



2023-2024

Middle School Athletic

Parent and Athlete

Informed Consent and

Codes of Conduct

Handbook

Dysart Unified School District Philosophy

We, the administration and coaching staff of the Dysart Unified School District consider interscholastic athletics a vital part of the total educational process. The Athletic Department is committed to the democratic process, which recognizes an equal opportunity for all students, regardless of sex, color, national origin, religion, or economic status.

Our philosophy is to provide all students with an environment that is safe and encourages active participation in a variety of activities under different teacher/coach role models. As members of the Dysart District Athletic Staff, we strive to foster positive experiences and guide our student athletes toward realizing their full potential. Through practices, games and example, the staff works toward preparing students to succeed rather than merely to win games. Win or lose, our students should learn lessons of a lasting and positive nature.

Within the sports programs, young people learn the values associated with discipline, performing under stress, citizenship, sportsmanship, confidence, leadership and organizational skills, participating within rules, physical well-being striving towards excellence.

Athletic Eligibility

Before being allowed to participate in practice or athletic contests, every athlete must provide the following information to the school administration:

Parent Permission Form - Parents must sign the permission form indicating all sports in which the student may participate

Proof of Insurance - All athletes are required to purchase school insurance or provide proof of insurance by providing the school with the policy number and the name of the insurance company.

Emergency Card - Athletes must have their emergency card filled out in its entirety so that any physician can render emergency care. Fill out this card in ink and print everything except your signature.

Prior Sports Release - The coach of the previous sport in which the student/athlete participated must release every athlete. This involves returning all equipment and uniforms checked out to them and meeting all requirements of that sport.

Pay to Participate Fee - This fee must be paid to the bookstore or parent portal.

Team Selection

In some sports, there is a limit to the number of athletes that can be selected for the team. Each athlete who shows up for tryouts is given a fair opportunity to demonstrate his or her skills and attitude. Decisions made by the coaches are final. Each coach must provide written criteria that score each of the athletes at various skills and other criteria. Each coach will keep a copy of their rubric or written criteria on file, in case any parent/guardian/athlete asks why they did not make the team. Only seventh and eighth grade students will be eligible for participation. Sixth graders can be added to the team roster to fill out a team. No 7th or 8th grade student shall be cut to make room for a 6th grade student.

Equipment and Uniforms

Students will be held responsible for all athletic equipment issued to them.

Abuse of equipment -- each athlete will be held responsible for unusual abuse or loss of equipment. Normal wear and tear is expected.

School uniforms are to be used or worn only during three strict conditions:

- Practice
- Competition
- Informed by the school administration

Students shall pay for items not returned at the end of the season.

Students shall turn in all athletic equipment issued to them at the end of the season. Students who do not complete the season are required to return all equipment immediately.

Information for Athletes and Parents

Parents and athletes must accept a degree of risk from participation in sports. An informed consent signature is required of both a parent and athlete before participation in practice. Informed consent forms are to be provided to all parents and athletes.

The coaches accept responsibility for instructing all athletes of the full extent of and reasons for rules and safety related to their sport. Parents must accept responsibility for reinforcing these rules. Written copies of the rules are distributed to both athletes and parents and posted where appropriate.

Athletes who are mentally, emotionally, and physically conditioned for an activity are less susceptible to injury. With this in mind, the following training rules will be applied to all sports:

Parents and Student Athletes must also be aware of the consequences when an athlete is suspended from school for possession, or being under the influence of drugs while in school or at school-sponsored events.

Athletes will be acclimated to hot weather activity by carefully graduated practice schedules.

Adequate body fluids are critical. Water intake is to be encouraged before practice.

Water breaks will be provided every twenty minutes during the hot weather season. The athlete's water intake will not be limited.

Parents can assist coaches in watching for signs of trouble, particularly the determined athlete in any sport who may not want to report discomfort.

An athlete will not be allowed to return to physical activity after serious illness or injury without written permission of the athlete's doctor. An athlete who is injured playing their respective sport, practice or game situation, cannot be dismissed from a team unless one or more of the following occur:

- The athlete does not make a reasonable effort to obtain proper medical attention and rehabilitation for the injury.
- The athlete does not attend practice or follow directions from the coach or the athlete's doctor.
- The athlete's attitude becomes disruptive to the team's ability to perform in an acceptable manner.

Year round conditioning is beneficial to the athlete's health, and a vital part of any sports program for maximizing performance and minimizing injury.

Decisions regarding medical treatment for serious injuries are left to qualified physicians.

If a parent has a complaint involving a coach, the parent must first speak with the coach to share the concern. If the parent is not satisfied, contact should be made with the principal who will arrange for a meeting with the parent and the coach. The principal's decision is final.

Parents and school staff must be willing to fully share all information regarding the athlete's health, including injuries, illnesses, and other symptoms, no matter how slight.

Athletes of any age who exhibit unacceptable conduct in or out of school or competition or through any on-line social network (namely buying, selling, possession, or use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or steroids; fighting, threatening, stealing, lying, possessing false identification, forgery, cheating, vandalizing, violating school rules, trouble with the law, any other illegal activity or unacceptable conduct) will be suspended from interscholastic competition in accordance with the formal suspension policy.

Mandatory Pre-Season Player and Parent Meeting

There will be a mandatory pre-season player and parent meeting. The purpose of this informational meeting is to welcome your athlete into our new season. We want students to leave the Dysart Unified School District and be able to say that they were proud to have been a part of Dysart athletics.

Parents shall be informed in writing at a mandatory preseason meeting that the minimal health requirements for full participation are:

- Medical insurance coverage
- Acclimatization period (5 to 7 days with gradually increasing activity)
- Proper nutrition and hydration before and during the season
- Strict adherence to safety rules and regulations
- It is strongly recommended that students participate in a year round conditioning program
- The athletic programs will be conducted in keeping with the highest ideals of sportsmanship and positive citizenship. Winning is not the primary goal of the program. Development of the athlete's physical, emotional and intellectual capabilities are primary objectives. Our coaches believe that promoting ethics, sportsmanship, and integrity in extracurricular activities should be a part of that challenge to excel.

Players, coaches, administrators, parents and spectators will:

- Be polite to officials
- Control anger
- Be respectful to opponents and officials
- Control spectator behavior
- Structure cheers to support the team
- Involve students and parents in a comprehensive sports citizenship program

Parent Support and Involvement

Parents of our athletes and students involved in other student activities are encouraged to become involved in our school parent organizations. These groups are organized and run by parents with the support of the school staff. Parents may contact the School Administrators for information regarding membership or any other means the parent may wish to support the program.

We expect the parents to join the staff in setting good examples. The school staff is charged with the responsibility for taking corrective steps when spectators create or contribute to fan behavior problems. We respectfully ask our parents to join in an overall effort to help make student sport participation a happy and healthy experience. We expect the fans to stay in the seating areas and not interfere with the coaches' responsibility on the court or field of play.

Pursuing Victory with Honor Codes of Conduct

Athletic competition of interscholastic age student athletes should be fun and should also be a significant part of a sound educational program, embodying high standards of ethics and sportsmanship, while developing good character and other important life skills. Essential elements of character building are intrinsic in the concept of sportsmanship and the six core ethical values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship (the "Six Pillars of Character"). The highest potential of sports is achieved through the T.E.A.M. concept (Teaching, Enforcing, Advocating and Modeling these values) and by committing to the ideal of pursuing victory with honor. Good-faith efforts to honor the words and spirit of this Code will improve the quality of our programs.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness—Be worthy of trust in all you do.

Integrity—Live up to the high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor. Do what is right even when it is unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty—Live and compete honorably. Do not encourage any dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Reliability—Fulfill commitments. Do what you say you will do. Be on time. When you tell your children you will attend an event, be sure to do so.

Loyalty—Be loyal to your school and team

RESPECT

Respect—Treat all participants with respect all the time and demand the same of student athletes.

Class—Live and cheer with class. Be a good sport. Be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity, compliment extraordinary performance, and show sincere respect for all competitors.

Disrespectful Conduct—Do not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport. Do not participate in any negative or demeaning cheers.

Respect for Officials—Treat game officials with respect. Do not complain or argue about calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

Respect for Coaches—Treat coaches with respect at all times. Recognize that they have team goals beyond those of your child. Do not shout instructions to players from the stands. Let the coaches' coach.

Respect for Fellow Spectators—Display respect for all other spectators. Do not insult or fight with other fans. Wait for breaks in the action before leaving or returning to your seat.

RESPONSIBILITY

Role Modeling—Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model for the student athletes.

Self-Control—Exercise self-control. Do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration. Have the strength to overcome the temptation to demean others.

Integrity of the Game—Protect the integrity of the game. Do not gamble on interscholastic events.

Privilege—Understand that attendance at interscholastic sports is a privilege, not a right, and that you are expected to represent yourself, your team and your community with honor.

FAIRNESS

Fairness—Treat all competitors fairly. Be open-minded. Always be willing to listen and learn. Acknowledge exceptional performance by all participants.

CARING

Encouragement—Encourage your team regardless of their play. Offer positive reinforcement.

Concern for Others—Demonstrate concern for others. Never berate or demean any player or promote behavior that might cause injury to others.

CITIZENSHIP

Knowledge of the Rules—Maintain a thorough knowledge of all applicable game and competition rules.

Obedience and Compliance—Listen to and obey the requests of the public address announcer and security personnel in attendance. Remember that all regular laws also apply to spectators at sporting events. Drunkenness, verbal assault and fighting are punishable by law

Behavior and Sportsmanship for Students

What is expected in general: Students in attendance at after-school events are expected to have fun without causing harm, danger or embarrassment to others or to the school.

Students are to follow all rules that are in effect during the school day and at after-school events.

Students are to demonstrate respect toward fellow students, opponents, players, coaches and officials.

Students are to police their own ranks and demand proper behavior from fellow students. One's individual behavior can affect the total group.

Students are expected to demonstrate respect and pride for the school.

What is specifically expected: Proper language is to be used at all times. No swearing or language that is offensive to others will be tolerated. Individual and group vulgarity is unacceptable, as are taunting, trash-talking and other verbal forms of harassment, and booing of players, coaches and officials.

Obscene gestures are unacceptable.

Dangerous and boisterous behavior—pushing, shoving, fighting is not acceptable.

The throwing of objects, including toilet paper, at fellow spectators, band members, cheerleaders, officials, players, or onto the playing surface is unacceptable, and could result in injury or of the team being penalized by the game official.

Respect is the key to good sportsmanship. Opponents should be respected, as they are not enemies, but fellow teenagers who happen to attend different schools.

Be humble in victory or defeat. It can be easy to be a good winner and difficult to show class when you lose.

Acknowledge good plays by both teams.

Be concerned with anyone who is injured. Give applause when an injured athlete is aided from the field.

Work together with cheerleaders for positive chants and avoid obscene, degrading or elitist cheers.

At halftime, watch any performance or presentation, acknowledge the work, preparation and performance of those involved, and do not in any way distract from the performance.

After the game, do not tease or belittle the opponent in any way and be pleasant and gracious to everyone.

What the school wants most: A large student turnout at events. Exemplary sportsmanship from players and fans.

To be proud of its teams and fans at contests.

Consequences in effect for all games: All regular school rules are in affect. Violation of rules may cause ejection from the game, in-school suspension or suspension from school, a required parental conference before re-admittance to class, prohibition from attending future events, possible revocation of all spectators' rights to attend a sport, and/or possible cancellation of sports.

Spectator Conduct at Athletic and Extracurricular Events

As a parent or fan attending a Dysart School athletic event:

I recognize:

The goal of this event is to provide young people with the opportunity for healthy competition in the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie.

That it is my duty to project a positive and supportive attitude toward the participants, officials, school authorities and fellow fans of the event.

That my words and behavior have a powerful impact on those around me and that it is my duty to conduct myself in a mature and dignified fashion, thus bringing honor to myself, family, and school.

That for the orderly management of this event, it is my duty to adhere to both entrance and restricted area requirements.

That if my conduct is not conducive to a positive environment, I may be asked to leave the event.

Any person, adult or child, who behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner during an athletic event may be ejected from the event that person is attending, and/or denied admission to school events for up to a year, pending a School Board hearing.

Some examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include:

- Using vulgar or obscene language.
- Possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance.
- Possessing a weapon; fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person.
- Failing to obey the instructions of a security officer, referee, coach or school district employee.
- Engaging in any activity that is illegal or disruptive.

Sportsmanship Rule

Our administrators, teachers, and athletic staff expect athletes to demonstrate good sportsmanship and citizenship at all times. Athletes not living up to this expectation may lose team membership or playing privileges.

If you are ejected from an interscholastic contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, you will be ineligible for your team's next contest. If this action occurs a second time, the athlete will be dismissed from the athletic program for the remainder of that season.

Bill of Rights for the Athlete

Participation in athletics is a privilege involving responsibilities and rights. The athlete has the responsibility to play fair, to give his or her best, to keep in training, and to conduct oneself with credit to the sport and the school. In turn, the athlete has the right to optimal protection against injury as this may be assured through good technical instruction, proper regulation and conditions of play and adequate health supervision.

Due Process

All athletes will be presented with a written statement of the Athletic Code of Conduct and accompanying regulations and penalties at the beginning of the season.

The Middle School Athletic Codes of Conduct Handbook Form is to be signed by the parent/guardian and the student athlete. Signatures will be verified by the coach prior to participation. A copy of the signed Consent Form will be kept on file in the administration office.

Upon receipt of information regarding a violation of the athletic code, the discipline procedures of the district, or a violation of the law, the school administration will discuss the matter with the athlete and the parent or guardian.

The coach will gather additional information as necessary to make a determination about whether or not a violation has occurred.

If the coach determines a violation has occurred, he/she will:

- Notify the administration of the exact nature of the violation.
- Notify the athlete of the determination of the violation.
- Notify the parent/guardian of the athlete, giving the exact nature of the violation and the length and conditions of the disciplinary action before it takes effect.

If the athlete and/or his/her parents feel that:

- The athlete was not afforded due process or;
- The consequences are not consistent with the discipline procedures of the district or the athletic code; they can appeal in writing within five days to the school administration.

The principal will make the final determination on athletic eligibility.

Athletic Rules of Conduct

The athletes within the Dysart District occupy a position of influence and leadership within the school and community. It is therefore acknowledged that certain procedures will be followed that are stricter than general school rules.

Each athletic team has their own specific guidelines toward the functioning of that particular sport, however, there are circumstances that fall into general categories and it is important for you to be aware of these prior to participation in athletics.

- Only students enrolled at a member school shall be eligible for interscholastic competition.
- Athletes are expected to practice every day unless arrangements are made in advance directly with the coach of that sport. Athletes who miss practice may not be allowed to participate in the next contest.
- An athlete will not dress out or participate in a game or practice unless they are in attendance at least 1/2 of that day or bring a valid note excusing the athlete's absence.
- An unexcused absence from school automatically forfeits participation that day. The day the unexcused absence is discovered is the day of forfeiture.
- Equipment checked out to an athlete must be returned or paid prior to beginning a new season. Athletic equipment returned in good condition (allowing for normal wear and tear) will be accepted.
- An athlete who quits or is removed from any team will not be allowed to participate on another team without the complete consent of both coaches involved along with the principal of the school.
- Athletes representing the Dysart School District will be expected to dress and groom themselves in an exemplary manner at all times during the season of practice and competition.

- “Gang membership” is defined as belonging to a group whose purpose is not socially, morally and ethically accepted by the school community. Gang membership is not tolerated within the athletic program. If your choice is to belong to one of the types of “gangs”, then you should not choose to be an athlete.

In addition to the requirements and consequences set forth in the Dysart Unified School District Discipline Procedures, all student athletes are responsible for adhering to the training rules listed below. These rules apply on or off campus.

Student Conduct: An athlete must be a positive representative of the school at all times, must be courteous to teachers, students, fellow athletes and adults. Athletes will not be disruptive, insubordinate or disrespectful to staff, students, parents or officials.

Behavior and Attitude: An athlete may be dropped from the team at any time the coach believes his/her attitude and/or behavior is detrimental to the team. Prior to any athlete being dismissed from the team the coach shall attempt to correct the problem(s) with specific alternatives. These alternatives may include involving counselors, teachers and parents. A meeting would be convened to discuss the student’s concern(s) or the specific issue(s) that was problematic. The results of the alternatives must be documented. The dismissal is subject to review and approval of the school Principal.

Theft: The theft infraction includes but is not limited to: Taking articles from any school, restaurants, hotels or locker rooms. This will include the wearing or having possession of unauthorized school equipment or uniforms.

Drinking or Tobacco: This includes being in the possession of or having consumed any intoxicating drink or tobacco product.

Drugs: This includes use, possession of drugs or paraphernalia, or the sale or the distribution of any illegal drugs.

Fighting: Whether on or off campus, includes two or more persons engaged in any violent or physically hostile behavior directed toward each other.

Bullying/Harassment: Bullying and or harassment of students is prohibited. Bullying and harassment mean physical or psychological abuse of another student by means of verbal or physical threats, intimidation, insults or other aggressive behavior and includes abuse based upon race, ethnicity, gender, religion or disability. If a student believes that he or she has been harassed or bullied, the student should report the behavior to a teacher, counselor, and school nurse or school administrator. Students who engage in harassment or bullying will be subject to disciplinary and criminal sanctions.

Intimidation: These include a broad range of negative acts that are intended to inflict physical, sexual or psychological harm on another person. The district will neither allow nor tolerate retaliation in any form by any employee, student or others against any complaining employee, student or corroborating witness. Likewise, students who knowingly submit false reports of intimidation will face consequences.

Hazing: Hazing means forcing a student to risk or suffer physical or mental harm or degradation to join, participate or remain in a school affiliated organization. This includes any intentional or reckless act committed by an individual or group of students, against other students where both the following apply: (1) The act was in connection with an initiation into, an affiliation with or membership of a school sponsored athletic team or group; (2) the act causes, contributes to, or poses a substantial risk of physical or mental injury or degradation. There shall be no hazing, solicitation to engage in hazing, or aiding and abetting another who is engaged in hazing of any person enrolled, accepted for or promoted to enrollment, or intending to enroll or be promoted to schools within twelve (12) calendar months. For purposes of this policy a person as specified above shall be considered a “student” until graduation, transfer, promotion or withdrawal from the school. “Hazing” means any intentional, knowing or reckless act committed by a student, whether individually or in concert with other persons, against another student and in which both of the following apply:

The act was committed in connection with an initiation into, an affiliation with or the maintenance of membership in any organization that is affiliated with an educational institution.

The act contributes to a substantial risk of potential physical injury, mental harm or degradation, or causes physical injury, mental harm or personal degradation.

“Organization” means an athletic team, association, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, or similar group that is affiliated with an education institution and whose membership consists primarily of students enrolled at that educational institution.

It is no defense to a violation of this policy if the victim consented or acquiesced to hazing. In accord with statute, violations of this policy do not include either of the following:

Customary athletic events, contests or competitions that are sponsored by an education institution or;

An activity or conduct that furthers the goals of a legitimate educational curriculum, a legitimate extracurricular program or a legitimate military training program

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Rules of Conduct – Athletic Discipline Matrix: Any athlete who is in violation of the following rules shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Dysart Unified School District’s Athletic Code and may be subject to athlete consequences which may involve loss of ability to participate on school teams. Any violation of the Dysart Unified School District (DUSD) Student & Parent Handbook that reflects a consequence of 10-day suspension, long term suspension or expulsion will result in the student-athlete being ineligible to participate in athletics.

RULE 1 – Use or possession of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia including anabolic steroids, as per the DUSD Student & Parent Handbook (AIA By-Laws).

<p><u>FIRST VIOLATION</u> May result in immediate ineligibility for interscholastic competition in the current sport for the remainder of the season.</p>	<p><u>SECOND VIOLATION</u> Ineligible and prohibited from participating in any AIA sport program for a period of one calendar year from the date of second violation.</p>	<p><u>THIRD VIOLATION</u> Permanently prohibited from participation in any AIA athletic program.</p>
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RULE 2 – Use and/or being in possession of, or remaining on premises where illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol are knowingly being used. Students may participate in a district approved diversion program to reduce suspension.

<p><u>FIRST VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for 10 school days effective immediately</p>	<p><u>SECOND VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for the duration of the season in progress</p>	<p><u>THIRD VIOLATION</u> Expulsion from all athletics for the remainder of the current school year</p>
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RULE 3 – Use and/or being in possession of tobacco or tobacco products

<p><u>FIRST VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for 3 school days effective immediately</p>	<p><u>SECOND VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for 5 school days</p>	<p><u>THIRD VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for 10 school days</p>
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RULE 4 – Not obeying school rules and regulations (including regular school attendance). An athlete may not have ANY truancy/unauthorized absences including single period, portion of school day, all day, etc.)

<u>FIRST VIOLATION</u> Conference with administrator, unable to participate in the next contest for any violation of truancy or unauthorized absences	<u>SECOND VIOLATION</u> Unable to participate in two contests for a second violation of truancy or unauthorized absence	<u>THIRD VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for current season
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RULE 5 – Suspension from school

<u>FIRST VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for the period of the school suspension and unable to participate in the next contest	<u>SECOND VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for up to 10 school days effective immediately and automatic probation (five day minimum). Unable to participate in the next two contests.	<u>THIRD VIOLATION</u> Athletic suspension for a minimum of ten days and up to the remainder of the current season
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RULE 6 – Any student convicted of a felony crime may not be allowed to participate in athletic competition for one full year or until the sentence is completed.

RULE 7 – On-line social network: Any student of any age who exhibit unacceptable conduct in or out of school or competition or through any on-line social network (including but not limited to: buying, selling, possessing or using alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or steroids; fighting; threatening; stealing; lying; possessing false identification; forgery; cheating; vandalizing; violating school rules; trouble with law enforcement; sending inappropriate messages or pictures; or any other illegal activity or unacceptable conduct) will be suspended from interscholastic competition in accordance with the Dysart Unified School District formal suspension policy. A police report and/or Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) report may be filed.

RULE 8 – Out of season sports violations: The following violations are considered to be extremely serious and are considered to be a reflection of the athlete and the school athletic program:

- Organizing, hosting or having gatherings where use of alcohol and/or controlled substances takes place;
- Selling, providing or distributing controlled substances;
- Using steroids;
- Carrying a dangerous or concealed weapon;
- Being convicted of a felony.

Any student who commits any of these violations may be suspended immediately from the current or next season of sport in which the student chooses to participate and may be suspended up to four seasons pending an administrative review. If any person in possession of alcohol or controlled substances arrives at a gathering (invited or uninvited) being hosted by a student athlete, that student athlete is responsible, under this policy, for the immediate removal of those persons and all alcohol or controlled substances from the premises. A responsible adult or the police should be contacted without delay if those persons refuse to leave. Code restrictions are in effect and enforced on a year-round basis and violations are cumulative over the course of a student's high school career.

Written consent is required in order for an athlete to return to an activity after a serious injury, an extended illness, dismissal from the team or any extended absence. Both the coach and administration will determine the number of practice days the student will miss prior to returning to competition. Each student must reach a safe level of cardio fitness and show no or minimal effects from the injury, illness or absence before they will be allowed to participate in the next competition.

Hazing State Law

HB2476 (Hazing) Chapter 230, 2001 Laws States that every educational institution (defined as a K-12 public school, public community college, or public university) must adopt post and enforce a hazing prevention policy that includes the following:

1. Statement that hazing is prohibited;
2. Statement that soliciting engagement to haze is prohibited;
3. Statement that aiding and abetting another person to haze is prohibited;
4. Statement that consent to hazing is not a defense to a hazing violation;
5. Statement that all students, teachers and staff shall take reasonable measures to prevent hazing;
6. Description of the procedures for students, teachers and staff for reporting and filing hazing complaints;
7. Procedures to investigate hazing violation complaints;
8. Description of circumstances when a hazing violation is to be reported to law enforcement;
9. Description of appropriate penalties, sanctions, and appeal mechanisms for persons and organizations violating the hazing policy and shall include the revocation or suspension of an organization's permission to conduct operations at the educational institution and any teacher or staff that knowingly permitted, authorized, or condoned the hazing activity shall be disciplined by the education institution.

Defines ***hazing*** as any intentional knowing or reckless act committed by a student, whether individually or in concert with other persons, against another student, and in which both of the following apply:

1. The act was committed in connection with an initiation into, an affiliation with or maintenance in any organization that is affiliated with an educational institution;
2. The act contributes to a substantial risk of potential physical injury, mental harm or degradation or causes physical injury, mental harm or personal degradation. Student is defined as a person enrolled, been promoted or accepted to, or intends to enroll or be promoted within the next twelve months at an education institution and will continue to be defined as a student until the person graduates, transfers, is promoted or withdraw

No Pass No Play

It is necessary to have the extracurricular activities function within a realistic framework of control. In order that over enthusiastic students do not place a social or athletic function on a higher plane than the academic program, the following policy will be followed:

Students who, upon having their work checked on a cumulative basis at the end of each two-week period, show that they are not working to capacity and have one or more failing grades will be removed from the athletic team. After improving their respective grades such that they are passing on a cumulative basis, they shall be reinstated to the team until a subsequent check is performed unless the student is ineligible for some reason other than academic performance.

The eligibility criterion for extracurricular participation shall be a passing grade in all classes in which the student is enrolled, and the student shall maintain progress toward promotion.

If a student becomes ineligible, it will be the responsibility of the student and coach to make arrangements with the classroom teacher involved to obtain additional help to aid in reestablishing eligibility. Coaches will run study tables during their season to aid student athletes to stay or regain eligibility.

Any student athlete who changes a failing grade will become ineligible immediately for the remainder of the season. If this forgery takes place during the last grading period, the ineligibility period will be extended one grading period into the next season.

Students whose behavior presents a problem or jeopardizes school discipline may be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities until such time as their behavior warrants reinstatement.

Heat Index and Water in Arizona

The heat index and water have become two very important safety concerns for our athletes. Coaches will be closely monitoring both these essential elements in practice and competition. Parents and athletes play a major role in this process. Pre-hydration and re-hydration are crucial to safe participation in all physical activities. It is essential that parents attend pre-season meetings and talk with the coaches to ensure and monitor safe participation for the student athletes.

What is a Concussion?

The American Academy of Neurology defines concussion as “a trauma-induced alteration in mental status that may or may not involve loss of consciousness.” This signifies that a person does not have to be knocked unconscious to receive a concussion. When an athlete sustains a concussion, they are more susceptible to suffer another concussion in subsequent contests.

Some Signs and Symptoms of Concussion

- Vacant stare
- Delayed verbal and motor responses (slow to answer questions or follow directions)
- Confusion and inability to focus attention (easily distracted)
- Slurred or incoherent speech (making disjointed or incomprehensible statements)
- Gross observable incoordination (stumbling, inability to walk tandem/straight lines)
- Emotions out of proportion to circumstances (distraught, crying for no apparent reason)
- Disorientation (walking in the wrong direction; unaware of time, date, and place)
- Memory deficits
- Any period of loss of consciousness (paralytic coma, unresponsiveness to arousal)
- Persistent headache
- Double vision
- Nausea/ may be accompanied by vomiting
- Tinnitus (ringing in the ears)

Protocol for Suspected Head Injury

1. Determine the level of consciousness.
 - if unconscious, **call 911 and check airway, breathing, and circulation DO NOT MOVE THEM!**
 - if conscious, continue to #2
2. Remove the athlete from the activity
3. Observe athletes for movement, disorientation or confusion.
4. Talk to athlete to determine if they
 - a. are disoriented, have a headache or blurred vision
 - b. have any memory loss, they are sick to their stomach
5. If any of these symptoms are present, continue to observe the athlete for 15 minutes.
6. If any of these symptoms persist for longer than 15 minutes, that athlete should not be allowed to return under any circumstances. The athlete should be observed by an adult, and seen by a physician within 24 hours.

Determining When Advanced Care is Necessary

When a head injured athlete is allowed to go home, there are certain circumstances which warrant emergency medical care. If any of the following conditions exist, do not delay—call 911 or transport them to the nearest emergency room if:

- At any time, there is a loss of consciousness.
- The athlete is incoherent, vomiting, or has blood or discharge around the ears or eyes.
- There is a loss of vision, hearing or other senses.
- A headache persists or worsens.
- One pupil becomes larger than the other.
- The athlete’s condition worsens or any time the athlete “just isn’t right.”

Athletic Handbook Forms

The following pages have copies of the forms that all student/athletes and their parents/guardians must read, sign and return to their coach.

Each student will receive a Student Athletic Handbook that will include copies of the following:

- Sportsmanship Form
- Pay to Participate Fee Form
- Permission Form
- Emergency Form
- Insurance Information Form
- Middle School Athletic Codes of Conduct Handbook Signature Form
- Discipline Appeals Process Form
- Family and Coach Agreement Form
- Public Media and Social Networking Procedures Agreement

The student will bring home a copy of the Student Athletic Handbook. The parent or guardian will need to read the Student Athletic Handbook and return the above forms signed by both the athlete and their parent/guardian.

Before being allowed to participate in practice or athletic contests every athlete must have the above forms on file in the school office. Once the forms have been returned, the athlete will be eligible to participate in athletics.

Sportsmanship

Athletic contests are sports and games participated within the confines of a rule system that assures participants equality in competition. The National Federation of Interscholastic Athletics Association designs most of these rules. They are set up by committees of coaches throughout the United States to assure safe and equitable competition.

This issue addresses those rules set up by an ethics and sportsmanship committee to assure that we not only abide by a standardized set of rules, i.e. spearing, 4 balls and three strikes, 3 point field goals, etc. but also a behavioral set of rules. Sportsmanship rules involve, but are not limited to “trash talking,” profanity, delivering a blow after the whistle, throwing at a batter’s head, etc.

Within the Dysart Unified School District, we will support following the letter of the obvious rules and, just as strongly, following the Sportsmanship and Discipline Code.

If a contest official determines that a coach or player has acted in an unsportsmanlike manner during a period, quarter, inning or intermission, the coach or player may be ordered to leave the contest.

A coach or player ejected from a contest for any reason shall be subject to the following without appeal:

First Ejection – Ineligible for the next contest at that level of competition. Any person ejected from a contest shall not participate the remainder of that day.

Second Ejection – A similar ejection by the same player during the same season will result in cessation of the season for the player or coach concerned.

By signing this agreement, I understand that if my behavior during an athletic contest warrants my being expelled from the contest, I will not be allowed to participate in the next athletic contest. If this action occurs a second time, I will be dismissed from the athletic program for the remainder of that season. A Sportsmanship Rule violation cannot be appealed.

If an athlete is placed in out-of school suspension, he/she may be dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season. If the athlete feels that they have been unfairly treated, he/she can appeal this decision to the School Principal. The Principal will review the incident during the next school day and decide on the appeal that day. If the appeal is granted, the athlete will be immediately reinstated.

I also understand that if my school time behavior warrants out of school suspension that I may immediately be dismissed from the athletic program for the remainder of the season.

Signature of Athlete

Date

Print name



ARIZONA TAX CREDIT CONTRIBUTION

Support local schools and receive a dollar-for-dollar state tax credit

Couples filing joint taxes may donate up to **\$400**; Individuals up to **\$200**

Credits are not available to businesses or estates.

Mail Your Contributions To: **DYSART UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**
ATTN: TAX CREDIT PROGRAM
15802 NORTH PARKVIEW PLACE
SURPRISE, AZ 85374

ALL DONATIONS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Apply my tax credit to the following school:

K-8			High School
<input type="checkbox"/> Ashton Ranch	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunset Hills	<input type="checkbox"/> Dysart
<input type="checkbox"/> Canyon Ridge	<input type="checkbox"/> Marley Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Surprise	<input type="checkbox"/> Valley Vista
<input type="checkbox"/> Cimarron Springs	<input type="checkbox"/> Mountain View	<input type="checkbox"/> Thompson Ranch	<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Canyon
<input type="checkbox"/> Countryside	<input type="checkbox"/> Parkview	<input type="checkbox"/> West Point	<input type="checkbox"/> Shadow Ridge
<input type="checkbox"/> Dysart	<input type="checkbox"/> Rancho Gabriela	<input type="checkbox"/> Western Peaks	
<input type="checkbox"/> El Mirage	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverview		
<input type="checkbox"/> Kingswood	<input type="checkbox"/> Sonoran Heights		

Date _____ Parent (Guardian)/Contributor Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone Number _____

Total Amount Paid _____ Cash Check # _____ Money Order # _____

I want to support:

School May Designate (5500) Athletics (5501) Fine Arts (5502) Enrichment Programs (5505)

STUDENT ATHLETIC & CLUB FEES ONLY	
Student Name _____	
Activity _____	
K-8 <input type="checkbox"/> \$60/Elemiddle Sports <input type="checkbox"/> \$180/Elemiddle Student Cap <input type="checkbox"/> \$400/Elemiddle Family Cap <input type="checkbox"/> \$1-\$10/Extracurricular Activities Club	HIGH SCHOOL <input type="checkbox"/> \$100/Athletic PTP Activity <input type="checkbox"/> \$200/Athletic PTP Student Cap <input type="checkbox"/> \$400/Athletic PTP Family Cap <input type="checkbox"/> \$25/Summer Athletic Conditioning <input type="checkbox"/> \$10/Club

Dysart District Athletic Permission Form

I, _____ give my permission
(Parent/Guardian Name)

for _____ to participate in the sports
(Athlete's Name)

that I have initialed below. This consent shall endure throughout the school year unless the consent has been withdrawn in writing to the school principal.

By signing this permission form, I, the parent or guardian, agree to provide insurance for my child. I will also provide the school with any information which might limit my child's participation in the program.

Practice will begin after school and will continue until the after school athletic practice ends and the students are on their way home.

Students who participate in the program must obey all rules and are subject to dismissal from the team, based on failure to attend practice, to maintain adequate academic standards and/or to meet citizenship standards.

By signing this permission form, we acknowledge that we are aware that all athletic participation involves a risk of injury or even death, which cannot be totally avoided by equipment or coaching.

_____ **Volleyball**
_____ **Cross Country**
_____ **Softball**
_____ **Soccer**
_____ **Cheer**

_____ **Flag Football**
_____ **Basketball**
_____ **Baseball**
_____ **Soccer**

DYSART DISTRICT ATHLETIC EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Name: _____ Sex: F M

Athlete's Name

Mailing Address:

Birth date: _____ Birth place: _____

Father's Name: _____ Mother's Name: _____

TELEPHONE CONTACTS:

Hospitalization Insurance:

Father: _____ Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Mother: _____ Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Guardian: _____ Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

In case of emergency, if the parents cannot be contacted, please give a number of a relative or close friend who will assume responsibility. Please notify them of this arrangement.

1st Responsible Person: _____ Phone: _____

2nd Responsible Person: _____ Phone: _____

3rd Responsible Person: _____ Phone: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

*I/we understand that my/our child's _____ creates additional risks, and
(condition)

I/we discussed these risks with the coach and/or school administration in a meeting on

Date

List all concerns below. If you need more room, write legibly on the back of this form.

*If this section does not apply to you, please write "not applicable" in the space below.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

DYSART DISTRICT ATHLETIC INSURANCE INFORMATION

Athlete has school insurance (Check one):

Yes

No

I confirm that

Name of Athlete

of Dysart Unified School District has school accident insurance as required for student's participation in athletics. The above named student is currently covered and will continue to be covered during the present school year, by an accident (health) insurance policy issued by:

School Insurance Company Name:

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

ATHLETE HAS OTHER INSURANCE (Check one):

Yes

No

I confirm that

Name of Athlete

of Dysart Unified School District is covered by an accident (health) insurance policy, ***in lieu of (or in addition to) school insurance***, as required for student's participation in athletics. The above named student is currently covered and will continue to be covered during the present school year, by a policy issued by:

Insurance Company Name:

Policy Number:

This above mentioned insurance policy will provide adequate and equivalent protection in the event of an injury to the above named student during a school supervised practice or game.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Middle School Athletic Codes of Conduct Handbook

Signature Form

This form must be signed by both the student athlete and his/her parent/guardian and returned to the coach prior to participation in practice or games.

I have read, understand and will abide by all rules set forth in the Middle School Athletic Codes of Conduct Handbook.

I will allow my name, picture and statistics to be printed in programs, news media articles and/or videos.

All equipment checked out to me will be returned or I will reimburse the athletic department for missing or damaged equipment or uniforms.

Student Athlete Signature

Date

Student Athlete printed name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian printed name

DISCIPLINE APPEALS PROCESS

If the athlete feels that they have been unfairly treated, regarding any disciplinary issue other than the bad sportsmanship ejection rule, he/she can appeal this decision to the School Administration. The appeal must be in writing and sent to the School Principal within five days of the notification or the disciplinary issue. Only the incident will be evaluated. The Principal will review the incident within two school days and render a decision on the appeal that day. If the appeal is granted, the athlete will be immediately reinstated. The decision of the principal is final.

If the incident occurs at a Friday contest, the athlete in question will remain eligible until the Principal will hear the appeal.

Written consent is required in order for an athlete to return to an activity after a serious injury, an extended illness, dismissal from a team or any extended absence. Both the athlete's coach and the school administration will determine the number of practice days the student will miss prior to returning to competition. Each student must meet a safe level of cardio fitness, and show no or minimal effects before they will be allowed to participate in the next competition.

By signing this agreement, I understand that if my behavior during athletic contests warrants my being expelled from the contest, I will not be allowed to participate in the next athletic contest. If this action occurs a second time, I will be dismissed from the athletic program for the remainder of that season.

I also understand that when the student's behavior causes a danger to self or to other, an out-of-school suspension may be immediate. During any off-campus suspension, a student is not permitted on district property or at district functions/events.

Student Athlete Signature

Date

Student Athlete printed name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian printed name

Family and Coach Agreement

Coach to Student/Parent

The coach will discuss expectations of student and parent; provide team and parents with access to rules of the sport and provide contact information including school e-mail and school phone number.

Coach will be available for students to discuss any issues; talk to the student and parent with any concerns; take unresolved concerns to school administration.

I have read and agree to all expectation above.

Coach Name

Coach Signature

Date

Student/Parent to Coach

Student/Parent will: be supportive of coach, team and school; work with coach to resolve issues.

If concerns arise, Parent/Student will: talk to the coach with concerns first; meet with coach and Athletic Director if needed.

I have read and agree to all expectation above.

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Protocol of Meetings: 24 to 48 Hour Rule: After a game or event, a parent will wait 24 to 48 hours before contacting the coach to set up a meeting.

Public Media and Social Network Procedures for Student-Athletes

Public Media: Public media refers to technologies used to communicate messages and whose mission is to serve or engage a public. Public media domains include print outlets, traditional broadcasts, and digital. When utilizing any public media outlets, student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves responsibly as members of their respective team, the Athletics Department, Dysart Unified School District and the community.

Social Networks: Social network sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and other digital platforms and distribution mechanisms facilitate student communicating with other students. Participation in such networks has both positive appeal and potentially negative consequences. It is important the Dysart Unified School District student-athlete be aware of these consequences and exercise appropriate caution if they choose to participate.

Student-athletes are not restricted from using any on-line social network sites and digital platforms. However, users must understand that any content they make public via on-line social networks or digital platforms is expected to follow acceptable social behaviors and also to comply with federal government, state of Arizona, Dysart Unified School District, Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules and regulations.

Facebook and similar directories are hosted outside of the Dysart Unified School District server. Violations of district policy (e.g. harassing language, drug or alcohol policy violations, copyright infringement, etc.) or evidence of such violations in the content of on-line social networks or digital platforms are subject to investigation and sanction under the *Student Code of Conduct* and other District policies. They are also subject to the authority of law enforcement agencies.

Guidelines for Student-Athletes

The District guidelines are intended to provide framework for student-athletes to conduct themselves safely and responsibly in an on-line environment. As a student-athlete in the Dysart Unified School District you should:

Be careful with how much and what kind of identifying information you post on social networking sites. Virtually anyone with an email address can access your personal page. It is unwise to make available information such a date of birth, social security number, address, phone number, cell phone numbers, class schedules, bank account information, or details about your daily routine. All of these can facilitate identity theft or stalking. Facebook and other sites provide numerous privacy setting for information contained in its pages; use these settings to protect private information. However, once posted, the information becomes property of the website.

Be aware that potential current and future employers often access information you place on on-line social networking sites. You should think about any information you post on Facebook or similar directories potentially providing an image of you to a prospective employer. The information is considered public information. Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image that you can be proud of years from now.

Be careful in responding to unsolicited e-mails asking for passwords or PIN. Reputable businesses do not ask for this information in e-mails. Do not have a false sense of security about your rights to freedom of speech. Understand that freedom of speech is not unlimited. The on-line social network sites are NOT a place where you can say and do whatever you want without repercussions.

Prohibited Conduct: Student-athletes are highly visible representatives of the District and are expected to uphold the values and responsibilities of the District while meeting all requirements set forth by the AIA and the Dysart Unified School District interscholastic athletics program. The District department of athletics prohibits malicious and reckless behavior when utilizing public media outlets. It is important that student-athletes recognize the power of public media domains and the potentially negative image that they can portray about student-athletes, coaches, the athletic program and institution.

Sanctions: Any inappropriate activity or language in violation of the above prohibitions, including first time offenses, is subject to investigation and possible discipline by the District and/or the athletic department, as well as civil authorities. Sanctions imposed by Dysart may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Written notification from Dysart or assignee to the student-athlete outlining the policy and requiring that the unacceptable content be removed or the social network profile deactivated.

Temporary suspension from the team until prescribed condition is met.

Suspension from the team for a prescribed period.

Indefinite suspension from the team.

Dismissal from the team: Athletes of any age who exhibit unacceptable conduct in or out of school or competition or through any on-line social network (including but not limited to: harassing language; tobacco, drug, alcohol or steroid policy violations; fighting; threatening; stealing; lying; possessing false identification, forgery, cheating, vandalizing, violating school rules, trouble with the law, sending inappropriate messages or pictures, any other illegal activity or unacceptable conduct) may be suspended from interscholastic competition in accordance with the Dysart Unified School District formal suspension policy and the police and Children's Protective Services may be contacted. In addition, the following violations are considered to be extremely serious: organizing, hosting, or having gatherings where drinking or use of controlled substances takes place; selling, providing, or distributing controlled substances; using steroids, carrying a dangerous or concealed weapon; being charged with or committing a felony. Any student who commits any of these violations will be suspended immediately and may be suspended up to three seasons pending an athletic council review. If persons in possession of alcohol or controlled substances, arrive at a gathering (invited or uninvited) being hosted by a student, that student is responsible under this policy for the immediate removal of those persons and all alcohol or controlled substances from the premises. A responsible adult or the police should be contacted without delay if those persons refuse to leave. Code restrictions are in effect and enforced on a year-round basis and violations are cumulative over the course of a student's high school career.

Arizona Revised Statutes References - (A.R.S.):

Abuse, Verbal Abuse: A.R.S. § 15-507

School Day: A.R.S. §15-341, 15-901, ADOT
R17-9-104

Bullying: A.R.S. § 13-3620, A.R.S. § 15-341

Suspension: A.R.S. § 15-843, A.R.S. § 15-841-15-844

Computer Tampering: A.R.S. § 13-2316

Tobacco: A.R.S. § 36-798, A.R.S. § 15-341, A.R.S. §
13-3622

Disorderly Conduct: A.R.S. § 13-2904, A.R.S. §
13-2911

Trespass: A.R.S. § 15-841

Disruption: A.R.S. § 13-2911

Truancy: A.R.S. § 15-802

Expele: A.R.S. § 15-841, A.R.S. § 15-841-15-844

Vandalism: A.R.S. § 15-842

Hazing A.R.S. § 15-2301

Weapons: A.R.S. § 13-3102(11), A.R.S. § 15-341,
A.R.S. § 15-841

Loitering A.R.S. § 13-2905

Agreement Form

I understand and agree that I am required to know, understand and follow the standards contained in the Dysart Athletic Public Media and Social Network Policy for Student-Athletes.

Student Signature Date

Printed Student Name

Parent/Guardian signature Date

Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Sport(s)
