

Mountain View Middle School

Student Athlete – Parent Handbook



Sportsmanship-Leadership-Citizenship

Effective March 18, 2019

Respect

Responsibility



**Mountain View
Middle School**

Community

Pride

MISSION STATEMENT

Mountain View Middle School is a safe and encouraging learning environment where all students are engaged in a rigorous and inclusive learning experience designed to meet social, emotional, physical, and intellectual needs.

We...

- 🐾 Persevere** when problem solving by employing multiple strategies, reasoning abstractly, and drawing and applying conclusions.
- 🐾 Achieve** purposeful, differentiated learning expectations in order to demonstrate effective communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking skills.
- 🐾 Work** cooperatively to provide a safe learning environment by treating all members of the school community with respect, dignity, and equity.
- 🐾 Succeed**, acknowledge, and celebrate our achievements.
- 🐾 Participate** in a variety of activities that promote physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.
- 🐾 Respond** and communicate as effective learners through close reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and purposeful listening.
- 🐾 Inspire**, instill, and model respect, support, and cooperation in all instruction and activities.
- 🐾 Develop** the characteristics of responsible and ethical community members, and global citizens.
- 🐾 Engage** in the digital world purposefully, ethically, and safely.



Mountain View Middle School Athletics
Sportsmanship-Leadership-Citizenship

To the Parents of MVMS Athletes:

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to our athletes. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our athletics program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of their respective team.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach:

- Philosophy of the coach
- Location and times of practices and games
- Team requirements
- Injury procedure
- Team discipline and behavior

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and expectations

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and a parent. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the athlete's position. The procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution:

- Call the Athletic Director to set up an appointment with the Coach
- If a meeting with the Coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, schedule a meeting with the Athletic Director and Principal

We hope the information provided in this handbook makes both your child's and your experience with MVMS athletics a positive one. Research indicates that a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood. Many character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We wish all of our athletes a successful school year. Thank you for your continued support!

Respectfully,

Athletic Director
and
Principal of MVMS

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY

Participation: MVMS students in grades 5-8 may try out for all cut sports or join a non-cut athletic team. Student-athletes who try out for a cut sport and do not make a team may join a non-cut team within five days of the last tryout they attended.

Academic Eligibility: A student who wishes to participate in athletics must have a grade of 70% or above in all academic classes. An incomplete grade for a class counts as a failed class. If the student has one grade below 70% he/she may apply for a waiver with the school principal, or designee. Students who have two or more grades below 70% may not apply for a waiver to participate. During a student's middle school athletic involvement, one waiver may be granted. However, under extenuating circumstances, the Principal may consider one additional waiver request per student. The Principal's decision shall be final. In no instances shall a student be granted more than two waivers for middle school athletics.

Physical Examination:

No student athlete shall be eligible to try out, practice, or represent the school in interscholastic athletics without a current (within one year of date of participation) physician's statement certifying that the student is fit for participation. A physical form can be obtained at: https://goffstownathletics.com/library/files/goffstownhighschool_bigteams_21520/files/ATHLETIC%20PARTICIPATION%20PHYSICAL%20EXAMINATION%20FORM.pdf

A physical on or after June 1st of the year of entrance into the high school is good for all four years. We recommend having a physical every year. Currently, all students in grades 7, 9, and 11 who participate in contact sports will receive a free baseline concussion test.

Registration:

All athletic registration is online at: www.goffstownathletics.com. Click on the Athletic Department tab. In the drop down menu select, "Sports Registration." The registration site will be open a minimum of 30 days before the season start date(s).

Prior to registering for a sport for the first time, it is recommended that all student-athletes and their parent/guardian take the online concussion course. Separate from the "Impact" or baseline test which is given at the high school to all Freshmen, Juniors and first time team members, this free, online course can be found at <http://nfhslearn.com/courses/38000>.

Proof of Insurance:

Any student participating in interscholastic athletics must submit to the school written evidence of accident/health insurance. Student accident insurance purchased through the school will meet this requirement.

Home Educated, Charter and Non-Public Students

Goffstown and New Boston residents who are home educated or who attend a charter or non-public school may be eligible to participate in co-curricular athletics. Parents or guardians are to contact the Principal and Athletic Director to confirm eligibility. Charter and non-public school students will be immediately eligible to try out for a team after the Principal certifies residence.

Attend Pre-Season Meeting:

Open communication between the coach, parents, and student athlete is necessary for a successful season. In order to ensure that this communication takes place, pre-season meetings are scheduled at the beginning of each season. When pre-season meetings are held, student athletes and parents are expected to attend.

Topics of Discussion at Pre-Season Meetings

- Athletic program policies and procedures
- Game and practice schedules
- Expectation of players, coaches and parents
- Goals for season
- Coach/Parent Communication

Team Attendance:

One purpose of participation in athletic activities is the development of mutual commitment and collaboration skills. There is an expectation that students who participate in athletics recognize that when they work in teams or groups there is a responsibility to themselves and their teammates to attend practices, games, and activities as scheduled. This goal is best accomplished through ongoing communication between students, parents, and coaches. Students are expected to communicate with the coach in advance when they will not be attending a practice, game, or scheduled team activity.

We understand that athletics is one part of a student's adolescent growth and development. We strive to balance academics, athletics, and family needs. When challenges between these three arise, they are best addressed through communication with the student's coach.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT & ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to provide a safe and meaningful learning experience for our student athletes, there needs to be clear boundaries and expectations. Our Student Athlete—Parent Handbook has been designed to achieve understanding between the coach, the student and the family.

By completing the sign-off form at the end of this Handbook the student and parents acknowledge an understanding of the rules and regulations contained in this agreement and recognize the rules and regulations that pertain to the athletic activity involved as well as the effort and dedication that participation requires. The regulations set forth in this agreement are not designed to question the integrity of the student, but rather to aid them in achievement toward being the best they can be.

All actions and behaviors referenced below apply to all student athletes anywhere for the duration of this agreement, from the first day of the official Fall starting date through MVMS final day of school. Willful violation of any of these rules will be investigated by the administration. All students will be afforded due process.

- *Drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages*
- *Unauthorized use or possession of drugs*
- *Vandalism*
- *Stealing*
- *Bullying and/or harassment (includes social media)*
- *Gambling - including gambling on the outcome of school contests*
- *Smoking, vaping, or use or purchase of tobacco products (including chew and snuff)*
- *Gross misconduct*
- *Hazing - Hazing refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to retain full status in a group). It is commonly defined as practices that humiliate, degrade or risk emotional and/or physical harm regardless of the person's willingness to participate.*

If, after due process, there is found to be an infraction of these rules set forth, the following protocol will be used in implementing consequences.

***Note: Consequences are cumulative over the course of a student's career at MVMS.**

Level 1

Level one offenses usually involve minor misbehavior on the part of the student athlete which impedes orderly team procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school. These minor infractions can usually be handled by the coach but sometimes require the intervention of other school support personnel.

Level II

Level two offenses are behaviors whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school community. The infractions generally require an intervention on the administrative level. Also, included in this level are misbehaviors which do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but whose educational consequences are serious enough to require corrective action on the part of an administrator.

Level III

Level three offenses are acts that are directed against persons or property that warrant immediate intervention. These acts might be considered criminal but more frequently can be handled by the disciplinary mechanism in the school. Corrective measures which the school should undertake, however, depend on the extent of the school's resources for remediating the situation in the best interests of all students. In some cases, police or other outside agency assistance is utilized.

Level IV

Level four offenses are acts which result in violence to another's person or property or which pose a direct threat to the safety of others in the school (or at any school approved activity). These acts are usually criminal and are so serious that they may require administrative actions which result in the immediate removal of the student from school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities and/or action by the Goffstown School Board. New Hampshire school authorities are obligated to report clearly established criminal offenses to law enforcement authorities.

Daily School Attendance:

All students are expected to attend all practices and games. Authorized absences include only those for illness, school functions occurring on a limited basis in which no other alternative is provided the student; i.e. field trips and doctor appointments. The coach on a case-by-case basis will handle other absences not set forth above. Limited participation in athletics is not allowed. Penalties for unauthorized absences from the team may include a ONE GAME SUSPENSION FOR A FIRST OFFENSE AND DISMISSAL FROM THE TEAM FOR A SECOND OFFENSE.

Spectator Code of Conduct:

The Athletic Department expects all spectators to participate by:

- Demonstrating a high degree of sportsmanship and modeling appropriate behavior.
- Showing team support through positive comments and appropriate language.
- Accepting the judgment of coaches, officials, and referees.
- Acknowledging that fields, courts, and bench areas are the players' domain during a contest.

Spectators must recognize that their conduct influences the perception of the school and their words and actions can impact the success of teams.

Goffstown School Board policies, including but not limited to the following, are applicable to student athletes:

EEAEC	Student Conduct on School Buses
EEAEC-R	Student Conduct on School Buses – Regulation
EEAG	Use of Private Vehicles to Transport Students
GBEA	Staff Ethics
GBEB	Staff Conduct
GBEBB	Employee – Student Relations
GBGBA	Use of Automated External Defibrillators
GBI	Staff Community Relations
IHBG	Home Education Instruction
JICC	Student Conduct on School Buses
JICFA	Hazing
JICK	Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention – Bullying
JJE	Student Fund Raising Activities
JJIF	Guidelines for Proper Sportsmanship
JLCJ	Concussions and Head Injuries

Policies may be accessed at <http://goffstown.k12.nh.us/index.php/policies>.

Student Athlete - Parent Handbook and Athletic Code of Conduct Sign Off Form

I have read, understand and agree to the terms and conditions as stated in the Mountain View Middle School Athletics Student Athlete - Parent Handbook.

My signature indicates that I understand and will follow all Mountain View Middle School rules, regulations, and procedures, and Goffstown School Board policies.

Printed Parent Name

Printed Student Name

Grade

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Please return this form to your coach on or before the first day of practice.