



“Today’s Athletes Are Tomorrow’s Leaders”

Sewanhaka Central High School District Athletic Handbook



*SEWANHAKA CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-2025

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**Sewanhaka Central High School District
Department of Physical Education, Health, Athletics & Driver Education**

Dear Student-Athletes and Parents:

Welcome to the Sewanhaka Central HS District Athletic Program! The information contained in this handbook is provided to communicate policies, procedures, and expectations of our interscholastic athletic department.

The Sewanhaka Central High School District strives to provide an athletic experience for its students that provides lifetime skills development - Teamwork, Respect, Communication, Critical Thinking, Leadership, Understanding & Appreciation of Diversity and Differences.

“Today’s Athletes Are Tomorrow’s Leaders”

When your son/daughter chooses to participate in one of our athletic programs, he/she must commit themselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. This handbook will familiarize you with specific policies and procedures necessary for a well-organized interscholastic athletics department. Our athletic program is governed by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), New York State Department of Education, Section 8 Athletics (Nassau County) and the SCHSD Board of Education.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Athletic Office in your home school.

Sincerely,
Matt McLees, CMAA
Director of Athletics, Health, Physical Education & Driver Education



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Governing Bodies for Athletics

The Interscholastic Athletic Program in the SCHSD is governed by the rules, regulations & guidelines as established by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), which is directly responsible to the State Education Department (SED) and the Commissioner of Education.

The NYSPHSAA comprises eleven sections or chapters in the State of New York. Nassau County, which is referred to as Section VIII (Nassau County Public HS Association), is a member of the NYSPHSAA. The purpose of this organization is to formulate and adopt policies that will enable high schools to administer and govern interscholastic athletics in accordance with sound educational practices.

The NYSPHSAA and Section VIII establish many rules, regulations and policies that govern public school interscholastic athletic competition, including season start and end dates, the APP program, eligibility, schedules, placement, contest rules, safety policies, practice mandates and post-season tournament opportunities. Section VIII is also responsible for scheduling of officials for all contests played in Nassau County. The JH program is run through the District Athletic Office, and we schedule our own officials. Many of our officials also work for Section VIII.

The SCHSD, as a member of the Nassau County Public HS Athletic Association, is obligated to comply with State and Section regulations. Therefore, our district policies must align with the policies that govern Nassau County public school athletic programs.



Goals of a Quality Interscholastic Athletic Program

Competence

- ❖ A student-athlete in a quality athletic program is competent in terms of:
 - o Skills development/refinement
 - o Knowledge of the game – tactical strategies
 - o Overall fitness, conditioning, and healthy behaviors

Character

- ❖ A student-athlete in a quality program demonstrates:
 - o Responsibility - for his/her personal conduct at all times
 - o Accountability - to be prepared and ready for all practices and games
 - o Dedication - to your teammates and coaches
 - o Trustworthiness - to do the right thing even when no one is looking
 - o Fair Play
 - o Self-Control - ability to control your emotions in the heat of competition
 - o Leadership - the internal flame to be the one that others follow
 - o Handling Adversity - by seeking solutions that are best for all

Civility

- ❖ A student-athlete in a quality program demonstrates civility towards others showing:
 - o Respect - shown to all opponents, coaches, teammates, and officials
 - o Fairness
 - o Caring - with appreciation and understanding of diversity
 - o Sportsmanship

Citizenship

- ❖ A student-athlete in a quality program demonstrates citizenship through actions showing evidence of:
 - o Loyalty/ Commitment
 - o Teamwork
 - o Role Modeling

5.



Mission Statement

The Sewanhaka Central High School District strives to nurture an athletic experience for its students that encourages and supports lifetime skills development – Teamwork, Respect, Communication, Critical Thinking, Leadership, Understanding & Appreciation of Diversity and Differences.

SCHSD Athletic Program

It is the goal of the administration and coaching staff to provide our student-athletes with a meaningful, challenging, and positive learning experience. We believe that participation in the interscholastic athletic program is a worthwhile experience that all students should be given the opportunity to voluntarily pursue. The SCHSD affirms the privilege of every student to participate in the interscholastic athletic program without regard to gender, race, or religion. We support the regulations and spirit of Title IX legislation and do not limit one gender in the enjoyment of any right, privilege, advantage, or opportunity. When conducted under the leadership of educationally oriented administrators and coaches, we believe that participation in athletics can make a positive contribution to the intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of our student-athletes. Although the goal of all competitive sports is to win within the rules, that is by no means, the only measure of success. The total development of the individual student-athlete is of considerably greater importance. Success in athletics, occurs when athletes are allowed to develop their abilities to the fullest and maximize their potential. In carrying out its mission, the athletic department will expect students to conform to the highest standards of conduct and demonstrate a degree of self-discipline and self-sacrifice for the attainment of the team's goals. Athletes will also be expected to demonstrate respect for the dignity and rights of others, diversity of others, good sportsmanship, and respect for authority.



Varsity Philosophy

Varsity teams are the culminating level of each sport's program. The varsity team is composed of the most skilled, dedicated members of the program, regardless of grade level. The varsity team is normally composed of juniors and seniors. Occasionally, sophomores and freshmen who possess advanced levels of physical development, athletic skill and appropriate social-emotional development may be included on the varsity team. It is possible, but rare for junior high students to be included on a varsity roster (see APP policy).

Squad size at the varsity level is limited and varies in all sports. The number of participants on any given team is a function of those needed to conduct an effective and meaningful practice and to play a contest. It is vital that each team member has a role and understands its importance. The number of roster positions is relative to the student's acceptance of their individual roles in pursuit of the team's goals. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time at the varsity level is never guaranteed or promised.

A sound attitude and advanced level of skill are prerequisites for a position on a varsity team, as is the realization that a varsity sport requires a six day a week commitment. The commitment is extended into vacation periods for all sports seasons. The dedication and commitment needed to succeed in a varsity program should be taken seriously.

The varsity coach is the leader and oversees the sport's program. The coach determines the system of instruction and strategy for that program. The communication among the junior high, junior varsity and varsity program is the responsibility of the varsity coach. In addition, it's imperative that varsity coaches hold pre-season parent meetings to discuss their expectations and philosophy of the varsity program. Preparing to win, striving for victory in each contest and working to reach the group's and individual's maximum potential are worthy goals of the varsity level team.



Junior Varsity Philosophy

The junior varsity level is intended for those who display the potential of continued development into productive varsity level athletes. Although team membership varies according to the structure of each program, freshmen and sophomores occupy the majority of roster positions.

In certain situations, juniors who are expected to make future contributions at the varsity level will be considered for junior varsity participation.

At this level, athletes are expected to have visibly committed themselves to the program. There is increased emphasis on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills, elements and strategies of team play in addition to social and emotional development. Junior varsity programs work towards achieving a balance between continued team and player development and striving for victory. The outcome of the contest becomes a consideration at this level.

The practice sessions are vital to a successful JV team and player. For all team members, meaningful contest participation will exist over the course of a season; however, a specified amount of playing time is never guaranteed. Participants at this level are preparing themselves for the six day a week commitment that is expected at the varsity level. Practice sessions are sometimes scheduled during school vacation periods. With the goal of becoming a varsity athlete clearly in sight, a high level of dedication and commitment is expected at the junior varsity level.

8.



Junior High Philosophy

This program runs separate from Varsity and Junior Varsity participation in Section VIII. The SCHSD has its own "in house" Junior High athletics program (available for students in 7th & 8th grade). Our five district schools all participate and play against each other.

At this level, student-athletes are becoming familiar with their responsibilities of being on a school team. The importance of attending practices and games while maintaining a solid academic profile are vital. Our Junior High athletics program has a "no cut" philosophy. All students are encouraged to participate in at least one sport in each of the four Junior High seasons.

- ❖ Fall
- ❖ Winter I
- ❖ Winter II
- ❖ Spring

Athletic contests between the schools take place. However, the district realizes the primary focus is not winning but focuses on providing a meaningful, worthwhile introduction to interscholastic athletics .

9.



High School Sports Offerings

<i>Fall Sports</i>	<i>Varsity</i>	<i>Junior Varsity</i>
Boys Cross Country	X	
Girls Cross Country	X	
Boys Soccer	X	X
Girls Soccer	X	X
Girls Volleyball	X	X
Boys Volleyball	X	X
Cheerleading	X	X
Football	X	X
<i>Winter Sports</i>		
Boys Basketball	X	X
Girls Basketball	X	X
Winter Track Coed	X	
Wrestling	X	X
Cheerleading	X	X
Unified Basketball	X	
<i>Spring Sports</i>		
Baseball	X	X
Softball	X	X
Boys Spring Track	X	
Girls Spring Track	X	
Girls Lacrosse	X	X
Boys Lacrosse	X	X
Unified Bowling	X	

Unified Sports

The district recognizes the needs of all its student athletes and participates in Section VIII Unified Athletics. Inclusive sports combine athletes (players with intellectual disabilities) and athletes (players without intellectual disabilities) to create athletic teams for training and competition. Participation is rooted in the principle of meaningful involvement which ensures that every player is given an opportunity to contribute to the success of his or her team through their unique skills. Inclusive activity is among the most conducive ways to break down stereotypes and foster relationships. Each school has teams that best meet their individual needs. You may contact your Athletic Director in your school for more information.

10.



District Team Sports Offerings

<i>District Sports Fall</i>	<i>Varsity</i>	<i>Junior Varsity</i>
Girls Tennis	X	
Field Hockey	X	X
Boys Golf	X	
Girls Swimming	X	
<i>Winter Sports</i>		
Bowling	X	X
Gymnastics	X	
Rifle	X	
Boys Swimming	X	
Wrestling	X	X

<i>Spring Sports</i>		
Girls Golf	X	
Boys Tennis	X	

11.



Junior High Sports Offerings

<i>Fall Sports</i>	<i>7th Grade</i>	<i>8th Grade</i>
Cross Country	X	X
Boys Soccer	X	X
Girls Soccer	X	X
Field Hockey	X	X
Football	X	X
<i>Winter I Sports</i>		
Boys Basketball	X	X
Girls Volleyball	X	X
Winter Track Coed	X	X
<i>Winter II Sports</i>		
Girls Basketball	X	X
Boys Volleyball	X	X
Wrestling	X	X
<i>Spring Sports</i>		
Baseball	X	X
Softball	X	X
Spring Track	X	X
Girls Lacrosse	X	X

Boys Lacrosse	X	X
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12.



Sports Registration

The school nurse will provide the Athletic Directors a list of sports approved students for participation in interscholastic athletics. All student-athletes must complete the following forms in order to be cleared for athletic participation.

1. Medically Approved Athletic Physical – All physicals are valid for one year.
2. Athletic Permission Form
3. Pre-Participation/Interval Form- Completed within 30 days of the start date of your season.

The SCHSD uses a program called Infinite Campus & RSchool Plus for all sports registration. All student-athletes in grades 7-12 must register through R School Plus, unless given permission to do otherwise by the Athletic Director. The school nurse will compile a list of approved & unapproved students for athletic participation. Once the school nurse, or in some cases, the medical director for SCHSD, approves the student-athlete, he/she may begin to practice. If the student-athlete is not approved or has not been reviewed by either the school nurse or the medical director for the SCHSD, the student athlete may not participate in practice until approved. Families may begin to register their student-athletes one month prior to the start of their season. If the student athlete plays more than 1 sport, registration must be within 30 days prior to the start date, for each season, during the school year.

Athletic Placement Process APP

The Board of Education of the SCHSD authorizes the Athletic Department to use the Athletic Placement Process Program for placement of selected junior high athletes. SCHSD BOE Policy prohibits 7th Grade students to go through APP with the exceptions of Swimming, Tennis, Golf Gymnastics, and Bowling. The program shall be administered according to the provisions of the Athletic Placement Process for Interscholastic Athletic

Programs (February 2015) of the NYS Education Department and in accordance with the SCHSD Athletic Department Policy.

13.



The student-athlete will be considered for the APP process through recommendation of the junior high coach in conjunction with the Varsity coach. If the recommendation is approved, then the following steps must occur for the student athlete to go through this process.

1. Parent/Guardian Permission
2. Administrative Approval
3. Medical Clearance from the school doctor— if the medical director does not clear the student to participate in the desired sport and level, he/she may not proceed any further in the evaluation process. The medical director will determine:
 - a. The physical maturity level of the student in relation to the sport and level in which they wish to participate using the tanner scale.
 - b. The size, height, and weight of the student in relation to the size of the average age and sex of the student against whom they wish to compete.
4. Physical Fitness Testing – all sports except bowling and golf
**** Students approved to test must do so on the dates set by the Athletic Director**
5. Sport Skill Evaluation
6. Qualification Determination
7. Tryouts
8. Notifications – The athletic office will compile a notification list of the scores of all athletes who have successfully completed the process and have been approved through the APP after the try-out period has been completed. The athletic secretary will send this information to the Athletic Director of the opposing schools and the Section 8 Athletic Office.

A more detailed list of information regarding the Athletic Placement Process (APP), including the NYSED paperwork, can be found on the district athletic website under the Athletic Placement Process.

***** Please note- The Athletic Department must be contacted by the dates listed below in order to go through the Athletic Placement Process. Failure to do so will result in a student not being able to begin the process.***

Fall Sports – May 1st

Winter Sports – October 1

Spring Sports – January 1

14.



Student-Athlete Expectations

The athletic department expects all student-athletes to attend all practices, games, and team events. If a student-athlete is injured, they are expected to attend all practices, games, and team events, unless specifically excused by the coach. School-related athletics should take precedence over outside leagues and organizations as we strive to teach commitment and accountability to our student-athletes. Those who are inconsistent with attendance risk reduced playing time and removal from the team. We expect all student-athletes to uphold the student consent form and adhere to all team rules and procedures set forth by the coaching staff.

Demonstrating positive sportsmanship at all times is expected and represents the athletic department in a positive light during all team functions. Student-athletes are reminded constantly that they are representing not only themselves, but their team, school, community, and family.

Academics take priority over athletics or other co-curricular activities as the Interscholastic Athletics Program is viewed as an extension of the classroom. Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. As per BOE Policy & Regulations 5140, Students who receive two or more failing grades in a marking period are ineligible for participation until the next marking period. If at that time all classes but one are passed, participation may begin again. Participation may commence earlier if the effort of the student, in judgment of the Extra-Curricular Eligibility Committee, is sufficient. Therefore, students who are not performing well academically or have poor class attendance, or violate the student athlete

contract risk suspension from athletic competitions. All student-athletes are required to be present in school by the end of period 3 in order to participate in practice or competitions.

15.



Parent Expectations

Parents are expected to provide support to all our student-athletes, coaches, and programs. We encourage parents to attend all contests and competitions. We expect that while in attendance, parents demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. Be LOUD, PROUD and POSITIVE! Please let the players play, let the coaches coach, and let the officials officiate. We expect that all parents exude a positive attitude with pride, class, and dignity. We expect parents to model the behaviors we expect from our student-athletes. All parents who do not adhere with these protocols, risk removal from the events and further suspensions based upon the severity of the incident.

Parents should also encourage children to participate on multiple sports teams throughout the school year. The SCHSD offers a wide variety of interscholastic athletic teams in which to participate. Playing multiple sports throughout the school year will foster better time management and accumulate cross sport skills.

Coaches Expectations

The SCHSD expects our coaches to:

- ❖ Maintain a healthy and safe environment for our student-athletes through practices, games, competitions, and team events.
- ❖ Treat student-athletes fairly and in a positive manner
- ❖ Communicate regularly with students and parents
- ❖ Encourage student-athletes to participate in multiple sports

- ❖ Provide a foundation for lifelong learning
- ❖ Support the academic programs and encourage student athletes to improve
- ❖ Assist with the college bound process

Coaching Certifications

All interscholastic athletic coaches that are employed by the SCHSD meet all NYSED coaching certification requirements and are approved by the Board of Education prior to each season.

16.



Equipment and Uniforms

1. School athletic equipment will not be used for any activity outside of school, unless approved by the Athletic Director.
2. Athletes who have not satisfied their responsibilities for missing items either through return or payment will not be allowed to participate in the following sport season.
3. School equipment or uniforms should never be given to athletes to keep permanently. If equipment is worn or broken, please notify the Athletic Director so the items can be disposed.
4. It is the responsibility of the coach to see that the athlete returns all equipment/uniforms that were issued.
5. The Athletic Director must be informed of any athlete who fails to return equipment and the items that was not returned. The Athletic Office, not the coach, will seek collection of payment.

Transportation

The athletic department will provide round trip transportation to all away contests. If a situation arises where a parent needs to take their child to an away contest, this must be approved by the Athletic Director in advance. If a parent needs to pick up their child from an away contest, please email the Athletic Director and cc the coach on the email with 24-hour notice. This should be used for emergency situations only. If another parent will be picking up your child, the athletic department needs notification from a parent/guardian by email. If a situation arises and prohibits 24-hour notice, all efforts will be made to accommodate the student-athlete.

An athletic shuttle bus will be provided by the district to transport students back and forth between each of our district's schools as well as alternate locations. These include, Alva T. Stanforth and Floral Park Memorial HS, Rath Park and Carey HS, Elmont Elementary and Elmont HS for modified (JH) sports, practices and games.

Observance of Religious Holidays

The SCHSD recognizes the right of all students to practice and follow the teachings of their religion and observe religious holidays. All requests to be excused from practice and/or games to attend religious services will be honored without penalty.

17.



Early Dismissal from Practice

If an athlete needs to leave practice early, the parent must email both the Athletic Director and coach requesting such dismissal, 24-hour prior. If another parent will be picking up your child, the athletic department will need notification as well. At the time of pick up, please go to the practice site where the coach will release the student-athlete to the designated adult.

Chain of Communication

If a problem should arise during the season, the Athletic Department requires that you follow the chain of communication:

1. *24 Hour Rule ~ Must wait 24 hours before following the chain of communication.
2. Student-athlete should speak with the coach
3. Parent should contact the coach and set up a meeting to discuss your concerns
4. If a meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, the parent should contact the Building Athletic Director for a meeting with all parties involved
5. If after step 3, the issue has not been resolved, a meeting with all parties and the building's principal will take place.
6. If after steps 1 through 4 do not bring satisfactory resolution, contact the District's Director of Athletics.

Please do not contact the coach pre-game, during the game or immediately following the game. Make every effort to set up an appointment to meet at a time that is mutually convenient for all involved. Appropriate concerns to speak to a coach about include treatment of your child, techniques, and strategies to help your child improve, student-athlete behavior, academics, sports camps and clinics. Issues that are not appropriate to discuss with coaches include playing time, team strategy, play calling and other student-athletes.

Athletic Awards

The Athletic Department recognizes athletes for their efforts, contributions, and accomplishments during their sports season with an awards night at the completion of each season/year. Each of the 5 high schools has awards that they have chosen to distribute. The SCHSD recognizes the uniqueness of each program and how they chose to award their student-athletes.

18.



Athletic Trainers and Injuries

The SCHSD employs certified athletic trainers to care for our student-athletes. If your child has experienced an injury, the athletic trainer will treat them accordingly based on the nature and severity of the injury. He/she will evaluate the injury and decide if they need a referral to a physician, emergency room, or home instruction. It is important that the instructions given to the athlete are followed. ANY TIME AND ATHLETE SEES A PHYSICIAN OR GOES TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM FOR AN INJURY, AN INITIAL DR'S NOTE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SCHOOL NURSE. AN ACCIDENT REPORT MUST BE COMPLETED WITH THE NURSE, AND AN ADDITIONAL CLEARANCE NOTE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SCHOOL NURSE PRIOR TO RETURNING TO ACTIVITY. THE CLEARANCE NOTE SHOULD INCLUDE DIAGNOSIS, RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES, AND TIME FRAMES. Athletes will be required to pass a functional evaluation by the ATHLETIC TRAINER prior to their return.

It is the student-athlete's responsibility to report all injuries and illnesses to the coach and the athletic trainer as soon as possible. This includes all injuries that occur at contests home or away, as well as practices.

To provide the best quality and have continuity of care, the athlete should report all injuries PRIOR to any further participation. At this time, the athlete should inform the athletic trainer if they have been seen by a physician.

If an athlete is injured during an away contest, the coach should be notified immediately. The athletic trainer from the host school, if available, can evaluate the athlete and send a report to our athletic trainer for follow up upon their return to school. If it is an emergency situation, with only one coach representing the SCHSD, the game is to be suspended so the coach can accompany the athlete to the hospital. If an assistant coach is present, the game may continue and the assistant coach will accompany the athlete to the hospital. If the parent/guardian is present at the game, the coach does not have to accompany the athlete to the hospital.

If you are concerned about an injury that your child sustained during the season, please call the athletic trainer. An injury that appears to be minor one day, and is more bothersome the next day, should be reported as well. If you decide to see a physician, you must provide that athletic trainer with documentation stating diagnosis, return to play criteria, and special instructions.

19.



Concussion Protocol

The Athletic Department follows NYS Education Department's Guidelines for Concussion Management in Schools. NYS law requires that students who sustained or are suspected to have sustained a concussion during athletic activities (interscholastic sports) are to be immediately removed from such activities. Such student's may not return to athletic activities (interscholastic sports) until they have been symptom free for a minimum of 24 hours.

Once a student-athlete sustains a head trauma, he/she will be evaluated by the athletic trainer. If the student-athlete shows signs and symptoms consistent with a concussion, he/she will need further medical evaluation by a licensed healthcare professional. If the student-athlete presents a doctor's note indicating that they did not sustain a concussion and they are cleared for activity, that note will be sent to the district physician for medical clearance. If the note states that the student-athlete is cleared for all activities, that note will be sent to the district physician for clearance. Once cleared, the student athlete must enter the Return to Play concussion protocol

listed below. The Return to Play Protocol will be administered by an athletic trainer. Please see the district athletic website for more details on the Concussion Guidelines from NYSED.

Stage	Aim	Activity	Goal of Each Step
1	Symptom related activity	Daily activities that do not provoke symptoms	Gradual reintroduction of school/work activities
2	Light aerobic Exercises	Walking or stationary cycling at slow-medium pace, no resistance training	Increase heart rate
3	Sport specific exercise	Running or skating drills. No head impact activities	Add movement
4	Non-contact training drills	Harder training drills. Ex: passing drills. May start progressive resistance training.	Exercise coordination and increased thinking
5	Full contact practice	Following medical clearance, participate in normal training activities	Restore confidence and assess functional skills by coaching staff
6		Return to sport	Normal game play

20.



Health Insurance Coverage

If the parent would like to submit a claim, the parent must request the claim form from the nurse. Please be aware, claim form should be completed within 90 days from the date of injury. After an accident report is filed by the nurse, the nurse will set in place the procedure for extended coverage through the SCHSD after the private family coverage of said student is exhausted. It is the parent/guardian responsibility to contact the nurse when their insurance coverage is exhausted.

Return to Athletics After Injury/Vacation

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association clearly states how many days of practice are needed before a scrimmage or game. Those athletes returning from a prolonged injury or vacation generally need approximately half the number of practices listed in the handbook before having their eligibility restored. All students coming back from injury, who have seen a physician or been to an emergency room treatment, must have a

doctor's note stating that they have been cleared before being declared eligible for practice or games.

School Attendance

Attending all classes is the highest priority for all student-athletes. Student-athletes must attend all classes in order to participate in practice. If a student misses a practice the day before a contest, it will be up to the coach as to their eligibility to participate in that contest. Any student-athlete who is absent illegally will not be able to practice or participate in a contest.

If a student-athlete comes late to school, a note from a parent or physician stating the reason for the lateness must be brought to the attendance office prior to being admitted to class that day. Any student who is late to school for illegal reasons will not be able to practice or participate in a contest that day.

Each coach will establish his/her own rules regarding absenteeism for his/her team, highlighting the above rules.

School Vacation Periods

Athletes who miss practice and/or contests during the vacation periods will be subject to each coach's rules regarding this issue. Vacations by varsity team members during the season are strongly discouraged. Parents and athletes wishing to go away during a particular vacation period may want to defer participation so as not to create conflicts. No student-athlete will be guaranteed the same place on the roster upon returning from an extended leave from the team. Athletes must be reconditioned for game participation after an extended absence from the team.

21.



Hazing

Hazing is a very serious act and will not be tolerated by any member of the SCHSD coaching staff. Hazing is a complex social problem that is shaped by powerful dynamics operating individually or as a group. Hazing refers to any activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm on another person who joined the group or team.

Hazing perpetrators are subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension or expulsion from the team, THe SCHSD takes its responsibility of providing a safe and supportive environment seriously. Hazing is one of those activities that can reach the level of discipline requiring a Superintendent's Hearing. Athletes are cautioned that anyone engaging in this activity is likely to be suspended and will likely incur other consequences as permitted under education law.

Prospective College Athletes

Some student-athletes have a goal to participate in athletics at the collegiate level. The respective Athletic Departments and school counselors are very willing to help student-athletes pursue this goal. Here are some important tips:

1. Communication with the coach is imperative. Student-athletes who have a strong desire to compete at the collegiate level should schedule an appointment with their coach to discuss this important decision.
2. The driving force behind college selection should ultimately be the academic fit. Athletic opportunities are important, yet secondary to the academic fit.
3. Coaches and student-athletes should work closely in conjunction with the high school counselors to develop a list of potential college choices.
4. Take both SAT and ACT tests.
5. The student athlete should register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaaclearinghouse.com sometime between their junior and senior year.
6. Create a CorecourseGPA account with your counselor.

For NCAA Course Eligibility CONTACT the Guidance Counseling Office.