

Herron Preparatory Academy

Athletic Handbook



LEADERSHIP & LEADS

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INSIDE OWL ATHLETICS

Sports Offered

This list will continue to grow as our program does.

Fall – Boys and Girls Cross Country, Girls Volleyball

Winter – Boys and Girls Basketball

Spring – Co-Ed Soccer, baseball and softball through RBI, Flag Football

Associations and Memberships

- IHSAA
- IPS
- TAB
- RBI

Program Highlights

- Boys' and Girls' Elementary XC IPS League Champions 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

Herron Classical Schools partner with families and the community to provide a classical, liberal arts education that integrates knowledge, inspires character, and values community service.

CORE VALUES

- BELIEVES THAT EVERY STUDENT IS A SCHOLAR
- ENGAGES IN AN URBAN COMMUNITY
- ADVANCES TIMELESS IDEAS AND CONTENT
- BUILDS A CULTURE OF RESPECT AND TRUST THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE & IDEAS
- SERVES AS A CATALYST FOR RENEWAL

PHILOSOPHY/PURPOSE

The Herron Classical Schools (“HCS”) athletic programs strive to provide the best opportunities beyond the school day for students to excel in knowledge, skills, teamwork, self-discipline, and moral character. This athletic handbook is designed to inform athlete and their parents or guardians of the rules, regulations, and information that help develop the rich experience of competing at Herron Preparatory Academy (“HPA” or “the School”).

Participating in athletics is not a right but a privilege that carries with it honor, responsibility, and sacrifice. Since competition is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate will be expected to follow the Code of Conduct established by the administration along with additional specific coaches’ rules for their sport. Student-athletes and parents are expected to represent Herron Preparatory Academy, their families, and our community in a positive manner. The policies in this handbook are enforced year-round and apply to all HPA and IPS League-sanctioned sports, and all sanctioned club sports and activities at HPA.

The philosophy of the HPA Athletic Department is to provide the best opportunity for its student-athletes to excel in teamwork, sportsmanship, self-discipline, and morale. Student-athletes will learn to work with others, enjoy athletics, and develop personal health habits. The primary purpose of athletics is to help young adults grow as informed citizens. By following guidelines set forth in this handbook, the ideals you exemplify as athletes will become a part of your personality and character and will be a model to those who watch you perform and compete.

You assume many responsibilities when you wear the colors of HPA. Most athletes are responsible people and succeed because of this characteristic. Those who fail to meet their responsibilities, as an individual and team member, may be a detriment to themselves, the team, and the school. Therefore, they will be penalized

accordingly. Interscholastic athletics, historically a significant part of the total educational program, contributes effectively to the lives of the participants by providing competitive opportunities, fostering initiative to succeed, providing leadership experience, and numerous opportunities for self-discipline.

The success and tradition of the HPA athletic program involves responsibilities for all prospective and participating athletes. Those entering the program should have an idea of these responsibilities and be willing to accept and maintain them. The student/athlete's conduct, on and off the field, must at all times comply with the general directives and overall mission statement of HPA. Also, a student/athlete's behavior towards and interaction with other players, participants, students, parents, faculty, and third parties must at all times comply with the general directives and overall mission statement of HPA.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

1. Each individual shall put the good of the team first and foremost.
2. Good sportsmanship will always be the focal point of the Herron Preparatory Academy athletic department. It will be reflected in how we treat our teammates, coaches, officials, and opponents.
3. Each individual shall accept responsibility for the care of all equipment and school property. Damage due to negligence shall result in financial accountability for the offending individual.
4. Each individual shall obey the specific guidelines set forth for each team as given by the coach.
5. Each individual shall be a good citizen at all times, displaying honesty, self-discipline, courtesy, responsibility, and respect for self, others, and property.
6. Each individual shall strive to be a positive influence in all he/she tries to do, representing the team, school, and community with pride and dignity.
7. Each individual shall refrain from the use of profanity, refrain from engaging in negative language, disrespectful and violent behavior, and other behaviors that will bring discredit upon themselves, their teams, their families, and their school. In short, Herron athletes are expected to maintain a higher standard of conduct than that of those not involved in athletics.
8. No individual shall participate in any unlawful act as stated in Public Law 162, regardless of local laws. These unlawful acts shall include, but are not limited to, the involvement of student/athletes with drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, gambling, theft, forgery, vandalism, falsification of grades and/or records, assault, and endangering the health, safety and/or welfare of others.
9. Each individual shall comply with the standards set forth in this handbook, core values of Herron Preparatory Academy, student handbook, and school policies and regulations or be subject to disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the team as determined by the school administration.
10. Each individual shall comply with the standards as set forth by the IHSAA or be subject to disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the team as determined by the school administration.
11. Each individual shall comply with local, state, and federal laws and regulations or be subject to disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the team as determined by the school administration.
12. The student athlete/ participant must acknowledge and understand that participation by student athletes is a privilege, not a right, and such participation may be limited, suspended, and/or terminated by the school at its sole discretion.

ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

The IPS League and HPA both have minimum requirements for participation in high school athletics, conditioning programs, and club sports. Failure to meet these requirements will render that student-athlete ineligible for participation. The following requirements for athletic participation at HPA must be met before participation can begin:

- Students new to HPA must first be enrolled at HPA.
- Every HPA student-athlete is required by the IHSAA and HPA Athletic Department to have an IPS Liability and Consent Waiver or an IHSAA Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form completed and on file before conditioning, participation in a camp, and when practice begins in any sport. Physical exams are the responsibility of the student-athlete and their parents.
- Every HPA student-athlete and parent/guardian is required to read the handbook and sign a player contract before participation.
- Students must be in good academic and behavioral standing to be eligible for participation in athletics.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Student-athletes/guardians are required to pay all fees associated with each activity by the established due dates. Payment plan requests and/or arrangements must be made in writing to HPA's Athletic Coordinator. Fees are required prior to the receipt of the goods. Unpaid fees will result in the inability for the student-athlete to try out for an athletic team during the following season.

PARTICIPATION STANDARDS & GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

The following reflect the standards by which the HPA Athletic Department expects all student-athletes to abide. Participation by student-athletes is a privilege. It must be earned and maintained through demonstrated commitment, honesty, loyalty, and hard work. The coaches of each sport, with the authority of the athletic department and the head of school, will enforce the specific elements of the Code of Conduct.

- The good of the team is first and foremost.
- Athletes are responsible for the uniforms and equipment. The HPA Athletic Department will replace uniforms damaged or destroyed by competition. Student-athletes will reimburse the HPA Athletic Department for uniforms and equipment that have been lost, damaged with uses not associated with athletics, or not turned in at the end of the season. Uniforms are intended to be worn only on competition days for competition and should not be worn otherwise.
- If your team conducts fundraisers, all team members are expected to participate.
- The coaches of individual teams may supplement the HPA Athletic Department Student Athletic Handbook with their own additional rules that are specific to their sport. These rules carry the same weight as those of the HPA Athletic Department and may carry specific penalties that would be administered and enforced by the coach of that team. These penalties may be in addition to those imposed by the HPA Athletic Department.

- HPA student-athletes are expected to be a positive role model to other students in our school and to the young people of the community.
- Student-athletes are expected to read, understand, and abide by the rules found in this handbook.

STANDARDS OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

- Good sportsmanship will always be the focal point of the HPA Athletic Department. It will be reflected in how we treat our teammates, coaches, officials, and opponents.
- Student-athletes at HPA will place a positive and supportive relationship with their teammates and coaches as their highest priority. Regardless of the sport, individual or team, we are only as strong as how we treat each other.
- After all contests, HPA athletes are expected to shake hands with the athletes and coaches for the team(s) that we have competed against.
- After all contests, regardless of whether we agree or disagree with their calls, HPA athletes will thank the officials for their work in officiating the contest.
- After any contest where ribbons, medals, or trophies are presented to opposing team(s), HPA athletes will stay and watch and applaud the efforts of the athletes and teams involved in that contest. At no time will HPA athletes ever leave the field or floor while a presentation is being made.
- HPA athletes will not use inappropriate language while taking part in any contest or practice.
- Though all sports have some level of physical contact, and recognizing that hard, physical aggressive contact is a major part of all sports, at no time will an HPA athlete engage in physical play that would result in unsportsmanlike conduct that would jeopardize the safety of the opposing athlete or the integrity of the team.
- All HPA athletes will stand and remain quiet during the playing and/or performing of the National Anthem. If this is against the athlete's religious beliefs, the athlete may remain seated or wait to come on to the floor or field.
- Athletes are required to wear school-issued uniforms during all contests.
- Any athlete ejected from a contest for an unsportsmanlike act shall be suspended from the next interschool contest at that level of competition and all other interschool contests at any level in the interim.
 - The athlete may attend, as determined by the coach, the next competition but may/may not be in uniform but will not play.
 - If the ejection is the last contest of the season, the penalty will carry over to the next sport season the athlete participates in and finishes in good standing.
 - Prior to returning, the athlete is required to complete a sportsmanship lesson provided by the HPA Athletic Coordinator.
 - A second offense in the same school year involves suspension for 20% of the current or next season in which he/she participates.
 - A third offense will carry a one-year suspension from the date of the third offense.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

- Athletes must demonstrate good sportsmanship and must conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen both on and off the field of play. Poor classroom, school, or school-related events behavior will not be tolerated.
- Athletes are to follow rules established by the coaches. These may include the rules of grooming, appropriate dress, curfew, diets, etc. These rules are not to be excessive.
- Athletes will be financially responsible for all equipment issued to them. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in another sport until all previous athletic financial obligations are complete.
- Athletes may not quit one sport in the same season to compete in another sport. Athletes who choose to quit a team during the season will not be eligible for reinstatement and will be required to meet with the Athletic Coordinator prior to joining any future teams.
- Cell phones and cameras may not be used inside a locker room or restroom for any purpose. This means no texting, no calling, and no pictures. The use of cell phones, regardless of whether it has a built-in camera or not, is not permitted in the locker room or restroom at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE. The rule applies to all players, managers, and coaches (coaches may use a cell phone in their office, not the locker room). Should an athlete receive a call or text while he/she is in the locker room or restroom, he/she should take the phone (still in the backpack, book bag, gym bag, etc.) out to the hall or outside the building before use. CAMERAS AND PHONES MAY NOT BE IN USE OR NOT IN VIEW IN THE LOCKER ROOM OR RESTROOM FOR ANY REASON.
- The following (but not limited to) acts by a student during athletics on or off school premises will be sufficient cause for discipline, suspension, or expulsion deemed appropriate by the administration:
 - Disruptive conduct
 - Disobedience of reasonable instructions of school authorities
 - Refusal to identify oneself
 - Unauthorized absence from a practice or game
 - Cheating
 - Immoral conduct
 - Vulgarity and profanity
 - Destruction or defacing property
 - Extortion
 - Intimidation
 - Harassment (racial/ethnic/sexual/religious) of another student or employee
 - Assault of another student or employee
 - Verbal abuse or offensive behavior
 - Gambling
 - Stealing
 - Possession or use of any dangerous weapons or objects
 - The commission of any criminal act defined by law or citation received
 - The use, sale, or possession of tobacco
 - The use, sale, or possession of alcoholic beverages
 - The use, sale, or possession of drugs and/or related paraphernalia

- The Athletic Code of Conduct deals with specific violations that should be applied within every athletic program; however, this code is not intended to be all-inclusive. Because something is not explicitly mentioned in the code does not mean it is not prohibited. If no penalty is listed in the code for a violation, the Athletics Coordinator has the authority to determine the penalty (consistent with the philosophy of the code) with consultation of the head of school.
- A student-athlete who has violated a school rule and has completed discipline procedures with HPA's leadership team may be subject to additional punishment under the HPA Athletic Department and/or an individual coach's policy. Student athletes suspended out of school are also removed from participation in practice and contests for the duration of the suspension.

VIOLATIONS

Reporting of Violations: Violations of the Code of Conduct for Student Athletes or violation of any portion of the Athletic Handbook should be reported immediately to the appropriate head coach and the HPA Athletic Department.

Serving of Penalties: Penalties for violation of the Code of Conduct for Student Athletes or any other violation of HPA rules or those rules of the coach within a sport will be imposed immediately and will be served in the order that the contests are scheduled.

Athletic Participation During a Period of Removal from Participation: During the period of time that a student athlete has been removed from participation and with the exception of the student athlete that has been removed from attendance, for practices and contests, the student athlete is expected to be present at all athletic contests and practices involving the team. The student athlete is a member of the team and is expected to fulfill this responsibility. If the athlete does not attend a contest or practice or any other function scheduled by the coach, credit will not be given toward fulfilling the requirements of the removal from participation.

PROCEDURES

Upon reasonable suspicion of a student's violation, HPA's leadership team and/or the Athletic Coordinator will conduct an investigation. Following the investigation, the student and family will be notified by the Director of Athletics as to the consequences described in the athletic handbook.

APPEALS

Appeals to HPA's Athletic Department: A student-athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) have the right to a hearing on a removal from participation by notifying the HPA Athletic Coordinator by phone or in writing within two (2) school days after the removal. The right of appeal is forfeited if this is not requested within this

two (2) day limit. The purpose of the appeal hearing is to inquire into the student-athlete's alleged violation and allow the athlete and parents or guardians to present evidence on behalf of the student-athlete. The removal from participation will remain in effect during the appeal hearing.

Appeals to HPA's Leadership Team: The student-athlete has the right to appeal the decision of HPA's Athletic Department to the school's leadership team. The notification of the intent to appeal to the leadership team must be made by phone or in writing within two (2) school days after the meeting with HPA's Athletic Coordinator. The right of appeal is forfeited if this is not requested within this two (2) day limit. The purpose of the appeal hearing is to inquire into the student-athlete's alleged violation and allow the athlete and parents or guardians to present evidence on behalf of the student-athlete. The removal from participation will remain in effect during the appeal hearing. Following the hearing with a member of HPA's leadership team, the student-athlete and the parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified within two (2) school days by the Head of School as to the decision.

ENFORCEMENT

All coaches, teachers, administrators, staff, athletes, and parents should work together to uphold and enforce the HPA Athletics Handbook. A possible code violation shall be reported promptly to HPA's Athletic Coordinator, who will include the athlete, parent, coach, and member of HPA's leadership team if needed in an investigation of the matter.

If HPA's Athletic Coordinator decides that a handbook violation might have occurred, they will contact the athlete and his or her parent/guardian immediately.

Upon further investigation, if it is decided that an athlete has violated handbook policies and will be temporarily or permanently excluded from interscholastic athletic participation, HPA's Athletic Coordinator will inform the student-athlete and his or her parent/guardian of the decision and the consequences of the student-athlete's action(s).

HERRON CLASSICAL SCHOOLS DRUG TESTING POLICY

HPA has the right to randomly drug test any student who participates in any athletic activity or co-curricular activity and has the right to drug test any student for whom HPA has reasonable cause to suspect may be using an aforementioned substance. Possession or use of any illicit substance is strictly prohibited and will result in an intervention and consequences including confiscation, suspension, expulsion, possible arrest, and/or other actions deemed appropriate by the school's leadership team.

PROHIBITION OF BULLYING/HAZING IN HCS ATHLETICS

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe team and coaching environment that is free from hazing for student-athletes and staff members. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the mission and core values of Herron and are prohibited at all times.

Hazing Defined

"Hazing" means committing an act against a student-athlete, or coercing a student-athlete into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, team, or for any other purpose. The term hazing includes, but is not limited to, any type of/activity that:

- Physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, or placing a harmful substance on the body.
- Physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, confinement in a restricted area, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- Involves the consumption of any alcoholic beverage, drug, tobacco product or any other food, liquid, or substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
- Intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, or subjects a student to extreme mental stress, embarrassment, shame, or humiliation that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from remaining in school.
- Causes or requires the student to perform a task that involves violation of state or federal law or of HCS policies or regulations.

General Policy Statements

- No student-athlete, coach, member of HPA's leadership team, HCS employee, contractor, or volunteer shall plan, direct, encourage, aid, or engage in hazing.
- No student-athlete, coach, member of HPA's leadership team, HCS employee, contractor, or volunteer shall permit, condone, or tolerate hazing.
- Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.
- A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization or team shall be subject to discipline for that act.

This policy applies to hazing behavior that occurs on or off school property and during and after school hours. HCS will act to investigate all complaints of hazing and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student-athlete, employee, coach, leadership team member, contractor, or volunteer who is found to have violated this policy.

Reporting Procedures

Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall report the alleged acts immediately to HCS faculty and staff outlined below:.

- HPA's Athletic Coordinator is the person responsible for receiving reports of hazing within the athletic department.
- Any person may report hazing directly to any HPA teacher or leadership team member.

Coaches, teachers, leadership team members, HCS employees, contractors, and volunteers shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances, or events that might include hazing. Any such person who receives a report of, observes, or has other knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall inform a member of HPA's leadership team immediately.

Submission of a good faith complaint or report of hazing will not affect the complainant or reporter's future employment, grades, team standing, or work assignments.

HCS's Response to Reports of Hazing

Upon receipt of a complaint or report of hazing, HCS will undertake or authorize an investigation by school officials or a designated third party.

HCS may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, reporter, students or others pending completion of an investigation of hazing. Upon completion of the investigation, HCS will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to: warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, termination or discharge.

Disciplinary consequences will be administered consistently. HCS will appropriately discipline prohibited behavior and deter others from hazing. Action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with other school policies.

Reprisal & Retaliation

HCS will take appropriate action against any student-athlete, coach, employee, leadership team member, contractor, or volunteer who retaliates against anyone who makes a good faith report of hazing, or who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation or hearing about a hazing incident. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal, or harassment.

STUDENT ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

HPA is committed to providing a learning environment free of unlawful harassment based on a student's race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any category protected by law. The school is committed to protecting students from such unlawful harassment whether from other students, administrators, faculty members, other staff, or anyone with whom students interact at school, on school

property or while participating in school-related activities. Prohibited conduct includes any behavior or action which violates law or this policy, regardless of where such behavior or action occurs. HPA's commitment further includes protecting students from any type of offensive, intimidating misconduct that interferes with their educational pursuits. Unlawful harassment and/or prohibited misconduct against any student are reprehensible and will not be tolerated. All employees, students, volunteers, and members of the school's religious community are expected to exhibit the highest ethical standards and personal integrity. Harassment may be physical, verbal, written, visual, nonvisual, or nonverbal in nature. Harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- Epithets, slurs, stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts that relate to a student's race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, and/or any other category protected by law.
- Written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group because of race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability and/or any other category protected by law.
- Sexually harassing behavior, which may include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other comments or conduct of a sexual nature when:
 - Submission to such behavior is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term of a student's academic status or progress
 - Submission to or rejection of such behavior by a student is used as a basis of educational decisions affecting the student
 - Submission to or rejection of such behavior by the student is used as the basis for any decision affecting the student's school-related opportunities, benefits and services
 - Such conduct is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it has the purpose or effect of depriving the student of access to educational opportunities, benefits or services

To clearly define unacceptable behavior, a list of inappropriate conduct/behavior is provided below. Examples of inappropriate behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Offensive or vulgar jokes
- Name calling
- Comments about one's body
- Offensive or sexually-related physical gestures
- Comments about one's or others' sexuality, sexual history, or sexual practices
- Display of any pornographic, sexually explicit, or sexually oriented material
- Any form of physical restraint
- Any type of massage (except with respect to authorized personnel engaged in appropriate and legitimate athletic/training endeavors)
- Use of school resources or property to download, upload, display, or distribute any pornographic, sexually explicit, or sexually oriented material (this does not apply to legitimate educational material, such as material relating to the study of art, etc.)
- Nudity (this does not apply to legitimate educational material, such as material relating to the study of art, and as appropriate in locker rooms, changing facilities, shower rooms, etc.) or inappropriate attire

- Inappropriate physical contact, such as full-body or lengthy embraces, kissing
- Pinching, patting, fondling, or touching of another's body including, but not limited to, genital areas, chest, buttocks, legs and/or thighs
- Punishing or retaliating against a person for refusing to comply with implied or explicit sexual advances
- Any unwelcome conduct or behavior which implicitly or explicitly seeks sexual contact or sexual relationship

The above examples of inappropriate conduct/behavior are not intended to be a complete list of prohibited conduct or actions. It is provided as a list of examples of such prohibited conduct/behavior. A good general rule is: if you have any question about whether conduct or behavior is appropriate, then do not engage in the behavior.

Any student or parent who believes a student has been subjected to behavior that violates this policy is encouraged to and has a responsibility to immediately report the concerns to the Director of Student Culture or Assistant Head of School. No action will be taken against any student because he/she or his/her parent reports behavior believed to violate this policy.

HPA respects the confidentiality of a student reporting concerns and the individual(s) about whom the report is made to the greatest extent possible consistent with the school's legal obligations and necessity to investigate alleged violations of this policy. HPA will take appropriate disciplinary action when inappropriate behavior has occurred.

It is the responsibility of all members of the leadership team, faculty, staff, volunteers, and students to behave in accordance with the letter and spirit of this policy to maintain a productive educational environment of which all can be proud. All students are assured that HPA will take appropriate steps to investigate any alleged violation of this policy and to take appropriate corrective action to ensure that students have an opportunity to learn in an environment free of inappropriate comments and conduct.

A STUDENT ATHLETE BEING DECLARED INELIGIBLE

The following are brief guidelines to a variety of rules that might cause a student-athlete to be declared ineligible. This is a partial list of minimum requirements. Student-athletes and their families are encouraged to contact the HPA Athletic Coordinator for further clarification and specific information or visit www.ihsaa.org.

- Student-athletes must be enrolled in Herron Preparatory Academy.
- A student-athlete who has been absent for five (5) or more days must complete four (4) separate days of practice before they can compete in competition.
- A student-athlete who has been absent more than ten (10) consecutive days must complete six (6) separate days of practice before they can compete in competition.
- Student-athletes must be in attendance for more than half of the school day (e.g., arrive by 11:30 AM) to attend that evening's activity.

HPA ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Grade Report Checkpoint Dates 2026-2027 (subject to change, pending teacher's due dates)

Fall: Mid September

Winter Session 1: December

Winter Session 2/Spring Session 1: February

Spring Session 2: April

- Taking the overall wellness of the student athlete:
- The athlete will not be permitted to play if they do not have a passing grade A-C previous when the season starts. Fall season eligibility is assumed; however, the half-way grade check (below) will occur.
- Half way progress monitor: If the athlete is below the grade threshold, an improvement plan will be implemented. The athlete has two weeks to improve to requirement if not, they are off the team
- Any athlete that has a significant drop in grades during a season will be required to meet with the Director of Athletics and/or the teacher to help find the source of the regression.

INJURY AND EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

In an emergency, student-athletes and spectators will defer to the home school's emergency response plan.

In the event of an injury on campus, HPA's Athletic Coordinator will notify HPA's leadership team of the injury. Members of the leadership team will implement the school's standard injury protocol and reporting.

All coaches and staff affiliated with HCS have undergone, or are expected to complete training in a reasonably timely manner, CPR and AED training and completed IDOE's annual state-mandated training.

SCHOOL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Facilities & Individual Items

All athletes and team members are expected to care for equipment, uniforms, supplies, and facilities as if they were personally owned. This responsibility includes proper attention to washing and drying instructions, inspections, and security of all items.

Athletic lockers should be clean and organized. All team members share in the responsibility to fulfill this expectation for the health and safety of the team. Athletes are expected to keep their personal areas organized and their personal items clean.

Unauthorized use of another person's personal or school-issued items will not be tolerated. Participants will be expected to reimburse the school for school-owned items that are not returned at the designated time in the specified condition. A bill for such items will be passed on to HCS's Business Office and be passed on to parents/guardians responsible for the account.

School-issued uniforms are to be worn for competition purposes only and not for spirit days or practice attire.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Activity Buses/Transportation: Activity buses, when provided, transport student-athletes to and from athletic contests. When activity buses are not available, it is the responsibility of the student-athlete's family to provide transportation. HPA encourages families to clearly communicate approvals between families who organize a carpool for students riding with other parents/students.

Changing a Sport: If a student-athlete is cut from a team, they may join another team in that sport season, unless the student-athlete was cut for disciplinary reasons. A student-athlete cannot quit one sport to join another sport until their original sport season has concluded. However, athletes will be allowed to transfer from one sport to another during a given season upon mutual agreement of both coaches and the HPA Athletic Coordinator.

Adding a Sport: If students wish to add a NEW sport to Herron Preparatory Academy, the following requirements must, by default, be met:

- The emerging sport will be offered as a school club for the first year
- Meet the minimum number of required student-athletes to play the sport plus an additional 25%
- Secure a Coach
- Secure facilities for practices and games, as needed

Bad Weather (lightning, severe storms, hot and cold extremes): The HPA Athletic Coordinator, in consultation with the coach, trainer, and officials (during contests), will make decisions based on the IHSAA guidelines for student-athlete safety. On the day of games, decisions are made by the host school as close to team departure time as possible. Additionally, coaches and the HPA Athletic Coordinator will work together to determine if the conditions are safe to attend practice and games in the event of inclement weather. Notices will be sent as soon as a decision has been made.

Schedules: The scheduling of all athletic events and practices is determined by the HPA Athletic Coordinator in cooperation with each coach. Each season, the coach will issue a schedule to the students and parents as soon as possible. If practice is understood to be every day, there may not be a printed practice schedule issued. Athletic practices may be scheduled on Saturdays, but not, by default, on Sundays.

On occasion, an athletic event may be scheduled on a day or weekend when school is observing a holiday or break. When this is determined to be necessary, the dates will be given out as far ahead as possible, and all student-athletes are expected to be in attendance.

School Equipment & Uniforms: Students are responsible for all equipment issued to them. Athletic uniforms are supplied for the sole purpose of athletic participation. This equipment is not to be used for any other purpose. When the season is over, all equipment and uniforms are to be returned to the HPA Athletic Coordinator, who will keep inventory of all items issued to the team. The parent is responsible for the dollar

replacement cost of any lost or damaged school-issued equipment or uniforms. Uniform budget will be allocated and reviewed by the HPA Athletic Coordinator and Head of School according to a rotation schedule.

Extracurricular Conflicts: If a conflict arises involving an athletic contest and an event related to another school activity, the coach and teacher/sponsor will discuss whether accommodations can be made to allow the student-athlete to participate in both events. If an agreement cannot be reached in this manner, the student-athlete and parent(s) will decide how best to proceed, keeping the best interest of the student-athlete in mind. Teachers and coaches may assign alternative work/tasks in place of the missed event. No additional or punitive penalties may be assessed beyond the loss of benefits (e.g., grades, participation) inherent in the event itself. It is understood that post-season contests/performances will take priority over regular in-season contests/performances.

Pre-Season Meetings: All parents of student-athletes may be required to attend a pre-season meeting with the coaching staff of that sport. The meeting shall be held before the first contest. Parents will be informed of all rules for their sport as well as the rules of HPA and the IHSAA.

Dress: As representatives of HPA Athletics, when competing in a contest, student-athletes are expected to wear the issued uniform, warm-up, shooting shirt, etc. that have been approved by the IHSAA, HPA's Athletic Coordinator, and team coach. Failure to wear the approved uniform may result in loss of playing time.

Dress During the School Day: On days of contests, student-athletes are not permitted to dress up. Student-athletes must follow all dress code policies set forth by HPA.

Practice Policy: To avoid distracting the players and coaches, all practices are closed, by default, to the public and non-coaching family members. Coaches may choose to open practices if they deem it appropriate. No one but the players and coaches may be on the gym floor or in view of the gym floor. It is acceptable for parents to watch from the lobby, if available. If a practice is held in a location that allows parents to watch from anywhere out of the direct line of sight, then they are welcome and permitted to watch provided they make no noise or otherwise distract the players and coaches. Parents are not permitted to coach from the sidelines during any practice. Athletes and families may enter HPA and go straight to the gym up to 15 minutes before practice and up to 30 minutes before a game. An Assistant Coach or trusted adult will wait at Door 1 for only 5 minutes after the practice starts. Following that 5 minute grace period, the doors are closed and locked to incoming participants.

Selection of Teams: Each coach at HPA will have their own policy as to how they will choose their teams. Some of our sports allow all those who come out to participate, while others require a selection process in order to have the appropriate number of student-athletes on the team. At the beginning of the season, if appropriate for that sport, the coach will review with the student-athletes who are trying out for the team what selection criteria will be used for selection to the team.

AWARDS

Athletic awards can be earned in all sports and some clubs at HPA when the appropriate criteria are met. Awards are presented at the discretion of the coach and the HPA Athletic Coordinator.

COMMUNICATION

Cancellations: At times, it is necessary to cancel games and practices (inclement weather, host school cancellation). The HPA Athletics Coordinator will update cancellations through ClassDojo, team GroupMe, email, or similar. Coaches will also communicate with players and families. Please do not call the school on these days. If it is a home event that we have scheduled, HPA's Athletic Coordinator will make every reasonable effort to communicate a cancellation by 3:00 PM. Please note, for all away contests, the opposing school's athletic director makes the cancellation decision. As soon as we receive that information, we will communicate the change to HPA's student-athletes and families. Student-athletes will be allowed to call their families, as needed, to make arrangements for pickup.

Family-Coach Communication: As family members, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand the expectations that are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's team. Families and players are required to join the team communication tool (Band, TeamReach, GroupMe, etc.).

Coach-to-Family Communication: The following can be expected from your team's coach.

1. Information about members of the coaching staff and which coaches may be specifically working with your child.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the team.
3. Location and times of practices and contests.
4. Schedule changes.
5. Team requirements (fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, specific team rules, etc.)
6. Procedures should your child be injured during practice or a contest.
7. Discipline procedures that may result in the denial of your child's participation.

Family-to-Coach Communication: The following can be expected from family members to the team's coach.

1. Specific medical problems that could adversely impact your child's performance or safety.
2. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
3. Notification of any schedule conflicts. We request at least 2 weeks' notice of scheduling conflicts.
4. Specific concerns regarding a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

We strongly encourage, and may request, face-to-face discussion when discussing concerns or areas of disagreement.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:

1. The treatment of your child mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.
4. Family concerns that may have an emotional impact upon your child and his or her athletic participation.

Please note: Coaches make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for the team and for all the student-athletes involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things may be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as the items below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Lineups
5. Substitutions
6. Other student-athletes on the team

Timing Guidance for Coach Communication: We recommend reaching out to your child's coach to find an agreeable time to meet or schedule a call to discuss concerns. Impromptu conversations regarding concerns during practices or games, and immediately before and after events will be deferred and scheduled by the coach. These are times when the coach is focused on the student-athletes in their care. Attempting to communicate concerns at these times detracts from the coach's ability to adequately facilitate their responsibilities to the entire team.

Complaint/Concern Procedure: Please follow these steps to communicate your concern related to your student-athlete's experience.

1. Call/Message the coach to set up an appointment with the appropriate parties.
2. If the coach has not returned outreach within two (2) school days, contact HP's Athletic Coordinator to help schedule the meeting.
3. If a satisfactory resolution is not met directly between the coach and family member, call/message HPA's Athletic Coordinator to schedule a time to discuss the situation. Please refrain from approaching the HPA Athletic Coordinator at games or practices with concerns.
4. The HPA Athletic Coordinator will schedule a time, within a reasonable timeframe, to discuss concerns and will determine next steps.

HPA FAMILY GUIDELINES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

HPA's philosophy of educating the whole child applies to athletics and sports as well as to their academic life. When students participate in club sports, intramurals, fitness activities, or varsity teams, they do so as a part of their total educational experience—building skills of commitment, sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork.

Interscholastic athletics at HCA offer proof that athletic and academic success may thrive together in a supportive environment. As your children become involved in the athletic programs at HPA, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. Research indicates that a student involved in an extracurricular activity has a greater chance of success during adulthood. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant in HPA athletics are exactly those that will promote a successful life in and after high school.

We hope the information provided within these HPA Family Guidelines and Code of Conduct makes both your child's experience and your experience with the HPA Athletic Department enjoyable and beneficial.

Fundraising: Family members are encouraged to volunteer and participate in all team-scheduled fundraisers. Family members are not permitted to host fundraisers as representatives of HPA without written permission from a member of HPA's leadership team. This includes but is not limited to setting up a GoFundMe account or any other online fundraising site.

Spirit Wear: HPA Spirit Wear is available through our [BSN partner's online shop](#). Spirit wear is only to be worn to school on specified days during the school year according to the HPA Family Handbook. By default, Spirit Wear is not permitted to be worn by student-athletes on game days. Family members are not permitted to create spirit wear using any Herron Classical Schools logo or colors without written approval from Herron Classical Schools marketing team.

Family Code of Conduct: By participating in activities sponsored by the HPA Athletics Department, family members of student-athletes agree to the following, I will:

1. Pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement to my student-athlete and his or her team.
2. Pledge to provide positive support and encouragement to the visiting team, their coaches, and school.
3. Treat all players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect.
4. Maintain positive behavior and attitude at all athletic contests.
5. Respect the position and professionalism of the game official.
6. Refrain from the use of foul language.
7. Refrain from yelling criticism at my student-athlete and his or her coach or team.
8. Refrain from making derogatory comments to players, other parents, game officials, or school leadership team members.
9. Refrain from interfering with the coach.
10. Let the coach be responsible for my son or daughter during practice, games, and team-related activities.

11. Assist in providing for student safety and welfare.
12. Assist in team fundraising, if necessary.
13. Adhere to the Closed Practice Policy.
14. Sign and submit, with accurate information, all required student-athlete handbook forms to the HPA Athletic Department.
15. Attend all mandatory parent meetings.
16. Not attempt to circumvent any rules or guidelines of HPA or the Indiana High School Athletic Association.

Failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct may result in temporary or permanent removal from a practice or a contest and may include a mandatory meeting with HPA's Athletic Coordinator and a member of HPA's leadership team. Per the IHSAA, families who are ejected from a contest will be suspended from two \ (2) consecutive competitions and will also be required to take a sportsmanship course through the NFHS prior to returning to home events. Violation of this Code of Conduct will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

I/we, the student-athlete and the caregiver of the student-athlete, acknowledge that I/we have read the terms of this Code of Conduct and the HPA Athletics Handbook. I/we agree to conduct myself/ourselves according to the terms of this Code of Conduct. I/we also understand and agree that any violation of this Code of Conduct or handbook will be cause for suspension, dismissal, or permanent expulsion from future athletic contests.

I have read, understand, and agree to the HPA Athletics Handbook and HPA Family Guidelines and Code of Conduct.

Student-Athlete Signature

Date

Student-Athlete Family or Caregiver Signature

Date