

San Antonio Independent School District



# Student - Parent Athletic Handbook

2017-2018



## Why This Handbook?

This handbook has been developed in order to establish a foundation for all athletes, coaches, teachers, administrators and community members to build upon. It is imperative that all involved are of one philosophy and objective to avoid confusion and personal agendas. The expectations for athletes and their coaches within the San Antonio Independent School District Athletic Department are high due to the fact that athletic competition is highly visible within the community. It is with full consideration and recognition of that fact that this handbook has been developed.

## Non-School-Sponsored Club Sports

It is the expectation of SAISD Athletic Coaching Staff that school-sponsored sports take precedence over non-school-sponsored club sports. Failing to follow this expectation may result in suspension or dismissal from the school-sponsored sport.



San Antonio Independent School District  
Athletic Department

*“The way the game should be played”*

Our Mission

To engage our coaching staff every day through constant communication, motivation and encouragement to create a positive and meaningful athletic experience for our student-athletes and coaches.

Our Vision

To create an Athletic Department that provides our coaches and student-athletes with the resources and opportunities needed to be successful at the highest level possible.



## Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts, illness or injury in advance.
- Avoid using SOCIAL MEDIA negatively towards coaches, school administration, other students and/or athletic programs.

## Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches

- Coach's interaction with your child or interaction with others.
- Ways to help your child improve athletic skills.

## Topics Left To The Coach's Discretion

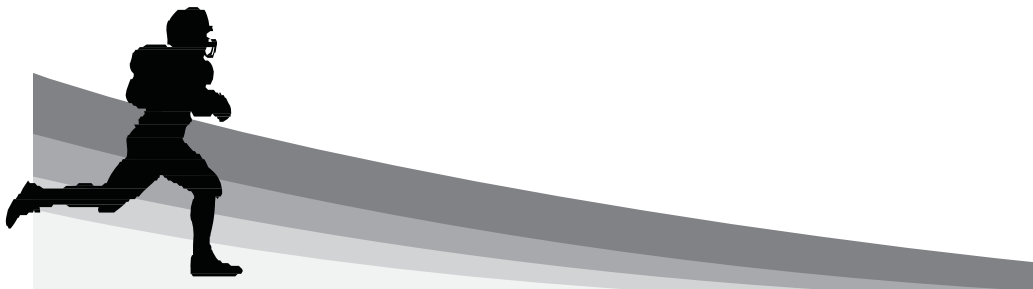
- Playing time
- Play calling
- Team strategy
- Other student/athletes

## Parent-Coach Meeting Procedure

- Call the school and ask for the coach's extension.
- Request a meeting.
- If the coach is unavailable, call the Campus Athletic Coordinator and request a meeting to be arranged.
- Do not confront a coach before, during or after a practice or game. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions. Not following this request will result in suspension from attending athletic contests.

## If The Issue Is Not Resolved, Follow This Protocol

- Call the Campus Athletic Coordinator
- Call the District Athletic Director
- Call the Campus Principal



## THE SAISD ATHLETE

There are many advantages of being a member of an athletic team in the San Antonio Independent School District. In fact, there are so many that it would be difficult to list them all. However, there are some realities each athlete needs to be aware of before accepting the challenge of becoming a student athlete for his or her school, such as

1. You must pass to be eligible to play and are expected to excel in the classroom.
2. Training rules may cramp your social life. Sacrifices will be necessary.
3. You will have to practice every day, either before or after school, Saturdays and possibly holidays.
4. You may practice and never get to start or have limited playing time.
5. Do not expect favors because you are an athlete; expect a challenge.
6. You will be expected to be well-behaved on and off the field.  
What you do off the field may get you dismissed.
7. You must be enrolled in the SAISD and will be expected to follow the SAISD *Student Code of Conduct*.
8. Per U.I.L. Rule; Gender is determined by the gender listed on student's birth certificate.

NOTE: If a Licensed Athletic Trainer suspects that athletic participation would jeopardize the health and welfare of a student-athlete, the Athletic Trainer may prohibit the student-athlete from participating.

*If you like to party, then you'd better decide what is more important.  
A good party or a uniform? .... It will be tough having both.*

Most things listed in the SAISD Athletic Standards on the following page should be self-imposed rules. Although if you lack the maturity of self-discipline, then it will be necessary for the Athletic Department to enforce disciplinary action, possibly even permanent dismissal from all athletic programs.

To be admired as a champion and as an athlete—ACT RIGHT!



## SAISD ATHLETIC STANDARDS

1. No fighting, profanity, or trash talk. Remember, people don't see you; they see the school's name across your chest. Ejections may result in suspensions from future athletic contest.
2. School attendance is required on game day unless approved by the coach and principal.
3. Truancy is unacceptable. Go to class!
4. Male in-season hair policy:  
No facial hair. Hair should be off the shoulders. If hair is shoulder length or longer, hair must be neatly secured in a ponytail or bun during practice and competition. Mohawks, multiple/unnatural colors, etc. are not permitted for both males and females in-season.
5. No jewelry during practice or games.
6. Go to practice. There are very few acceptable excuses to miss a practice.
7. Any athlete who quits a sport will not be allowed in another sport until the sport he or she quit has finished or has received the consent from all coaches involved. Also note that any athlete who quits or is dismissed from a sport forfeits that sport's athletic award.
8. If a student becomes academically ineligible for two consecutive 9-week grading periods, they may be dismissed from athletics. The student can be reinstated when academics stability is demonstrated.
9. **NO HAZING/BULLYING.** This includes any activity intentionally taken in which any student(s) humiliates, degrades, or physically or mentally abuses any other student. This includes **SOCIAL MEDIA**.
10. Being in the environment of alcohol, tobacco or any illegal substance or activity is prohibited. If you are at a party, in a car, etc. where drugs and alcohol are present, **LEAVE!** Do not be found guilty by association.
11. Engaging in indecent exposure of private body parts or sexual conduct in locker rooms, playing fields/courts, or while on athletic trips will not be tolerated. Including inappropriate use of cell phones and **SOCIAL MEDIA**.
12. If a student/athlete is ejected from an athletic contest for unsportsmanlike behavior, the following is mandatory prior to being allowed to play:
  - a parent/student conference with the coach.
  - a written assignment to be turned in to the coach.

Violations of SAISD Athletic Standards are subject to being "written up," resulting in a strike. Obviously all situations cannot be noted.

Therefore, the athletic staff can determine inappropriate behavior.



# SAISD ATHLETIC TRAINING RULE

\*\*\*\*\*Applies 365 Days A Year\*\*\*\*\*

Consumption and/or sale of alcohol, any illegal substance, or engaging in unlawful behavior is strictly prohibited.

Violators will be “written up” resulting in a strike.

## Possession of Alcohol and/or Tobacco

The student-athlete will be disciplined by the head coach. A second violation will result in a strike. Any violation after receiving strike one is a strike.

## PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

FIRST STRIKE OFFENDERS of rules are subject to disciplinary action, suspension or expulsion from athletics. The head coach has the authority to extend the punishment beyond the minimum mandatory suspension. Action recommended might be in addition to any action taken as a result of policies that apply to all students. The coach and Athletic Administration will consult parents. Counseling may be recommended.

All first offenders will be “written up,” resulting in STRIKE ONE!

SECOND STRIKE OFFENDERS of rules are subject to disciplinary action, suspension or expulsion from athletics. The head coach has the authority to determine the extent of punishment beyond the minimum mandatory suspension. Action recommended might be in addition to any action taken as a result of policies that apply to all students. The coach and Athletic Administration will consult parents. Counseling will be required.

All second offenders will be “written up” resulting in STRIKE TWO!



## MINIMUM MANDATORY SUSPENSION FOR STRIKE ONE

Middle School students will not be given strikes, but will receive discipline for violations.

Football.....	1 game	Volleyball.....	2 matches
Basketball.....	2 games	Baseball.....	2 games
Track.....	1 meet	Softball.....	2 games
Cross Country.....	1 meet	Soccer.....	2 games
Golf.....	1 tournament	Swimming.....	1 meet
Fall Tennis.....	1 match		
Spring Tennis.....	1 tournament		
Student Trainer/Manager.....	follow in-sport season		

Strike Two Offenders: Multiply the above number by 2 for Minimum Mandatory Suspension.

Suspensions will be served next scheduled athletic event, not to include scrimmages. Student-athletes competing in more than one sport when strike is given will serve suspension for the next scheduled athletic events which may involve two different sports.

## DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

If a student-athlete has been allowed to return after a second strike, this student will return on a “three strikes and you’re out” status. This means a third violation between the grades of 9-12 would be STRIKE THREE! This would result in automatic dismissal from the athletic program for the remainder of his or her eligibility. A review committee will be formed that is made up of the athlete’s present coach, campus athletic coordinator, campus head coach, campus principal, and district athletic director prior to issuing the third strike. The District Athletic Director will chair the committee that will include, but not be limited to the following criteria:

1. Student-athlete personal file
2. Willingness to follow athletic training rules
3. Behavior and reaction since first offense





## APPEAL PROCESS

Note: Athletics is a privilege, not a right. However, a student-athlete has the option to appeal a dismissal if he or she chooses to do so. Any appeal must seek Administrative Remedy beginning with the head coach of the particular sport.

## U.I.L. TRANSFER POLICY

A student who changes schools for athletic purposes is not eligible to compete in varsity athletics at the school to which he or she moves for at least one calendar year, even if both parents move to the new school attendance zone. The District Executive Committee for the district into which the student moves shall determine when or if the student who moves for athletic purposes becomes eligible. A student attending a school outside the attendance zone where the parents reside would not be eligible for varsity athletics for one calendar year. A student who changes school for non-athletic purposes must be enrolled and in regular attendance for 15 or more calendar days before becoming eligible for varsity athletics. The student becomes eligible on the 15th day unless he/she enrolled within the first 6 days of school. An Intra-District Transfer occurs when a student has an option to attend more than one high school within a school district, rather than being assigned to a school according to attendance zones. A student is eligible at the school first selected if he or she transfers at the first opportunity (beginning of 9th gr. school year. A Previous Athletic Participation Form (PAPF) is also required if the student has participated or practiced in athletics in grade 8-12 at another school. This form must be approved by the District Executive Committee before they are eligible to participate at the varsity level. Approval is not guaranteed.



## VARSITY STUDENT-ATHLETES LETTERING CRITERIA

An athletic letter award (letter or jacket) should require serious sacrifices on the part of the student-athlete. The school letter should be a symbol of not only school pride, but also of hard work and dedication in the classroom and on the playing field/court. If they are handed out as "favors," then the value of the award is diminished for all who have earned their jacket the right way. If sacrifices were not made, then the athlete does not deserve it. In order to receive an athletic award each athlete must participate and complete the season in good standing on the varsity team at the level listed.

*By UIL rules, each athlete can be awarded one (1) letter jacket during his/her high school career.*

FOOTBALL	6 or More Games
BASKETBALL	14 or More Games
TRACK	4 or More Meets + District Meet
CROSS COUNTRY	4 or More Meets + District Meet
VOLLEYBALL	14 or More Matches
BASEBALL	13 or More Games
SOFTBALL	13 or More Games
SOCCER	10 or More Games
TEAM TENNIS	60% or More Matches + District Tournament
INDIVIDUAL TENNIS	4 or More Tournaments + compete in Regionals in one season. Or, two consecutive seasons of Varsity Competition to include 8 tournaments.
GOLF	4 or More Tournaments + compete in Regionals in one season. Or, two consecutive seasons of Varsity Competition to include 8 tournaments.
SWIMMING/DIVING	5 or More Meets + compete in Regionals in one season. Or two consecutive seasons of Varsity Competition to include 9 meets.
STUDENT TRAINER\ MGR	2 Varsity Season

AND/OR have the unreserved recommendation of the Athletic Director and the Head Coach of the varsity sport participated in.



## ADVANCED COURSE UIL WAIVER

With the goal of having all student participate in Advanced Academics experiences in their school career, this policy is designed to encourage students to take academic risks by providing a waiver to UIL disqualification due to a failing grade. Students are expected to make progress in raising their grade to continue to receive a waiver for an advanced course. This waiver is subject to the following conditions:

- Students may only be waived from an Advanced Placement, or International Baccalaureate course; or an honors or dual credit course in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or language other than English.
- A separate waiver must be completed for each course.
- Student may only be waived if their course average is at or above the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile for each grading period, may not have any unexcused absences, or missing assignments.
- Students who receive a waiver must attend teacher-assigned tutorials.
- Student must show progress in raising grades to passing levels in order to reapply for a waiver for a concurrent grading period.
- The teacher of record for the waived course must validate and initial the waiver.
- The teacher of record for the course, UIL coach or sponsor, and campus administrator or counselor must be in agreement and sign the waiver for it to be valid.

## ATHLETIC INSURANCE STATEMENT

SAISD provides athletic injury insurance. If your son/daughter requires medical attention as a result of a school related athletic injury, you should contact one of the SAISD Athletic Trainers in order to obtain an athletic insurance claim form. The athletic trainer will need to evaluate the injury to gather information prior to filling out an athletic insurance claim form. **SAISD will not assume financial responsibility for any medical bills regarding an athletic injury.** If the parents have primary insurance, the athletic insurance is the secondary insurance. If the parents have no primary insurance then the athletic insurance will become the primary insurance. Filing an athletic insurance claim does not guarantee full payment of medical bills. The athletic insurance does have limits. **Any remaining balance will be the sole responsibility of the parents or guardians.** Non-school related injuries are not covered by the SAISD athletic insurance.



## SWEAT

Sweat, the most important ingredient of success. If you don't produce it, you are satisfied with less. Do you really sweat? I mean really bust your tail?

Or do you go half speed, teaching others how to fail?

Sweat doesn't come easy, it starts from within.

Sweat is liquid courage, a pre-requisite to win.

Tired of being average? Just barely getting by?

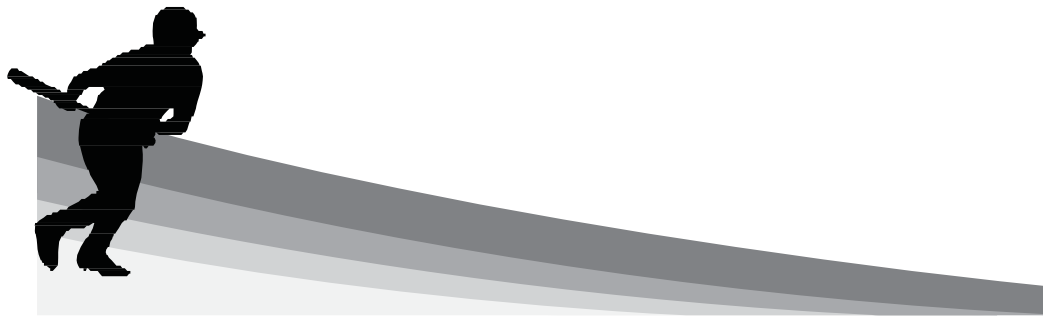
Set your sights on sweatin' and reach for the sky.

Taste it in your mouth, let its salt be your meal.

Push your body to its limit, try sweatin' for real.

Sweat, it's gasoline for your inner fire.

Stay focused and remember, anyone can perspire!



I, the undersigned, have read and fully understand the San Antonio Independent School District's Student-Parent Athletic Handbook and agree to comply with it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Athlete's name PRINTED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Athlete's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Coordinator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

THIS PAGE MUST BE SIGNED BY THE STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN,  
AND RETURNED TO THE HEAD COACH BEFORE PARTICIPATION IS ALLOWED



# NOTES



