Southern Columbia Area School District Athletic & Extracurricular Activities Handbook (K-12) 2026-2027



teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans,

§14.3.3 Students must arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared.

§14.3.4 Students who cannot be present for a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event must call the coach, advisor, or team captain as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Each team/club will decide when missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made-up and disciplinary action may be taken as outlined in each team's rules.
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§14.3.5 Injured or ill students who are unable to participate but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event are required to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.

§14.3.6 Students are required to show respect at all times to coaches and advisors.

§14.3.7 Student athletes must respect and not damage school property or equipment. This includes home and away contests.

§14.3.8 Students are required to follow the rules in the Student Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation with the team/club as determined by the coach/advisor.

Article XV.
Prohibited Conduct.
Students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:

§15.1 Engaging in conduct prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct;

§15.2 Possessing, smoking, selling, or using tobacco products;

§15.3 Possessing or using electronic cigarettes or other non-tobacco nicotine-delivery products or accessories;

§15.4 Possessing or using drug paraphernalia;

§15.5 Possessing, selling, or delivering to another person look-alike drugs or items represented to be drugs or contraband of any kind;

§15.6 Possessing, selling, giving, delivering to another person, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, or any dangerous drug;

Dear Parents/Guardians & Student Athlete:

Welcome to the Interscholastic Athletic and extracurricular programs offered in the Southern Columbia Area School District. This Handbook provides important information associated with participation in the School District's Athletic Program. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY AND SAVE FOR LATER REFERENCE.

Article I.
Definitions and Construction.

§1.1 When capitalized in this Handbook, the following terms shall have the following definitions unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

§1.1.1 "Applicable Law" means any applicable federal, state or local law, regulation, ordinance, policy or the holding of any court decision that is applicable to the situation and Services being provided under this Agreement.

§1.1.2 "Crime(s)" means any crime as defined in Pennsylvania or Federal law, other than summary offenses relating to driving. The term Includes any "Delinquent Act" as defined in the Juvenile Act. *See* 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 6302.

§1.1.3 "Parent" means: (a) a biological or adoptive parent of a child; (b) a foster parent, unless State law, regulations, or contractual obligations with a State or local entity prohibit a foster parent from acting as a parent; (c) a guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized to make educational decisions for the child (but not the State if the child is a ward of the State); (d) an individual acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent (including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative) with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare; or (e) a surrogate parent who has been appointed in accordance with 34 CFR §300.519.

§1.1.4 Policy" means any policy as adopted by the Board of School Directors of the School District and that is contained either in the policy manual as published on the School District's website or that is contained in or approved by any action of the School Board at a public meeting**.**

§1.1.5 "School District" means the Southern Columbia Area School District and its administrators and officials when acting for or on behalf of the School District.

§1.1.6 “Season” means: (a) in the case of a sport or activity that has a set schedule of games, tournaments or contests, it means that number of games, tournaments or contests scheduled during the regular season or the equivalent of a regular season; (b) in the case of an activity that does not have a set schedule of games, tournaments or contests, it means that amount of time between when the activity is scheduled to begin in any school year and when the activity is expected to end in any school year; or (c) in the case where the foregoing definitions would not be applicable or equitable, the coach and/or Principal may determine an appropriate time period for that is meant by the word “Season.”

§1.2 For purposes of this Handbook: (a) the words "include," "includes," and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the words "without limitation;" (b) the word "or" is not exclusive; and (c) the words "herein," "hereof," "hereby," "hereto," and "hereunder" refer to this Handbook as a whole. Unless the context otherwise requires, references to a statute means such statute as amended from time to time and includes any successor legislation thereto and any regulations promulgated thereunder**.**

§1.3 Unless the context otherwise requires, references herein to Articles and Sections refer to the Articles of and Sections of this Handbook. The headings in this Handbook are for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Handbook

§1.4 Whenever an administer is referenced herein, the reference shall Include the administrator’s designee, substitute, acting or interim administrator.

Article II.
Registration and Physical Examination Form

§2.1 Registration: Athletes are required to be registered in the Healthy Roster app by a parent or legal guardian for all sports in which they may participate during each school year. All sections, including PIAA, Geisinger and SCA forms, must be completed in Healthy Roster in order to begin practices, **no exceptions**. To gain access to Healthy Roster, email the Athletic Trainer at ahower@scasd.us with the athlete’s name and DOB. An email will be sent back with an access code to be linked to the athlete’s profile. Once linked, the documents can be accessed and completed via the app. Registration for any sport may be done at any time, but must be completed prior to the first day of practice in order to participate.

§2.2 Physical Examination: A valid physical examination form must be on file in Healthy Roster and approved by the Athletic Trainer before an athlete will be permitted to participate in practice. See Article IV hereof for more information.

Article III. Insurance for Students in Interscholastic Sports.

§3.1 The School District does not provide student accident insurance.

Article IV. Physicals.

This physical must be dated on or after MAY 1 of the prior year or competition.

§4.1 The PIAA requires that sections 1 - 5 of the CIPPE (Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Exam) be filled out completely by the Parent and that section 6 be completed by a licensed health professional (DO, MD, PAC, CRNP, SNP). These forms must be completed before the athlete can participate.

§4.2 School Sport Physicals. Provided that the participation fee has been paid; Physician Assistant(s) will perform all sports physicals at the school. All **forms** must be completed.

Article V.
Philosophy.

The primary purpose of the School District's athletics and extracurriculars is to promote the physical, mental, social, emotional, and moral well-being of the participants. The Athletic and extracurricular programs offers significant lifetime learning experiences that cannot be duplicated in other educational settings. The athletic extracurricular programs are an important and integral part of the total school program and is open to participation by all students. Through voluntary participation, an athlete gives time, energy, and loyalty to the program. He/she also accepts the training rules, regulations, and responsibilities that are unique to each team. In order to contribute to the welfare of the group, the athlete must willingly assume these obligations.

Article VI.
Specific Objectives.

The objectives of the athletic and extracurricular programs include:

§6.1 To promote character development in students and student athletes;

§6.2 To enhance student development in the specific areas of integrity, discipline, commitment, and work ethic;

§6.3 To promote physical fitness and desirable habits in health, wellness and safety;

§6.4 To learn that teamwork and cooperation with others are necessary for experiencing success;

§6.5 To provide opportunities to observe and exemplify good sportsmanship;

§6.6 To foster the realization that athletic competition is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities;

§6.7 To provide a chance to enjoy the opportunity to learn games and improve athletic skills;

§6.8 To learn that rules in sports must be followed or penalties will result, and that this same sequence applies in life;

§6.9 To develop a program with an atmosphere that results in positive interaction between the team, the school, and the community; and

§6.10 To ensure athletics and extracurriculars are an integral part of the education program through a focus on educating the student athlete as the primary purpose of the program.

Article VII.
Procedures For Reporting Concerns and Problems.
If a student and/or student athlete or parent/guardian has a problem, the following procedures should be followed:

§7.1 Level 1: Make an appointment to discuss your concern with the coach. Do not attempt to discuss concern just before or after a game, do it privately.

§**7.2** Level 2: If not satisfactorily resolved at Level 1, contact the Athletic Director or advisor. Set up appointment for Athletic Director, Coach, Advisor, and you to discuss concern. Do not contact Athletic Director until Level 1 has been completed.

§7.3 Level 3: If not resolved at Level 2, contact the Principal. Schedule an appointment with Principal, Athletic Director, Coach, Advisor, and you to discuss the concern. Do not contact Principal until Levels 1 and 2 have been completed.

§7.4 Level 4: If not resolved at Level 3, contact the Superintendent. Schedule a meeting with Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director, Coach, Advisor, and you to discuss the concern. Do not contact Superintendent until you have gone through Levels 1, 2 and 3.

§7.5 Level 5: If not resolved at Level 4, a meeting with the Activity Committee of the School Board will be scheduled to discuss the concern. Do not contact the Board until Levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been completed.

Article VIII.
Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association ("PIAA").
PIAA rules will be followed in all cases of eligibility, transfer, physical examinations,

insurance coverage, starting dates, use of school equipment, etc. Each coach has the responsibility to know and enforce the applicable PIAA rules and to inform team members and parents.

Article IX.
Annual Participation Fee

§9.1 In accordance with School Board Policy 123.1, Pay to Participate, students must pay a $50 fee as a condition for participating in Extracurricular Activities. In those cases where payment would constitute a true economic hardship for the student, the fee may be waived, in whole or in part, by the Principal.

§9.2 The $50 fee is paid once per school year and will allow the student to participate in multiple athletic and/or extra-curricular activities. The fee is not paid on a sport-by-sport basis or extra-curricular by extra-curricular basis. The fee must be paid the Friday before the start of PIAA practices for the fall, winter, and spring seasons. If payment is not made by this time, the student will be ineligible to participate. The pay to participate can be paid in the following ways:

> **§9.2.1** Check or money order mailed to, or delivered in person, to the district business office, or can be handed in to administration of the day of the school's free sports physicals. Checks must be made payable to Southern Columbia Area School District; or
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> **§9.2.2** Cash payments may be made in person to the District business office, or can be handed in to administration on the day of school's free sports physicals.

§9.3 The fee is not refundable once the student has participated in any manner in the activity.

§9.4 The School Board will approve the list of activities subject to the Annual Participation Fee each school year. Extracurricular activities subject to pay to participate fee during the 2025-2026 school year:

§9.4.1 Tier 1 – fee $50.00 per student, $100 maximum per family:

Band front
Baseball
Boys & Girls Basketball (including JH teams)
Cheerleading (including JH teams)
Choral Director Activities (i.e. Gospel Choir)
Boys and Girls Cross Country (including JH teams)
Drama Club activities
Field Hockey (including JH teams)
Football (including JH teams)
Jazz Band
Musical Director activities (i.e. Encore)
Boys Soccer (including JH teams)
Girls Soccer (including JH teams)
Softball
Boys & Girls Track
Wrestling

§9.4.2 Tier 2 – fee $25.00 per student, $50 maximum per family

Ski Club (including 7th and 8th grade)

Article X.
Participation in Extracurricular Activities Is a Privilege.
Participation in Extracurricular Activities and Interscholastic Sports is a privilege and not a right. Nothing in this Handbook shall be construed as establishing any legal right to participate in Extracurricular Activities or Interscholastic Sports. Because participation in Extracurricular Activities and Interscholastic Sports is a privilege and not a right, the School District has broader authority to impose Extracurricular Discipline than it does regarding School Discipline. Consequently, the Student Code of Conduct will be enforced with all students in Grades 7-12 participating in extracurricular activities:

§10.1 regardless whether school is in session;

§10.2 regardless whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event;

§10.3 regardless whether the student is directly involved with the activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;

§10.4 regardless whether the conduct occurs online or through electronic means;

§10.5 regardless whether the activity is in-season; and

§10.6 regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

Article XI.
Coordination of School Discipline and Extracurricular Activity Discipline.
A student's violation of the Student Code of Conduct or the rules contained in this Handbook may lead to both School Discipline and Extracurricular Discipline. Consequently, it is possible that a student who violates the Student Code of Conduct or this Handbook will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his/her coach or advisor for the same violation. It is also possible that a student participating in Extracurricular Activities could violate the Code of Conduct or this Handbook and be subject to discipline by a coach or advisor without receiving School Discipline.

Article XII.
Academic Eligibility. Students must be academically eligible.
§12.1 To be academically eligible, a student must schedule at least 7 credits to be considered full time and may not be failing 2 or more credits. Academic eligibility will be reviewed on a weekly cumulative basis. A student who is determined academically ineligible at the end of a given week of school will be ineligible for a period of one (1) week starting on the following Sunday to the next Saturday. Eligibility for the first grading period is based on a student's final grades for the preceding school year. Students who fail to meet this requirement will lose eligibility for at least 15 school days of the next grading period, beginning on the first day that report cards are posted. Early college students' eligibility is verified and maintained by enrollment in three 3-credit classes. Official grades are received at the conclusion of each semester. Early College students' participation in athletics/extracurricular activities will be contingent upon meeting all academic requirements at that time.

Article XIII.
Attendance Eligibility.
§13.1 Students arriving after 9:45 a.m. will be marked ½ day absent. Students leaving before 1:15 p.m. will be marked ½ day absent. Any student absent for ½ day because he/she was not feeling well will receive an excused ½ day absence but will be unable to participate that day in any extra-curricular event, including practice. In the event of the absence being on a Friday, it would preclude participating in a competition or performance on Saturday.

§13.2 A student can have an excused absence and be permitted to participate in athletic events for the following reasons:

> **§13.2.1** Doctor or dentist appointment (generally expected to be in school ½ day, note from the doctor or dentist is required);
>
> **§13.2.2** Learner's permit or driver's test (generally expected to be in school ½ day);

§13.2.3 Funeral or death in family;

§13.2.4 College visit (written verification required); and

§13.2.5 Principal's discretion (by prior approval).

§13.3 Any student who has a half or full day unexcused absence is ineligible for any athletic/extra-curricular events that day, including practice. If this unexcused absence is on Friday, the student is also ineligible to participate on Saturday.

§13.4 A student who has been absent from school during a semester for a total of twenty (20) or more school days, is ineligible to participate in an Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest until the student has been in attendance for a total of forty-five (45) school days following the student's twentieth (20th) day of absence. Exceptions may be granted by the Principal.

Article XIV.
Conduct Expectations

§14.1 The School District provides comprehensive athletics programs for the benefit of students. The underlying belief is that participation in interscholastic sports and extracurriculars can provide students the opportunity to learn responsibility, dedication, leadership, hard work, respect for rules, respect for authority, and many other positive qualities. Regulations are established to promote these qualities and to help build and maintain strong programs. It is recognized that some of the expectations for students involved in athletics and extracurriculars exceed the expectations for the general student body.

§14.2 These students are expected to follow School District policies and rules and all program-specific rules set by the School District and the school. Violations of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action. The facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration when determining consequences for rule violations.

§14.3 The following conduct is required of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach, Principal, Athletic Director, Advisor, or Superintendent:

§14.3.1 Student commitment to a team/club is expected for the entire season. No student athlete or student may quit one sport/club and join another after the season has begun without the mutual consent of both coaches/advisors.

§14.3.2 Students who participate in activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting

§15.7 Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to glue, aerosol paint, or volatile, mood-altering chemicals;

§15.8 Engaging in Level II and Level III violations as described in the Student Code of Conduct;

§15.9 Engaging in sexual harassment as defined in 34 C.F.R. §106.30;

§15.10 Attending any event at which underage drinking, smoking, or drug use is occurring (students will be allowed a slight concession for an amount of time long enough to determine that a violation is occurring and to leave the premises and area);
§15.11 riding in a vehicle containing alcohol unless a Parent(s), guardian, or other responsible adult is present and aware of the presence of the alcohol;

§15.12 Stealing;

§15.13 Conduct that causes injury or harm to persons or property including bullying and hazing;

§15.14 Fighting;

§15.15 Assault intending to cause or resulting in bodily injury;

§15.16 Engaging in conduct resulting in arrest and/or citations from law enforcement officers other than a summary offense; and

§15.17 conduct that constitutes a crime or a violation of the Code of Student Conduct;

§15.18 Social media conduct that constitutes a crime, racism, or a violation of the code of student conduct.

Article XVI.
Duty of Cooperation.
Students have a duty of cooperation with the School District, including the duty to cooperate with investigations and to answer questions truthfully that are asked by coaches, principals, the Athletic Director, and other agents of the School District. The failure or refusal of a student to answer any questions asked shall itself be a violation of the requirements and shall result in the removal of the student from the team or activity until the questions are answered.

Article XVII.
Violations of the Student Code of Conduct.
The Principal, Athletic Director, or Superintendent may declare an athlete ineligible to participate in a sport if the athlete has violated the Student Code of Conduct. Temporary or permanent suspension from participation, probation, and successful completion of educational component may be required.

Article XVIII.
Minor Violations.
A coach/advisor shall be responsible for assessing penalties for violation of group and attendance rules. Such penalties may range from a verbal warning to removal from the activity for repeat offenses. Coaches/advisors shall generally practice progressive discipline, depending on the facts and circumstances, except that progressive discipline is not required for offenses or conduct deemed serious or egregious. Whether progressive discipline will be applied in any given case is up to the discretion of the applicable authorities. A coach's or advisor's decision to remove a student from an activity will be approved by the Principal prior to the imposition of the penalty. The coach shall notify the Parent(s)s of the imposition of any sanction including the nature of the offense and the reason(s) for the disciplinary action.

Article XIX.
Tobacco.
No student or student athlete shall, while on or off school premises, use, possess, or distribute tobacco. In the absence of any reason to impose a higher level of discipline, the minimum disciplinary penalties will be as follows:

§19.1 A first offense will result in a 10-calendar-day suspension of the student from game competition. If there are not 10 calendar days remaining in the particular sport season, the balance will be fulfilled in a subsequent sport season. A contract may be required.

§19.2 A second offense will result in dismissal of the student from the Athletic Program/Club for the remainder of the school year in which the infraction occurred. Another contract may be required.

§19.3 A third offense will result in dismissal of the student from interscholastic athletics for one calendar year.

§19.4 A fourth-offense will result in the student being suspended from participating in interscholastic athletics/extracurriculars for the remainder of his/her enrollment as a student in the School District.

Article XX.

Tobacco and Nicotine Products, Alcohol, and Controlled Substances and Paraphernalia.
No student shall, while on or off campus, sell, give, deliver, use, or possess alcohol, controlled substances or drug paraphernalia or be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances. In the absence of any reason to impose a higher level of discipline, the minimum disciplinary penalties will be as follows:

§20.1 All violations which occur while under the jurisdiction of the School District will be subject to consequences stated in **Policy 227**.

§20.2 A first violation, either on-campus or off-campus, will result in a suspension from Extracurricular Activities for 25% of the games or Season of the current or upcoming Season in which the student is involved including the next school year. For example, if a season has 20 games on its original schedule the student would be excluded from 5 games (either regular season or post-season). When a suspension is not satisfied by Season's end, the remaining balance will carry over and be applied to the next Season in which the student participates. A contract may be required.

§20.3 A second violation, either on-campus or off-campus, will result in a suspension from Extracurricular Activities for 50% of the games or Season of the current or upcoming Season in which the student is involved including the next school year. For example, if a season has 20 games on its original schedule the student would be excluded from 10 games (either regular season or post-season). When a suspension is not satisfied by Season's end, the remaining balance will carry over and be applied to the next Season in which the student participates. A contract may be required.

§20.4 If a suspension carries over to the next Season, the Principal will determine the proportion of the Season which must be served by the student to fulfill the suspension.

§20.5 A third violation, either on-campus or off-campus, will result in a suspension from Extracurricular Activities for one (1) full calendar year.

§20.6 A fourth violation, either on-campus or off-campus, will result in permanent exclusion from participating in Extracurricular Activities for the remainder of the student's enrollment in the School District.

§20.7 No student shall knowingly attend any party or other social gathering where underage drinking and drug use occurs. This rule applies to gatherings of two or more students or student aged individuals where underage drinking or drug use is occurring. It shall not be a defense to this rule that a gathering of students at which alcohol and drugs are consumed was sanctioned by any Parent(s) or held with Parental consent. It is the attendance at such gatherings that is prohibited by this rule. Actual consumption of alcohol or use of drugs is not a prerequisite to establish a violation of this rule. Any student who is found to have voluntarily remained in the vicinity of a gathering prohibited by this section shall be guilty of a violation of this rule whether or not he or

she consumes or uses any prohibited substance. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary;

§20.8 The foregoing **§20.7** shall not apply to events such as a wedding, family reunion, or the like, unless the student was engaged in underage alcohol use or drug use; and

§20.9 No student will be found to have violated the foregoing **§20.7** if he or she can show to the satisfaction of the Principal that immediately upon becoming aware that underage drinking and/or drug use was occurring at the party or gathering, he/she promptly left and was not merely "outside."

Article XXI.
Self-Referral
§21.1 A student who is self-referred or who is voluntarily referred by a Parent(s) and who seeks assistance from the School District with controlled substance use, abuse, or dependency, and who is not at the time of referral under the influence or in possession of a controlled substance shall not be subject to the minimum penalties and may be referred to the SAP Team for assistance. All self-referrals by student must begin by informing a staff member, coach, Athletic Director/Administration, or Advisor.

§21.2 A self-referral/Parental referral, however, is not to be used by students and Parent(s) as a method to avoid consequences once an alcohol and/or drug policy violation has occurred. Voluntarily reporting a violation that has occurred shall not constitute as "self-referral" as defined herein even if the report is part of a request for assistance.

Article XXII.
Theft.
Any student guilty of theft will face the following minimum consequences:

§22.1 A first offense will result in a 15-30 calendar day suspension of the student from game competition or activity determined by the circumstances involved in the theft. If there are not 15-30 calendar days left in the Season, the balance will be fulfilled in the subsequent season. A contract may be required.

§22.2 A second offense will result in exclusion of the student from extracurricular participation for the remainder of the school year. Another contract may be required.

§22.3 A third offense will result in exclusion of the student from middle school or high school athletics or activities permanently.

Article XXIII.
Crimes.
§23.1 Any student who is charged with or convicted of any Crime(s) shall be suspended

from participation in Extracurricular Activities, including practices and meetings, until the case has been adjudicated after which a review will be conducted to determine eligibility. If a student is found guilty of a Crime(s) or determined to be a Delinquent Child as defined in the Juvenile Act, he/she will be permanently excluded from Extracurricular Activities for the duration of his/her enrollment in the School District.

§23.2 If the administration receives notice from an appropriate law enforcement agency that the student was found not guilty of the felony offense and the case was dismissed with prejudice, or that the student was not prosecuted and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication, or deferred prosecution was initiated, the administration will review the student's suspension from Extracurricular Activities. The student will remain on suspension pending the review, which will take place reasonably promptly. The Parent(s) may be provided an opportunity for input. However, if after the review the administration believes that the presence of the student in an extra-curricular program will threaten the safety of other students or coaches or staff or will be detrimental to the programs and/or educational process, the suspension will continue indefinitely.

Article XXIV.
Citations or Arrests.
§24.1 Citations or arrests on or off campus for smoking, using, selling or possession of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, drinking alcoholic beverages, vandalism, or any behavior which causes embarrassment to the team, organization, or the School District may result in suspension or dismissal from Extracurricular Activities.

§24.2 Any student **must notify** the head coach, Athletic Director, Advisor, or Principal upon his/her arrest or issuance of a citation. The student's failure to notify the staff member responsible for the program (*or the failure of their Parent(s) to do the same*) may result in suspension or dismissal from Extracurricular Activities.

Article XXV.
Coach and Electronic Communications.
All communication between coaches and student athletes and/or guardians must be made only through school approved platforms. Any additional form of direct communication, such as text messaging or through any similar private electronic platform, is strictly prohibited. Students are responsible for their electronic communications delivered through devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites. Maintaining a higher standard of conduct also includes ensuring that School District's student personal electronic communication is appropriate. The areas of appropriateness will include, but are not limited to, language (abbreviated or alluding to negative, lewd, vulgar, or obscene comments about any individuals), pictures, suggestive poses, and reference to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. Communication on the internet or by electronic means by students that are posted/sent and cause disruption or damage to School District property or another school district are also inappropriate. Incidents of inappropriate electronic communication, including

cyberbullying, may result in suspension or dismissal from Extracurricular Activities. Additional disciplinary consequences can also be imposed by the appropriate school officials for conduct or behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct.

Article XXVI.
Procedures.
Due process does not apply to Extracurricular Discipline. The coach, Principal, Athletic Director or Superintendent will determine whether Extracurricular Discipline will be imposed using such procedures as deemed appropriate.

§26.1 Timing of Extracurricular Discipline. The School District shall determine the timing when Extracurricular Discipline shall be served. Generally, if the offense occurs during the summer, the suspension from activities will begin with the first day of practice, competition, or activity, as applicable. If the offense occurs during the season, the suspension will begin on a designated date as determined by the Principal.

§26.2 School Discipline. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, a student who is suspended or expelled from school shall be ineligible to participate in any Extracurricular Activities for a period of time not less than the duration of the suspension or expulsion. In addition, Students who have been suspended from school because of misconduct may be dismissed from the team or activity.

§26.3 An objective of these rules is to instill in students a respect for good citizenship in the form of positive peer pressure. A student's failure to maintain good conduct, regardless of whether the behavior is school-related, will be grounds for disciplinary action ranging from counseling to immediate suspension or removal from the team depending on the severity of the misconduct.

Article XXVII.
Expulsion & Suspension.
§27.1 A student who is expelled from school shall be ineligible to participate in any sport or extracurricular that is under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) for a period of time not to exceed the duration of the expulsion.

§27.2 Athletes who have received a school suspension may not participate in practice, events, meetings, or compete in contests until the suspension has been completed; provided, however, that Students who have been suspended from school may be removed from the team permanently for such time as deemed appropriate.

Article XXVIII. Team Rules.

Each coach will submit a set of rules to the team for athletes to follow.

Article XXIX. Transportation.

§29.1 Students and student Athletes must travel to and from all contests in district

provided transportation. While on the bus all students and student athletes must follow the bus regulations as stated in the student handbook.

§29.2 After the contest, a student or student athlete may be released to his/her Parent or guardian in person by informing the coach/advisor. If an athlete is to go home with another student or student athlete's parent or guardian, permission must be requested by the Parent in writing before the upcoming contest/event. Any athlete who does not return from a contest with the team without proper authorization will be suspended from the team for the next contest/event. If a second offense occurs the student or student athlete will be removed from the team and forfeit any and all awards.

§29.3 The student is responsible for ensuring that any permission request from the Parent is given to the Coach in advance.

Article XXX. Trying Out, Quitting, & Removal.

§30.1 Any student wishing to try out for a team/club may do so and quit without consequence during the first two weeks of practice. Any student or student athlete who is removed from a team or voluntarily quits after the first 2 weeks of practice/events must have consent from the coach/advisor of the program they are leaving to participate in another sport during that season.

§30.2 Students and student athletes who have been removed from a team/club have a right of appeal, in writing, to the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director and Principal will adjudicate the problem. If players are participating in the playoffs, mutual agreement among the coaches will be reached before a player can play the next sport or join the next club. Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the administration.

Article XXXI. Uniforms & Equipment.

§31.1 Students and student athletes are responsible for all uniforms or equipment loaned to them by the school for practices or contests. Equipment or uniforms that are purposely destroyed or not returned upon request will be paid for by the Parent(s) at current replacement cost. School records, awards, etc., will be withheld until the debt is settled. Students will not be allowed to participate in another sport or extra-curricular activity until the uniform or equipment problem has been resolved and all athletic obligations have been cleared.

§31.2 Game uniforms are only to be worn for the contest or during that school day of the contest and not at any other time.

§31.3 Athletic/club equipment must be returned within one week after the last game. All equipment must be returned only to the person who issued it. (Example: head coach/advisor or equipment manager.)

§31.4 Medical Excuses

§31.4.1 If student athletes become ill or injured during the course of the sports season and they need to see a physician, a note must be provided to the Athletic Trainer from that physician before they can return to play.

§31.4.2 An athlete can be seen **within a week** for non-emergency medical care. The Athletic Trainer can assist you in scheduling an appointment and **can be contacted via the Healthy Roster app, or by email ahower@scasd.us."**

Article XXXII. Awards

Letters shall be awarded for Varsity sports for students in grades 9-12 who participate on a Varsity team in a PIAA sanctioned sport. The qualifications for earning a letter in each of the several interscholastic sports are as follows:

§32.1 Football—(a) regular starters on offense or defense for 2/3 of season; or (b) Starters on 2 or more special teams for 2/3 of season.

§**32.2** Field Hockey— 50% of games.

§32.3 Cross Country—finish as one of the top seven SCA runners in at least 40% of the scheduled contests for the season.

§32.4 Soccer— 50% of games.

§32.5 Basketball (boys & girls)—30% of quarters.

§32.6 Wrestling—wins 3 varsity matches.

§32.7 Baseball—must appear in 50% of total games.

§32.8 Softball - must appear in 50% of total games.

§32.9 Track (boys & girls)—21 points in track meets and 75% of practices.

§32.10 Managers—2 years.

§32.11 Competitive Spirit - Must appear in 50% of total competitions.

§32.12 The coach in all the above sports has the final determination and discretion whether an athlete has qualified for a letter. If the athlete makes a squad, all three years, even though he or she does not participate in the required amount of quarters or has not earned enough points in the sport, the athlete can be awarded a letter.

§32.13 Each athlete will receive one Varsity letter and sports pin their first year and a bar for second, third, etc., letter won. Managers and statistician's awards will be decided upon by the Head Coach.

PARTICIPATION IN ALL SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULARS REQUIRES AN ACCEPTANCE OF RISK OF POSSIBLE INJURY. YOUR CHILD AS A PLAYER CAN HELP MAKE THE GAME SAFER BY FOLLOWING THE COACHING GUIDELINES IN REGARD TO TECHNIQUES AND RULES.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Athletic Office at 570-356-3460 if we can help you or your child in any way during his/her athletic/extracurricular career in the Southern Columbia Area School District.