BellportATHLETICS

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Athletic Handbook

Code of Conduct For

Philosophy

The student athlete represents the best of its school and its community and therefore is held to a high standard. Student athletes are our school's ambassadors to our community and to the schools with whom we compete. They are often leaders in school and role models to children not yet old enough to play sports.

It is the duty of all those concerned with high and middle school athletics to emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play under all circumstances. The values derived from playing fairly should be stressed and any actions which tend to destroy those values should be discouraged. Courtesy should be shown toward opponents, officials, supervisors, spectators, and administrators. Efforts must be made to achieve a thorough understanding, and acceptance of the rules of the game, and the standards of eligibility, and to respect the integrity and judgment of the sport officials. It is important for all to recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual players.

Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right. Students wishing to take

Attendance

Attendance is one of the most important indicators of an athlete's commitment to a team. Student athletes are expected to make all practices and contests including those scheduled on Saturdays and days when school is not in session.

- 1. Student athletes will provide coaches with prior notification of projected absence when possible. Excused absences will be permitted in cases such as medical reasons, religious observance, or personal/family extenuating circumstances approved by the coach.
- 2. If student athletes do not participate in their regularly scheduled physical education classes, they cannot participate in any practice or contest that day.
- 3. If a student athletes are absent from school, they will be ineligible to practice or compete in any contest that day. Extenuating circumstances will be given special consideration by the Athletic Director.

Uniforms

Only school issued uniforms may be worn during athletic contests. Athletes cannot compete if they fail to dress appropriately.

Awards/Letters

- 1. Awards and/or letters will be issued only to those students athletes who complete their season in good standing. Student athletes who dropped from the team and those who resign before the last contest are not eligible for awards.
- 2. Student athletes who fail to return their practice and/or game uniforms or any other piece of school issued equipment are ineligible for awards and cannot participate in any other sport until uniform obligation is met.

Tr avel

- 1. Student athletes are required to travel to and from contests on the team bus under the supervision of a coaching staff member.
- 2. Proper conduct is expected at all time while riding on the school transportation.
- 3. If a parent/guardian wishes to take their child home from an athletic contest, permission must be granted in advance and a written form/letter signed by the parent/guardian must be given to the coach. These situations should be rare and emergency type situations.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs

The avoidance of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs is a realistic goal that all student athletes must strive to uphold and which parents, teachers, and administrators and the community at large should endorse and support.

A student athlete's behavior, whether in or out of school as it pertains to the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs will not be tolerated.

Therefore, if a student athlete is observed participating in a behavior connected with the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, or other substances, disciplinary action will be taken. In addition to any disciplinary action which might be taken for in-school infractions, such as detention, ISS, OSS, etc., the student athlete may be suspended from a sport contest and may lose the privilege to participate in interscholastic sports. These sanctions will be determined by the coach and

administration in accordance with the policies of the South Country Central School District. In order for a student athlete to be sanctioned for this behavior, it must be observed by South Country administrators, teachers, coaches, police, security, or administrators from other school districts.

While the role of the school does not extend to the regulation of private activities of the athletes' families, we can encourage them to serve as positive role models for their children. Parents and the school must not condone a student athlete's use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Hazing-Initiation Ceremony

Bellport coaches will not permit their athletes to stage any type of "initiation or hazing" at anytime.

We respect that there are individual differences in how each of our teammates may react to designated tasks, activities, or requests. Whereas one teammate may find a team activity entertaining, another teammate may find the same activity humiliating.

At no time should a teammate be subject to a behavior, task, or activity that is physically, psychologically, or emotionally abusive. It is the right of each teammate to communicate his or her feelings at any point where he or she feels personally devalued or dehumanized. The goal of the team is that each member of the team be treated with dignity and respect.