

# **ESPANOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SECONDARY ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

**ESPANOLA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
CARLOS F. VIGIL MIDDLE SCHOOL**



**EFFECTIVE DATE: JULY 2020**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>MISSION STATEMENT</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>SPORTS OFFERED.</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>DEFINITIONS.</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>DISCLAIMER.</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>ELIGIBILITY UNDER EPS AND NMAA POLICIES.</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>CODE OF CONDUCT.</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>ACADEMICS.</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION.</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>TRANSFER STUDENTS.</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>CHANGING SPORTS.</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>CARRY OVER SPORTS.</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>ADDITIONAL RULES OF ELIGIBILITY.</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>HOME SCHOOL OR CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENT.</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>STUDENT ACTIVITY CODE OF CONDUCT.</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>EPS STUDENT ATHLETIC BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES.</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>VIOLATION DISCOVERY.</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>PROHIBITED CONDUCT.</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>THEFT OR DESTRUCTION.</b> .....	<b>20</b>
<b>USE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES.</b> .....	<b>20</b>

<b>CONSEQUENCES FOR USE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES. . . . .</b>	<b>.20</b>
<b>LEVEL 1. . . . .</b>	<b>.21</b>
<b>LEVEL 2. . . . .</b>	<b>.21</b>
<b>LEVEL 3. . . . .</b>	<b>.22</b>
<b>LEVEL 4. . . . .</b>	<b>.23</b>
<b>CODE OF CONDUCT APPEAL. . . . .</b>	<b>.24</b>
<b>TRAVEL. . . . .</b>	<b>.24</b>
<b>SPORTSMANSHIP. . . . .</b>	<b>.25</b>
<b>ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES. . . . .</b>	<b>.26</b>
<b>OFF SEASON CONDITIONING PROGRAMS. . . . .</b>	<b>.27</b>
<b>DUAL SPORTS. . . . .</b>	<b>.27</b>
<b>8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARTICIPATION AT HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL. . . . .</b>	<b>.28</b>
<b>TITLE IX DIRECTOR INFORMATION. . . . .</b>	<b>.29</b>
<b>APPENDIX A – STUDENT-ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITY . . . . .</b>	<b>.30</b>
<b>APPENDIX B – PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF EXPECTATIONS. . . . .</b>	<b>.32</b>
<b>STUDENT/PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE PAGE. . . . .</b>	<b>.33</b>

## **FORMS**

### **PHYSICAL FORMS**

#### **PARENT RELEASE FORM – RETURN FROM EVENTS**

#### **CONSENT TO TREAT FORM**

#### **COVID-19 WAIVER FORM**

# **ESPANOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATHLETICS**

## **ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission and goal of the Espanola Valley Schools interscholastic program is to provide all students with as wide a range of opportunities for development beyond the academic program. We believe that athletics is an integral part of the educational process, offering many opportunities for mental, social, moral, and physical growth. Through sports, students are taught the value of hard work, discipline, team building, sportsmanship, and other values that help develop an athlete's character. At Espanola Valley High School, we will provide every student athlete an environment, in which students have the opportunity to achieve not only athletic success but to lay the foundation for success in life.

Competition athletics generates a pride in achievement; an appreciation of team effort, hard work, and fair play, respect for rules of the game and respect for the abilities of others. Every student who is interested in athletics should have the opportunity to compete for positions on teams.

A sound athletic program must be based on sound educational principles. Every athletic program sponsored and supported by the schools must be considered a phase of the educational process. Athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. They are extra-curricular only in the sense that they are assigned time outside of the student's academic class schedule. The academic and athletic programs should be mutually complementary.

The Athletic Department seeks to hire highly qualified coaches, charging them with the unique opportunity to teach positive lifetime skills and values to all their athletes. In order to ensure that athletes are prepared for the commitment and personal sacrifice needed to be successful in athletics, coaches must help them develop and understand the roles that desire, dedication, and self-discipline play in reaching individual and team goals. While striving for victory is the nature of athletic competition, it is only one criterion when determining a season's success. Guiding a team to reach its maximum potential and an athlete to reach his/her maximum potential are the ultimate goals. Along with this comes emphasis on good sportsmanship, which includes being modest in victory and accepting in defeat, and playing fairly in each competitive event.

## Participation in Athletics Statement

Participation in athletics is a privilege offered to students. It is **NOT** an inherent right. Participation in any of the programs offered demands a major commitment not just during practice or competition, but at all times (in school and out of school) in order to be prepared mentally and physically to do one's best.

Students and school personnel are representatives of their school and community. Their conduct is expected to exemplify high standards at all times.

## Governing Authority

The extracurricular activities and Athletic Programs of EVHS are under the direct auspice of the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) and the Espanola Public Schools Board of Education (Board). The NMAA is empowered by the NM Public Education Department to supervise and regulate all interscholastic activities and athletics in the State of New Mexico. NMAA rules and regulations can be found on its website ([www.nmact.org](http://www.nmact.org)). students, by participating interscholastic activities and sports, agree to abide by and be subject to the laws of the State of New Mexico, the NMAA Rules and Regulations, EPS Board Policies, and the rules and regulations contained in the Athletic Handbook for both on and off campus conduct **at all times**. Violations of the requirements for student eligibility and conduct in this Athletic Handbook, the rules of the NMAA, and/or other Board Policies and Laws may result in consequences including suspension or expulsion from participation in interscholastic activities and sports as well as other academic disciplinary actions.

1. It is the responsibility of the student his/her parents(s)/guardian(s) and the EVHS Athletic Department personnel to understand and comply with all laws, policies, rules and regulations.
2. The regulations contained in this Athletic Handbook shall be interpreted consistently with federal, state, NMAA and EPS statutes, rules, regulations and policies. The regulations contained in this Athletic Handbook supersede all previous Parent/Student Handbooks or Manuals and are effective as of July 16, 2020.
3. If this Athletic Handbook does not address a specific situation, administrators and Coaches/Activity Sponsors shall seek guidance from EPS Board Policies, NMAA Regulations, and state and local laws. Where the laws, rules, regulations and policies do not address a specific situation, coaches and administrators shall exercise their discretionary judgment as the circumstances require.

4. Actions concerning possible disciplinary actions, including, but not limited to the gathering of testimony, recommendations and scholastic records to determine eligibility, must be communicated to the student concerned and to his/her parents prior to entry in the student's record.

### **Development of Personal Qualities of EPS Athletic Programs**

The coach through the interscholastic program encourages the participants:

1. Develop self-pride
2. Identify with the team members and the school
3. Learn teamwork
4. Learn self-discipline in the acquiring of skills necessary to the sport
5. Learn to make decisions and operate under pressure
6. Respect the necessity for authority and the needs of the group
7. Succeed in the total educational academic program
8. Develop good sportsmanship and conduct

### **Development of Character**

The coach maintains an emphasis on character education through the development of:

1. Trustworthiness
2. Respect
3. Responsibility
4. Fairness
5. Caring
6. Citizenship

## **SPORTS OFFERED**

Espanola Valley High School are members of District 2-AAAA and presently provide teams for interscholastic competition in each of the following sports.

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Football	Boys & Girls Basketball	Baseball
Boys & Girls Cross Country	Wrestling	Softball
Girls Volleyball	Cheer	Boys & Girls Track
Cheer		Boys & Girls Tennis
		Boys & Girls Golf

Carlos F. Vigil Middle School presently provides teams for interscholastic competition in each of the following sports.

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Football	Boys and Girls Basketball	Boys and Girls Track
Boys and Girls Cross Country	Wrestling	
Girls Volleyball	Cheer	

## **DEFINITIONS**

1. A student athlete is a student who is actively trying out for a sport or who is participating as a team member of a sport.
2. An off-season program participant is defined as a student who participates in a school sponsored, school-supervised program intended for the betterment of the athlete in a particular sport and conducted in accordance with the articles and regulations of the NMAA and/ or the policies of Espanola Valley High School.
3. Off-season is any time of the year when interscholastic competition with other schools is not included in a particular sport.

## **DISCLAIMER**

EPS reserves the right to modify, revoke, suspend, terminate, or change any or all policies or procedures, in whole or in part, set forth in this Athletic Handbook at any time with or without notice. The language in this handbook is not intended to create, nor is it to be construed to constitute, a contract of employment between EPS and any one or all of its personnel performing Coaching or other duties within the Athletic Department.

## **ELIGIBILITY UNDER EPS AND NMAA POLICIES**

In accordance with the EPS Board Policies and NMAA Regulations, a student will be considered eligible to participate in athletics (practices and competitions) only after complying with all of the requirements in Subsections A through D, below, as well as those set forth in Section III.

### **a. Physical Examination**

A student participating in extracurricular athletics must be physically fit and this fitness must be based on a physical examination of the student conducted **after April 1<sup>st</sup>** of the previous school year. The physical must be verified in writing by a licensed medical

Physician, to the extent authorized by their practice act and licensing authority. This Certification shall be maintained in the Athletic Trainer's Office of the school attended by the student and is valid for participation in any and all extracurricular activities through the following school year. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are responsible for arranging for the student's examination by a physician and for paying any costs associated with the examination.

The purpose of this examination is to determine the student's general fitness for participation in athletics. It should NOT be considered as a comprehensive medical examination, evaluation or a substitute for general medical care by the students' personal physician.

If any significant change affecting the student's fitness to participate occurs during the school year for which the certification is valid, the student may be asked to obtain a new certification from his/her physician prior to returning to participation or practice.



**b. Participation Contract**

In addition to the Physical Examination Certification for, a student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) must submit to their schools Athletic Office a signed Participation Contract in order for the student to be eligible to participate or practice in an extracurricular activity. The Participation contract requires that prior to a student's participation, the parent(s)/guardian(s) give consent to the student's participation and medical release, and adherence to the Section III. Student Activity Code of Conduct of this Athletic Handbook.

**c. Insurance**

All students must be covered by both health and accident insurance prior to practice or participation in extracurricular activities or athletics. A student may elect to be covered under a private insurance plan by indicating this fact on the Participation Contract in the appropriate section and providing documentation proof of insurance to the Athletic Office. If the student does not elect to be covered under a private insurance plan, the student will be covered automatically under the insurance plan offered through EPS each year. The EPS insurance plan requires a nominal fee to be paid each year. Such payment is the responsibility of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). In addition, students who participate in football may obtain football insurance forms from the Athletic Office, however; this insurance only covers injuries sustained while practicing or competing in football with the EPS team.

**d. NMAA**

All students and coaches are required to complete a concussion course through the National Federation of High School Sports (NFHS). This course can be found on the NFHS website ([nfhslearn.com](http://nfhslearn.com)). Additionally, parents are required to sign a **consent to treat** form. This form can be obtained from the EPS Athletic Office, or, from [nmact.org/forms](http://nmact.org/forms).

Due to special or unusual circumstances, the NMAA in conjunction with EPS and in compliance with New Mexico State and Local laws, may require additional medical examinations, medical waivers, medical questionnaires, and other documentation in order for a student to participate in sports. Furthermore, shifts in behavioral expectations in accordance with state bodies may also be expected from student athletes, families, and community member.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Parents and students must sign off on the EPS Athletics Policy Acknowledgements Form that they have read and understand the Code of Conduct.

### **Academics**

Eligibility is assessed on an ongoing basis. In order to maintain academic eligibility:

#### NMAA 6.2.1 Extracurricular Activities – Student Participation

##### **A. Academic Eligibility**

1. A Student shall have a 2.0 grade point average with no F's, based on a 4.0 grading scale, or its equivalent, for the semester grading period immediately preceding participation. For students not eligible at the semester, the next six- or nine-week grading period can be used to regain eligibility. Grades earned during a summer session must be placed on a student's transcript by the school registrar prior to the first day of the Fall semester in order for the course to be utilized for eligibility purposes.
  - a. All class work counted for eligibility must be acceptable for graduation.
  - b. The GPA is based on a 4.0 scale with an allowance for consideration of honors points.
  - c. Cumulative provision
    1. A student who is ineligible at the end of a semester may utilize the cumulative provision.
    2. Only semester grades can be used, and all semester grades starting with the 9th grade year must be utilized. (The cumulative provision cannot be used for 9th or middle school/junior high Students.)
    3. The cumulative provision may not be applied if a Student has more than one "F" in the semester grading period immediately preceding participation.
    4. A student must have passed a minimum of 51% of coursework taken by a fulltime student in the semester grading period immediately preceding participation to take advantage of the cumulative provision option.
  - d. Stricter guidelines may be imposed by the school/district.
2. A Student must be enrolled in at least 51% of the member school's regular class schedule in courses that will be counted towards his/her graduation and in regular attendance during the current as well as the previous semester.

3. A student is permitted to make up any one-semester class during the summer school period following the present school. The grade earned shall be considered in the determination described in the preceding paragraph.
4. A special education student who is making adequate progress in meeting the goals and objectives on the individualized education plan (which also must indicate and/or recommend participation in interscholastic athletics), as assessed by the Individualized Education Program Committee's determination, will be academically eligible.
5. The term "grading period" means a period of nine weeks.
6. If necessary, a student should seek assistance in maintaining academic eligibility.

#### **B. Academically Ineligible Player**

1. Practice - The student may practice with the team if it is determined by the school's administration that he/she is demonstrating academic progress towards eligibility.
2. Participation - The Student CANNOT participate in any interscholastic event at any level of competition during the period of ineligibility. The Student may participate in team functions at the school only. A student who has participated in an interscholastic event(s) during his/her period of academic ineligibility must sit out the number of games/events/contests that he/she participated in once he/she becomes academically eligible.
3. Travel - The Student CANNOT travel to any interscholastic event or activity with the team during the period of ineligibility.
4. Games – The student may take part in game preparation but CANNOT dress out in uniform or sit on the bench in street clothes with the team during games.

#### **Attendance and Participation**

In order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities:

1. A student must be enrolled in more than half of the school's regular class schedules and in regular attendance during the current, as well as previous, grading period.
2. A student entering school shall be enrolled by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day of that semester to be considered eligible. A student who is not enrolled by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day is ineligible until his/her eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) day of attendance. A student is required to practice the required number of days as determined by

- the Coach or activities sponsor of each sport or activity in advance of participating in an interscholastic competition.
3. A student is eligible for eight (8) consecutive semesters starting with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, or ten (10) consecutive semesters beginning with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year if the students participates in any sport at the high school level during his/her eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade provided that the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade semesters must be within the same academic year.
  4. A student shall not be absent from school in excess of fifteen (15) days per semester for school sponsored extracurricular activities. **NMSA 1978, 22-12-2.1**
  5. A student is limited to one (1) season of a specific sport per school year, regardless of whether a student transfers. The student cannot participate in more than four (4) seasons in a particular sport while in grades 9-12 or five (5) seasons of a particular sport if the student is a senior and previously competed at a high school level while in eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade. It shall be considered a season of participation in a specific sport when a student has been enrolled in and practiced at that school for five (5) or more school days or has participated in any part of an interscholastic contest, regardless of team level. A student in uniform for his/her team shall be considered as having participated in a sports season.
  6. A student uses a semester of eligibility if he/she attends one or more class periods in a semester, unless the following criteria are met:
    - a. The student is forced to withdraw due to illness, injury or disability (as defined by the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act) and the withdrawal is necessary. The District, in its discretion, has to obtain approval from NMAA.
    - b. The student is forced to withdraw on or before the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the semester.
    - c. The student must not have participated in any interscholastic athletic event during the semester from which the student withdraws.
    - d. The student must have been academically eligible at the time of the withdrawal, unless the academic ineligibility is a result of a disability.
    - e. The student must continue to be unable to attend school for at least the remainder of the semester.
    - f. The student must meet all other eligibility standards.
  7. Participation in evening performances, social events or competitions should not affect school attendance on the following day. When performing or competing during the school day, students must return to classes immediately after the event.

8. A student placed on any suspension will not be allowed to compete in contests during the suspension period. An athletically suspended student may practice as indicated in the Code of Conduct.
9. A student who desires to attend a camp, clinic, or be on vacation during a sport season must notify his/her respective Coach prior to the beginning of practice for that season.
10. For each unexcused absence, the student may be suspended from practice and/or competitions for a period of time determined by the Coach or sponsor.
11. During the practice and competition season as defined by the NMAA, a student participating in a sport cannot participate in another sport/club team (i.e. AAU, Travel Team, etc.) until the end of the competition season (including playoff and championship games) unless specifically released from the team or granted permission by the Head Coach and Athletic Director. A student who quits a team before the end of the competition season may not sign up for or try out for another sport until the end of that season (including playoff and championship games), unless the Head Coach of the team the student quit grants permission.
12. The normal deadline for joining a sport will be the first official practice day allowed by NMAA. The last date a student-athlete may join a sport is (10) ten days from the NMAA official practice day unless the student is a transfer at which point they would have to comply with all NMAA rules and regulations (see Transfer Students below). Said student-athlete will be given a tryout period equivalent to those who started on the official first day. Students who miss the deadline because of a suspension or any disciplinary issues must get approval by the AD and Principal.
13. All students are required to practice the appropriate number of days in advance of participation in a contest/game/match/event as per NMAA Handbook.
14. Any student who is either not present for the instructional day, or, has an unexcused absence will be ineligible for practice and/or competition

### **Transfer Students**

A student's eligibility to participate in EPS Athletics upon his/her transfer into the EPS district will be evaluated at the time the student officially enrolls and begins attending an EPS schools.

1. Good Standing: The Principal of the EPS receiving school must have received NMAA Form C from the previous school's Principal. A transfer student is ineligible to compete at any level of competition for 180 calendar days, unless the transfer has been approved by the NMAA. If a student

- transfers after participation in a sport season has begun, regardless of change in residence, the student is ineligible for the remainder of the season for that particular sport.
2. Varsity: A transfer student who complies with the good standing requirements in Subsection 1 is ineligible to compete at the varsity level for 90 school days/180 calendar UNLESS the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the transfer student effect a bona fide change of residence to the EPS attendance area. A bona fide change of residence must result in all household goods being transferred from the previous residence to the new residence, the parents(s)/guardian(s) must actually reside at the new address, and the change in residence cannot be an attempt to circumvent the intent of the transfer rule. A bona fide change of residence also may occur when the family unit has been disrupted as a result of divorce, separation, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. The student shall be enrolled ten (10) days and practice the required number of days prior to participating in an interscholastic competition.
  3. Sub-Varsity: a transfer student who satisfied the requirements of Subsection 1 and 2 above, and is not a senior transfer student, is eligible to compete at the sub-varsity level in EPS athletics as of the date of NMAA approval.
  4. In-Coming Ninth Grader: If a student is an incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grader who has not previously competed in interscholastic sports at the high school level and the student satisfies the requirements of Subsection 1 above, the transfer student is immediately eligible if his/her bona fide residence as described in subsection 2 above is in the school zone where he/she is competing.
  5. Appeal: a transfer student who is declared ineligible under this regulation may appeal the decision through the NMAA Appeal Procedures but may have to incur half the cost of appeal (\$250).

### **Changing Sports**

Students will be allowed to transfer from one sport to another during a given season only with the approval of both Coaches and the Athletic Director.

1. Athletes moving from one sport season directly to another will be allowed up to five (5) school days off between sports at their discretion. Athletes moving from one sport to another will be allowed the opportunity to tryout and will be afforded a tryout opportunity equal to other participants prior to the coach making final team makeup decisions.
2. Athletes quitting a sport or being dropped for disciplinary reasons may not begin another sports program until the end of the season or after being released by the Head Coach.

## **CARRY OVER SPORTS**

The following guidelines apply to students who are completing participation in one sport while another is beginning:

The concluding sport has priority and students are not to be discouraged from attending the practice of the beginning sport after the practice of the concluding sport has been completed. Students will not be penalized for completing their commitment to the concluding sport; and appropriate restrictions in the beginning sport may be requested by the concluding sport's coach for the dual-sport students.

These guidelines are not intended to put the student in the middle of any controversy. All students who may be involved in two sports should be identified prior to the start of the beginning season. Parameters will be set at the time to ensure that students' parent(s)/guardian(s) are clear on the expectations and commitment of the student.

### **Additional Rules of Eligibility**

A student shall not be eligible to participate in a particular interscholastic sport if the student:

1. Has ever engaged professionally in that particular interscholastic sport;
2. Is nineteen 19 years of age or older before 12:01 a.m. on September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year;
3. Has ever accepted an award for his/her high school participation from an outside source other than an inexpensive, unframed, uncounted paper certificate of recognition;
4. Has ever received any money for expenses or otherwise for his/her participation in an athletic contest;
5. Has ever trained or practiced with a college squad or participated in a college event.

### **Home School or Charter School Student Eligibility**

1. Must be academically eligible – show home school report card
2. Must show proof of residency
3. Must be a bona fide resident in your attendance zone
4. Must be registered with PED
5. Must have physical, Consent to Treat form, Concussion Course (nfhslearn.com), Participation Contract and signed Code of Conduct on file with the campus Athletic Office.
6. If all of the above are completed, home school students may enroll in a sports fitness class.

## **STUDENT ACTIVITY CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **EPS Student Athletic Behavior Guidelines**

The EPS Board is committed to providing a positive safe learning environment at school and at all extracurricular activity practices and events. Athletes shall follow EPS School Policies regarding positive conduct and behavior when participating for their team. They shall represent their team and school in a positive manner both on and off the playing field/court.

Forms of conduct that are strictly prohibited include bullying, harassment, hazing, intimidation, and electronic expression, all of which are dangerous and disrespectful and will not be tolerated.

**“Bullying”** means any repeated and pervasive written, verbal or electronic expression, physical act or gesture, or a pattern thereof, that is intended to cause physical or emotional distress upon one or more students in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at school activities or sanctioned events. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, hazing, harassment, intimidation or menacing acts of a student upon another which may, but need not be based on the student’s race, color, sex, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

**“Harassment”** means knowingly pursuing a pattern of conduct, communications or electronic expression that are intended to annoy, seriously alarm or terrorize another person and that serves a lawful purpose. The conduct must be such that it would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, degrading, humiliating or abusive behavior of a nonverbal, verbal, written or physical nature, and may, but need not be based on the student’s age, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or ethnicity. Verbal and non-verbal harassment includes speech or gestures which are lewd, indecent, profane or obscene and libel.

**“Hazing”** includes, but is not limited to, any act that recklessly, or intentionally endangers or is likely to endanger the mental health, physical health or safety of a student, for the purpose of initiation or as a condition or precondition of attaining membership in, or affiliation with, any district-sponsored activity, student club or organization or grade level attainment. Examples include, but are not limited to, consumption of any drink alcoholic beverage, drug or controlled substance; exposure to the elements; prolonged expulsion from social contact; sleep deprivation or any



other required activity that could adversely affect the mental or physical health or safety of a student; requires, encourages, authorizes or permits another to be subject to wearing or carrying any obscene, degrading or physically burdensome article; assignment of pranks to be performed or other such activities intended to degrade or humiliate a particular person or group; or physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, or placing a harmful substance in or on the body.

**“Intimidation”** includes but is not limited to, any threat or act intended to tamper, substantially damage or interfere with another’s property, cause substantial inconvenience in accessing school facilities, educational or school sponsored programs or subject another to offensive physical contact or inflict serious physical injury which may, but need not be based on the basis of age, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or ethnicity.

Athletes shall not communicate in an inappropriate or negative manner towards teammates, coaches, teachers, staff and others through any type of electronic expressions, social networking sites or personal electronic device or PD. Athletes could receive disciplinary consequences up to and including suspension from games or dismissal from the team for negative remarks or inappropriate photos.

**“Electronic expression”** means any electronic written, verbal, or pictorial communication conveyed through any form of electronic device, medium, or cyber-technology, including, but not limited to, desktop, tablet or laptop computers. The internet, email, instant messaging, web sites, web-cameras, chat rooms, social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat), cell phones or other personal digital devices, text messaging, digital photographs or movies, and other instant messaging devices.

**“Personal electronic device” or “PD”** means any device in a student’s possession which electronically communicates, sends, receives, stores, reproduces or displays voice and/or text electronic or data, including but not limited to cellular phones, pagers, smart phones, music and media players, gaming devices, tablets, laptop computers and personal digital assistants or other comparable devices not connected to a standard telephone outlet or hardwired electric connection and which receives data or signals from radio waves, dedicated electronic links, cellular networks or wireless networks connected to the internet.

## **Enforcement and Reporting of previous stated behaviors.**

School officials, employees and volunteers:

1. Shall not permit or tolerate any of the previously stated behaviors
2. Shall intervene to stop such behaviors that are threatened, found, or reasonably known or suspected to be occurring; and
3. Shall report known or suspected behavior to the athletic director, principal or Superintendent.

Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of such behaviors shall report the matter to the coach, athletic director, principal and superintendent.

## **Investigation**

1. All reports of said behaviors shall be investigated promptly by the school principal or his/her designee. Where violations of criminal law may have occurred, the principal, in consultation with the Superintendent or his/her designee shall report the matter to the appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Upon completion of the investigation, the principal shall submit a written report on the investigation and its results to the Superintendent.

## **Discipline**

1. Students found to have engaged in such behaviors shall be subject to discipline by school or District authorities according to applicable procedural requirements. Such discipline may include suspension or expulsion.

Participation in athletics and activities is a **privilege**, not a right. By virtue of this fact the expectations for student athletes are higher than that of other non-participating students.

This code is in effect on a year-round (12 month) basis and applies to both on and off campus conduct. Students and their parents/guardians are required to sign and submit the Athletic Code of Conduct and Participation Contract as a precondition to the student's participation in extracurricular activities and/or athletics. By signing the Participation contract, the student and his/her parents/guardians acknowledge and agree to the eligibility requirements set forth in the Athletic Handbook, as well as EPS Board Policies, the Student Code of Conduct for the school in which the student is enrolled, the NMAA rules and regulations, and other state and local laws and regulations.

In addition to the consequences imposed by this Code, students may be subject to disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct for the school the student

attends if the prohibited activity takes place at school or in connection with the student's participation in a school-sponsored activity. If the student's conduct violates state or federal law, the student may additionally be subject to prosecution by the appropriate authorities.

Conduct which violates this Code includes, but is not limited to, conduct or behavior in which the student:

1. Possesses, uses, consumes or distributes any tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, or other controlled substances (collectively referred to as "Prohibited Substances").
2. Engages in any Prohibited Activities; such as alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription drugs and/or steroids.
3. Engages or participates in conduct or behavior which may result in the arrest or conviction of a misdemeanor or felony. The failure of the legal system to arrest or prosecute a misdemeanor or felony does not preclude disciplinary consequences imposed pursuant to this Code; and
4. Engages in any other conduct or behavior which the student's coach or sponsor, Athletic Director, or Superintendent deems to be in violation of this Code or the spirit of interscholastic competition.

## **VIOLATION DISCOVERY**

Conduct violating this contract may be investigated on receipt of a notice from any one or more of the following:

- Drug test results
- Police arrest or report
- Identification of the violation by school district personnel
- Self-admission or parent notification of the child's violation
- School investigation based on another reliable source
- Social Media Account(s)

All violations have consequences that will be imposed.

## **PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

The types of prohibited conduct and consequences described herein are merely examples and described in order to provide guidance regarding the types of conduct which are prohibited and the types of discipline which may be imposed. Depending on the circumstances, coaches, sponsors, and administrators may impose additional consequences.

### Athletic Discipline

- A. Students athletes are under the same disciplinary criteria as all other students. The EPS Schools student Behavior Handbook outlines that procedure.
- B. Conduct Unbecoming of an Athlete: Athletes will not display behavior on or off the playing field/court, etc. which in the opinion of the coaching staff, is considered insubordinate or inappropriate to standards of conduct, attitude or sportsmanship.
- C. Sanction: The coach and or school Administration will handle punishment. The range of punishment goes from verbal warning to dismissal from the team.

Athletics are an integral part of the educational process, providing students with opportunities to further develop their unique capabilities, interests, and needs beyond the classroom. Participation in athletics is a PRIVILEGE offered to and earned by students. Because participants are representatives of their school and community, their conduct is expected to exemplify high standards at all times/locations on or off campus from the first day of fall sports practices to the end of the school year. When there is reasonable cause a student athlete will be referred for drug testing provided prior approval has been obtained from school board, a coach, teacher, or administrator. Suspension from athletics can be affected by the principal or athletic director and does

not require a due process hearing. First time offenders may have their suspensions reduced (School Principal / Athletic Director) 50% by completing a certified drug/alcohol prevention program. (School counselor and/or Outside Accredited Agency – at parents/guardians' expense).

### **Theft or Destruction – Punishment and Discipline**

Theft or malicious destruction of any school or individual's equipment or property by a student athlete is not to be tolerated during his/her career.

- a. **First Offense** – suspension from the squad for 3 school days. Restitution from the student will be made to the school administration.
- b. **Second Offense** – suspension for the remainder of the school year and referral of the student to the school administration, in addition to restitution.
- c. **Third Offense** – suspension for high school career. The school administration may opt to enforce other additional penalties.

Such suspensions shall be in addition to any other disciplinary action taken under other District policies for academic suspensions.

### **USE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES**

**Refer to the Espanola Valley High School's Code of Conduct Policy for definitions, Disciplinary and Intervention/Education matters.**

The use and/or possession of tobacco in any form, alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs, performance enhancing drugs or prescription drug not prescribed for personal use are prohibited by state law. Also, abstinence from the use and/or possession of these substances is REQUIRED of the student/athlete during a sport season and year-round as a matter of observance of law and appropriate good habits, discipline, and to remain in good physical condition

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR USE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES**

<b>Level 1:</b>	
Possession, use, consumption, or distribution of tobacco products, electronic cigarettes and nicotine containers.	
<b>First Offense</b>	10 school days suspension of all extra-curricular privileges and eligibility and competition (student may still practice).
<b>Second Offense</b>	30 school days suspension of all extra-curricular privileges and eligibility and competition (student may practice after 15 days)
<b>Third Offense</b>	Dismissal from sport

<b>Level 2:</b>	
Knowingly attending or remaining at parties or events where Prohibited Substances, as defined in this Code are being consumed. This provision does not apply to a student's mere attendance at family gatherings or social events where the student is under direct supervision of his/her parent or guardian. However, if it is determined that the student has consumed Prohibited Substances, the student will be subject to consequences based on the substance consumed and the provision of the Code.	
<b>First Offense</b>	In-season infraction begins upon verification of the infraction. Out-of-season infraction begins on the Monday of the first competition. Twelve (12) consecutive activity day* suspension from extracurricular activities beginning on the week of the first competition. If the violation occurs during off-season, the student will be dismissed from the next sport. At the discretion of the coach or sponsor, students may participate in practices and may try out for other sports and activities during the suspension period, but cannot participate in games or competitions.
<b>Second Offense</b>	In-season infraction begins upon verification of the infraction. Out-of-season infraction begins on the Monday of the first competition. Forty-five (45) consecutive activity day* suspension from all extracurricular activities, beginning on the week of the first competition AND dismissal from the in-season team. If the violation occurs during off-season, the student will be dismissed from the next sport. If the full 45 days is not served in the current season, it will carry over to the next sport or next sports season the athlete participates in. At the discretion of the coach or sponsor, students may participate in practices and may try out for other sports and activities during the suspension period, but cannot participate in games or competitions.

<b>Third Offense</b>	One Calendar year suspension from all extracurricular activities (practices and competitions), beginning from the date sanctions are imposed.
----------------------	---

<b>Level 3:</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Possession, use, consumption or distribution of Prohibited Substances outside of school and not connected to a school-sponsored activity,</li> <li>2. Engaging in conduct which would constitute a misdemeanor. However, actual arrest, prosecution, or conviction of the student is not necessary in order for the student to be subject to discipline under this Code.</li> </ol>	
<b>First Offense</b>	In-season infraction begins upon verification of the infraction. Out-of-season infraction begins on the Monday of the first competition. Twenty-four (24) consecutive activity days* of suspension from extracurricular activities which will begin the Monday of the first competition. At the discretion of the coach or sponsor, students may participate in practices and may try out for other sports and activities during the suspension period, but cannot participate in games or competitions.
<b>Second Offense</b>	In-season infraction begins upon verification of the infraction. Out-of-season infraction begins on the Monday of the first competition. Forty-five (45) consecutive activity days* suspension from all extracurricular activities, beginning on the Monday of the first competition AND dismissal from the in-season team. If the violation occurs during off-season, the student will be dismissed from the next sport. If the full 45 days is not served in the current season, it will carry over to the next sport or next season the athlete participates in.
<b>Third Offense</b>	Permanent suspension from all extracurricular activities or sports. For students in grades 7-8, coaches and sponsors have discretion to modify this consequence after one full year of suspension, starting from the date on which the student was suspended* if the student and parent/guardian can demonstrate that the student has changed his/her behavior and can participate successfully in the sport or activity.

**Level 4:**

1. Driving while intoxicated as defined under state law
2. Possession, use, consumption, or distribution of Prohibited Substances at school or in connection with a school-sponsored activity
3. Weapons possession as defined by federal law and EPS Policies
4. Engaging in conduct which would constitute a felony, as defined by federal or state law. However, actual arrest, prosecution, or conviction of the student is not necessary in order for the student to be subject to discipline under this Code.

<b>First Offense</b>	In-season infraction begins upon verification of the infraction. Out-of-season infraction begins on the Monday of the first competition. Forty-five (45) consecutive activity days* minimum suspension from all extracurricular activities, beginning on the week of the first competition AND dismissal from the in-season team. If the violation occurs during off-season, the student will be dismissed from the next sport. At the discretion of the coach or sponsor, students may participate in practices and may try out for other sports and activities during the suspension period, but cannot participate in games or competition.
<b>Second Offense</b>	One calendar year suspension from all extracurricular activities, beginning from the date sanctions are imposed.
<b>Third Offense</b>	Permanent suspension from all extracurricular activities or sports. For students in grades 7-8, coaches and sponsors have discretion to modify this consequence after one full year of suspension, starting from the date on which the student was suspended* if the student and parent/guardian can demonstrate that the student has changed his/her behavior and can participate successfully in the sport or activity.



\*An activity day is a day on which a student is scheduled to participate in practices, rehearsals, meetings, games, performances, competitions, or other events connected to his/her participation in the extracurricular activity.

If there is not a sufficient amount of time remaining in the scheduled season to fulfill the terms of the disciplinary consequence imposed, the penalty carries over to the next sport or next sport season in which the student would otherwise participate. If a student engages in prohibited conduct when school is not in session, or if the student is not currently participating in an extracurricular activity or sport at the time that a student's violation of Prohibited Conduct is determined to have occurred, the disciplinary consequences will be carried over and apply to the next sport in which the student would otherwise participate. Any student athlete on athletic suspension must finish their season in good standing. It is the student's sole responsibility to notify his/her coach that the violation occurred prior to the start of the season or when school is not in session.

If a student is disciplined by EPS for reasons other than conduct that is covered by this Code, the student shall be suspended from his/her extracurricular activity or sport for the same duration as the discipline imposed by the EPS authority.

The consequences described herein represent the MINIMUM disciplinary consequences imposed by EPS. Greater disciplinary consequence may be imposed by the athletic director or principal, including expulsion from the extracurricular activity or sport, based upon the severity of the student's violation.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT APPEAL**

Once an investigation is completed, the athletic director will meet with the student. The student will be allowed to provide an explanation of his/her conduct. If the athletic director concludes the explanation is not satisfactory, the student shall be suspended from the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities. The student and parents will receive written notification.

A student, or student's parent, may appeal a suspension under this policy to the EPS Superintendent by submitting a written request within five (5) calendar days of the infraction. The student will remain suspended from their sport pending an appeal. The Superintendent shall investigate to determine whether or not the original finding and suspension of the student athlete was justified. The Superintendent shall have a written decision to uphold, modify or revoke within (5) school days.

## **TRAVEL**

### **1. General Conduct and Appearance of Students**

- Students are considered “good will ambassadors” for EPS and will conduct themselves accordingly as ladies and gentlemen on and off the playing surfaces.
- Students will be neatly dressed according to the Head Coach’s standard and expectations on all athletic trips.

### **2. EPS Sanctioned Events**

EPS shall furnish school transportation to athletic events and other events. Students must use such transportation when it is provided by the school and the school district and coach are responsible for any students traveling by school transportation. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to drive themselves to athletic events. After an event, a student can be released to the student’s parents/guardians, provided the parents/guardian provide a Parental Release form to the coach and rides home **only** with parent(s)/guardians. The coach shall retain a copy of the request. The coach cannot release a student to any other person regardless of written or verbal permission of that student’s parents/guardians. Students will be released at the event place.

No student, regardless of age, will be permitted to travel in the personal vehicle of a coach or sponsor. A coach can only transport students in a school vehicle and must be certified to drive such vehicle.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

The role of students in sportsmanship is second in importance only to that of the coach. Student athletes are admired and respected by other students of all levels, as adult

spectators. They have significant influence over the actions and behavior of spectators of all ages.

### **General Considerations**

With regard to any athletic event, each student must:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of his/her responsibility and the privilege of representing his/her school and community.
- Learn the rules thoroughly and discuss them with parents/guardians, fans, and fellow students to include middle school and elementary students. This will assist everyone in achieving a better understanding and appreciation of the game;
- Cooperate with coaches
- Allow only the captain to communicate with officials as to the clarification of rules. It is the responsibility to communicate accurately what was said back to his/her teammates and/or coach
- Respect the official's judgement and interpretation of the rules. Never argue or make non-verbal gestures, which indicate disagreement. This type of immature activity may incite undesirable behavior in the stands and by teammates
- Congratulate opponent in a sincere manner following victory or defeat – this is a true measure of character
- Exercise self-control at all times, accepting all decisions, unusual occurrences, and abiding by them
- Treat opponents with the respect he/she would give to a guest or friend
- Shake hands with opponents prior to the contest and wish them luck.

## **ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES**

### **1. Responsibilities of Students**

- In most sports, practice and/or game equipment will be issued to students. Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of this equipment.
- The student athlete will return all of his/her equipment when he/she finishes the sport, either at the end of the season or upon quitting or being dismissed from the sport. Any equipment not returned or paid for by the student will cause the student to be ineligible to compete in the next

season. Once fees and fines are paid in full, the student will again become eligible to compete.

- The student will pay for any equipment that is lost, stolen or damaged through negligence. The cost of the equipment will be determined by the Athletic Director and will be based on the replacement cost of the equipment. New equipment will be issued only upon receipt of payment for any lost or damaged article(s) of equipment.
- School-owned equipment is to be worn only at scheduled practices, games or meets. This equipment may not be worn in the off-season or during summer activities and may not be given away or sold.
- Schools are prohibited by law from selling used equipment to students. Please do not ask to buy used school owned items.
- Athletes are to use facilities only under the supervision of a school coach or designated school employee. Athletes who violate this policy will be restricted from use of these facilities or subject to other disciplinary measures as set forth in the EVHS student handbook.

## **2. Responsibility of Athletic Department Personnel**

### **Head Coach**

- Responsible for all equipment. The responsibility includes, but is not limited to, collecting all equipment at the conclusion of the season, taking inventory, storing all equipment in a safe place on school's premises, preparing an inventory and order for new equipment.
- Must keep accurate records.

### **Athletic Director**

- Physically review inventory
- Verify inventory and sign
- Approve volunteer and assistant coaches as they must have a proper background check, and the number of coaches must remain consistent as to abide with Title IX regulations.

## **OFF SEASON CONDITIONING PROGRAMS**

1. In order to improve or maintain the physical condition of student athletes and to lessen the danger of injuries, a coach may provide an off-season program according to the rules of NMAA (7.5 hours per week).
2. The student shall have the choice of participation in more than one summer program. A member of a team shall not participate in a coincidental off-season workout without the approval of the coach.
3. Athletes should be highly encouraged to participate in more than one sport to obtain maximum conditioning opportunities.

## **DUAL SPORTS**

It is the philosophy of the Espanola Valley High School District that in order to give all students an opportunity to participate in more than one sport during the same season that dual participation is allowed provided the following criteria is met:

1. Request by student and parents must be submitted to Athletic Director/coordinator in writing stating specifics.
2. Athletic Director/coordinator will arrange for a meeting between the respective head coach, parent and student.
3. Consideration will be given to the academic performance of student to avoid over commitments that may affect grades.
4. Practice schedules will be considered in order to avoid issues of complying with separate practice schedules.
5. Game priorities – Student must state priority sport in which to participate if held the same day.
6. In no case will dual participation be allowed unless both head coaches and Athletic Director approve.
7. If at any time the student's grades become a problem, or attending practices becomes a problem the Coach/Athletic Director will notify the student and parent about revoking the dual participation.

## **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARTICIPATION AT HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL**

As per Board Policy JJ-4450

### **Eighth (8th) Grade Participation at the High School Level**

Eighth (8th) grade students may participate at the high school level if the particular activity is not offered at the middle school level i.e. tennis, cross country, etc. Such student-athletes will go through normal process for try-outs and participation.

Eighth (8th) grade student-athletes wishing to participate at the high school level in activities that are provided at the middle school level may do so once the current middle school season has terminated, with the approval of the high school head coach and the athletic director.

In the event an eighth (8th) grade student-athlete has exhibited athletic excellence beyond their peers (defined below) in a particular sport and the high school coach makes a request for an eighth (8th) grade student-athlete to participate, the following criteria must be met prior to requesting the approval of the Superintendent:

- High school head coaches must define the need for eighth (8th) grade players in the high school program and specify the proposed level of competition (Varsity, Junior Varsity, C-Team).
- High school coaches allowing eighth (8th) grade student-athletes to participate at the high school level will not create a vacancy on their roster by displacing a current upper-class student-athlete to accommodate an eighth (8th) grade student-athlete.
- The student-athlete has demonstrated academic proficiency at current grade level. Short cycle assessments shall be used for this determination. Exceptions for students on Individualized Education Plans (IEP) will be made in accordance to NMAA rules.
- The student-athlete has demonstrated athletic excellence in a minimum of three (3) games or activities in the respective sport at the current eighth (8th) grade level. Athletic excellence in the sport shall be objectively determined by a review of game statistics in all aspects of the sport by a committee consisting of the eighth (8th) grade coach, the high school head coach, the middle school principal, the athletic director and high school principal.
- No more than two (2) eighth (8th) grade student-athletes per sports program will be allowed to move up to the high school during the season, with the exemption of those sports that do not have a feeder program at the middle school level.
- Transportation to and from the middle school and high school for practice is the responsibility of the parents. Under no circumstances are high school students

allowed to transport middle school students. Afternoon transportation will be provided by the District if there is a minimum of five (5) students participating in various programs at the high school level.

Elementary Participation in middle school interscholastic sports is determined by NMAA guidelines.

The Superintendent may develop additional rules or procedures for the proper conduct of extracurricular programs and the implementation of the provisions of this policy.

### **TITLE IX DIRECTOR**

Michael Lister, Title IX Director

Phone: 505-927-8878

Email: [michael.lister@k12espanola.org](mailto:michael.lister@k12espanola.org)

## **APPENDIX A**

### **STUDENT- ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Sportsmanship**

The role of students in sportsmanship is second in importance only to that of the coach. Student athletes are admired and respected by other students of all levels, as well as adult spectators. They have significant influence over the actions and behavior of spectators of all ages.

#### **General Considerations**

With regard to any athletic event, each student must:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of his/her responsibility and the privilege of representing his/her school and community
- Obey all state, NMAA, and EPS health, safety, and behavioral expectations
- Learn the rules thoroughly and discuss them with parents/guardians, fans, and fellow students to include middle school and elementary students. This will assist everyone in achieving a better understanding and appreciation of the game;
- Cooperate with coaches
- Allow only the captain to communicate with officials as to the clarification of rules. It is the captain's responsibility to communicate accurately what was said back to his/her teammates and or coach
- Respect the official's judgement and interpretation of the rules. Never argue or make non-verbal gestures, which indicate disagreement. This type of immature activity may incite undesirable behavior in the stands and by teammates
- Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following victory or defeat - this is a true measure of character
- Exercise self-control at all times, accepting all decisions, unusual occurrences, and abiding by them
- Treat opponents with respect he/she would give to a guest or friend
- Shake hands with opponents prior to the contest and wish them luck

#### **During Events**

During an athletic event, each student must:

- Assist other students who are down to get to the feet



- Never gesture to officials, students, coaches or the fans in an obscene manner
- Never disagree openly with an official's or coach's decision, but rather carry on ethically and maturely regardless of the student's true feelings

### **Following Event**

Following an athletic event, each student must:

- Make every effort to extend a congratulatory handshake to their opponent upon the game's conclusion;
- Never debate something that occurred during the game with anyone, it is not constructive to dwell on the past
- Be objective when communicating with the media about the contest; do not be controlled by emotions
- Promote sportsmanship and his/her athletic experience positively whenever and wherever the opportunity is available

## **APPENDIX B**

# **PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF EXPECTATIONS FOR ATHLETICS**

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concepts of sportsmanship as referenced in “Pursuing Victory with Honor” and in the six core principles of character education: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these principles. Please be advised the Espanola Public Schools has a code of expectations for parents/athletic experience. Your cooperation in adhering to the following obligations as a parent/guardian at athletic events is appreciated and necessary to provide the most quality experience for every person participating.

I will:

- Do my part to make athletics a positive experience for everyone involved (participants, coaches, officials and spectators)
- Learn the policies of school district, school and program and do my best to understand and appreciate the rules of the contest
- Encourage good sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy and by being a positive role model at every event and practice
- Not engage in any unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, parent of staff member, such as taunting or using profane language or gestures
- Demand a safe and healthy environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and will refrain from any use at all athletic events
- Respect the decisions and authority of officials during competition
- Respect the property and equipment used at any sports or school facility
- Show appreciation for an outstanding play by players
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat emphasizing the positive accomplishments and learning from the mistakes
- Insist my child treat other players, coaches, officials and fans with respect and courtesy regardless of race, sex, creed or ability
- Help my child learn that success is measured by the development of skills, not by winning or losing
- Communicate with the coach at the appropriate time and place when I have a concern regarding my child (not during games and or practice or immediately after a game)

- Wait 24 hours after a game before communicating with the coach with concerns with my child
- Inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others
- Refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am an official coach
- Place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of my personal desire to win
- Never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or blame my player's teammates or coaches for success or failure in the athletic setting
- Teach my child to respect the decisions of administrators, coaches and officials and will positively model this same behavior
- Reinforce the school district's substance abuse policies with my child and refrain from any use of alcohol and other drugs before or during contests
- Follow the chain of command and the district's grievance procedure when trying to rectify and resolve an issue or concern

In the event an adult fails to adhere to and uphold these obligations, the school administration and the school district reserves the right to impose sanctions including disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, temporary and/or permanent removal from the activity and expulsion from all future events.

## **ESPANOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATHLETIC HANDBOOK** **HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Student's  
Name)

I am aware the Espanola Public Schools Handbook is available online on the Espanola Public Schools website [www.K12espanola.org](http://www.K12espanola.org) . I acknowledge that I am responsible for knowing the contents and understanding all policies in the Espanola Public School Handbook. I am also aware that I can request a hard copy of the Athletic Handbook from the Athletic Office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian  
Name)

I am aware the Espanola Public Schools Handbook is available online on the Espanola Public Schools website [www.K12espanola.org](http://www.K12espanola.org) . I acknowledge that I am responsible for knowing the contents and understanding all policies in the Espanola Public Schools Handbook. I am also aware that I can request a hard copy of the Athletic Handbook from the Athletic Office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)