, injury prevention, and safe participation.

Competition & Playing Time

Participation on an athletic team does not guarantee equal playing time during competitions.

Playing time and competitive assignments may be based on factors including:

- Attendance
- Effort

- Attitude
- Skill development
- Position needs
- Practice performance
- Sportsmanship
- Academic eligibility
- Team needs
- Adherence to team expectations

Coaches are responsible for making decisions they believe best support student development and the team.

Communication

Student-athletes are encouraged to communicate respectfully with their coaches.

When a student has a concern, the student should first speak directly with the coach at an appropriate time. Parents/guardians are encouraged to support students in developing appropriate communication and self-advocacy skills.

Questions concerning athletics should be addressed professionally and through the appropriate coaching and administrative channels.

Commitment to the Team

Being a Driscoll Dragon means being part of something larger than yourself.

Student-athletes are expected to understand that their decisions affect their teammates. Commitment includes attending practices, working hard, encouraging teammates, accepting coaching, fulfilling responsibilities, and placing team success above individual recognition.

Dragon Athlete Commitment

As a Driscoll student-athlete, I understand that participation in athletics is a privilege. I agree to demonstrate respect, responsibility, discipline, effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

I understand that I am expected to follow Driscoll ISD rules, athletic expectations, team rules, and applicable UIL requirements.

I will strive to represent **Driscoll ISD and the Driscoll Dragons with pride in the classroom, in competition, and in the community.**

Student & Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment

We have reviewed the **Driscoll ISD 7th & 8th Grade Athletics Syllabus** and understand the expectations for participation in the junior high athletic program.

Student Name: _____

Grade: ☐ 7th ☐ 8th

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

DRISCOLL DRAGONS

Discipline • Effort • Respect • Responsibility • Teamwork • Sportsmanship