

PARSIPPANY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

2014-2015



“GO REDHAWKS”

PARSIPPANY HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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PERMISSION FORM AND STUDENT/ATHLETE CONTRACT FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS LOCATED

AT: [HTTP://WWW.PTHSD.K12.NJ.US/HEALTH.HTML](http://www.pthsd.k12.nj.us/health.html)

SPORTSMANSHIP

The Board of Education requires that all individuals involved in or attending the athletic and intramural programs sponsored by the Board exhibit sportsmanship when representing the school at any athletic event. Sportsmanship is defined as abiding by the rules of the contest as defined or accepted by the participating teams and the gracious acceptance of victory or defeat.

Unsportsmanlike behavior as exhibited through verbal abuse, rude gestures, taunts, obscenities, thrown objects, etc., shall not be tolerated in students, staff or any persons in attendance at district athletic competitions. Discipline may include, but not be limited to, eviction from competition and prevention from attending further competitions.

The ideal of sportsmanship permeates virtually every aspect of our culture. The ethic of fair play may be witnessed in all facets of life. However, its origin has been firmly established in sports as conceptually and pragmatically a training ground for good citizenship and high behavioral standards. The NJSIAA and the Iron Hills Conference are committed to fair play, graciousness toward an opponent, and a genuine concern and respect for others.

(Taken from the NJSIAA Sportsmanship booklet.)

NORTHWEST JERSEY ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

ATHLETIC CODE OF BEHAVIOR

1. Noisemakers

a. Outdoor:

- No device may be used to impede or interrupt the officiating, coaching, or the play of the game. ***Note:** Whistles are outlawed.

b. Indoor:

- School or Pep Band with advisor present, otherwise no noisemaking devices.
- No degrading signs or signs mentioning opponent's names or nicknames. A positive sign promoting your school is "Go Giants".
- Spectators must wear shirts indoors at all times.

2. Promote sportsmanship by exercising self-discipline; root for your team in a positive, enthusiastic manner. Unsportsmanlike conduct is prohibited.
3. No cheering when opposing cheerleaders are on the floor.
4. No derogatory comments or cheers at players or officials.
5. Accept the decision of the officials.
6. Do not endanger the safety or comfort of players, coaches, officials, cheerleaders, or other spectators.
7. Any intentional distraction, obscene, threatening abusive or inciting actions are unsportsmanlike.
8. Refrain from actions, which are deemed unsportsmanlike by the officials and/or school administrators.
9. Any person violating this code will be subject to ejection.

PARSIPPANY HIGH SCHOOL

Norman Francis, Ed.D.

Coordinating Principal for Athletics/

K-12 Physical Education & Health

(973) 263-7001 ext. 2327

309 Baldwin Road

Parsippany, N.J. 07054

ATHLETIC PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Boys

Fall

Football V, JV, FR

Soccer V, JV, FR

Cross Country V, JV

Winter

Basketball V, JV, FR

Wrestling V, JV

Ice Hockey V, JV (Co-op)

Swimming V, JV

Track V, JV

Spring

Baseball V, JV, FR

Track V, JV

Tennis V, JV

Golf V, JV

Girls

Fall

Field Hockey V, JV, FR

Soccer V, JV,

Cross Country V, JV

Tennis V, JV

Volleyball V, JV,

Cheerleading V, JV

Winter

Basketball V, JV, FR

Swimming V, JV

Track V, JV

Cheerleading V, JV

Ice Hockey V, JV

Spring

Softball V, JV, FR

Track V, JV

Golf V, JV

- ◆ Teams are very competitive. (There may be cuts).
- ◆ Practices will be held on weekends, vacation days, and holidays.

PARSIPPANY HIGH SCHOOL

2014/2015 STARTING DATES

<u>Fall</u>		<u>Winter</u>		<u>Spring</u>	
Football	(8/11)	Basketball	(12/1)	Baseball	(3/6)
Girls Tennis	(8/11)	Wrestling	(12/1)	Softball	(3/6)
Boys Soccer	(8/11)	Ice Hockey	(11/10)	Boys Track	(3/6)
Girls Soccer	(8/11)	Swimming	(11/15)	Boys Golf	(3/6)
Girls Volleyball	(8/11)	Boys Track	(12/1)	Boys Tennis	(3/6)
Field Hockey	(8/11)	Cheerleading	(12/1)	Girls Golf	(3/6)
Boys Cross Country	(8/11)	Girls Track	(12/1)	Girls Track	(3/6)
Girls Cross Country	(8/11)				
Cheerleading	(8/11)				
Marching Band	(8/11)				

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for all teams must meet the academic standards established by the Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education and the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA).

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY – GRADES 9-12

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY IN ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- A. All freshmen are eligible for the fall and winter activities.
- B. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have PASSED SIX SUBJECTS during their previous academic year to be eligible for fall and winter activities.
- C. To be eligible for the spring season, all students must have passed six subjects from September to February.
- D. A student who is eligible at the beginning of a sports season may complete that season.
- E. A student who is eligible at the beginning of a co-curricular season shall be permitted to continue in the event until its completion.
- F. Students may attend an accredited summer school to make up credits to be eligible for the fall/winter seasons.
- G. Eligibility for co-curricular activities is governed by the same rules as mandated by the N.J.S.I.A.A. for athletics.

N.J.S.I.A.A. ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A. To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31) of the 10th grade or higher, or the second year of attendance in the secondary school or beyond, a pupil must have passed 25% of the credits (30) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120), during the immediately preceding academic year.

- B. To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (Feb. 1 to June 30) of the 9th grade or higher, a pupil must have passed the equivalent of 12 ½% of the credits (15) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120) at the close of the preceding semester (Jan. 31). Full year courses shall be equated as ½ of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.

2014/2015 SAT Testing Dates

Test Date

October 11, 2014
November 8, 2014
December 6, 2014
January 24, 2015
March 14, 2015
May 2, 2015
June 6, 2015

Registration Closes

September 12
October 9
November 6
December 29
February 13
April 6
May 8

2014/2015 ACT Testing Dates

Test Date

September 13, 2014
October 25, 2014
December 13, 2014
February 7, 2015
April 18, 2015
June 13, 2015

Registration Closes

August 8
September 19
November 7
January 9
March 13
May 8

PARSIPPANY HIGH SCHOOL

PHOTO RELEASE INFORMATION

Please be advised that several newspapers photograph sporting events throughout the school year.

Your son or daughter's picture may appear in the local section of any high school sports section.

The release applies to:

- Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education Web Pages, designed by staff and or students
- Press releases or publications issued or developed by Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education or its representatives

I hereby grant to the Parsippany-Troy Hills School District and anyone authorized by that organization the right to copyright, reproduce, publish and otherwise to use live or recorded on tape, film or otherwise, my photograph, likeness, voice, performance, and my name in any and all media.

I further agree on behalf of myself, that my name, photograph, likeness, voice, performance and biography may be used for promotional, noncommercial purposes and other uses.

PARSIPPANY HIGH SCHOOL

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Coordinating Principal for Athletics/ K-12 Physical Education & Health

Dr. Norman Francis
(973) 263-7001 ext. 2327
nfrancis@pthsd.k12.nj.us

Athletic Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Wanda DiVitanonio
(973) 263-7001 ext. 2318

Athletic Calendar of Events: www.nwjerseyac.com

Directions to our away games can be found at www.NJSIAA.org
(Scroll down to the center of the home page for “High School directions/maps)

Parsippany High School Principal

Dr. Denis Mulroony
(973) 263-7001 ext. 2301

Parsippany Hills Nurse’s Office

Mrs. Janne Demarco
(973) 263-7001 ext. 2302

Certified Athletic Trainer

Mr. Richard Sands
(973) 263-7001 ext. 2359
rsands@pthsd.k12.nj.us

PHYSICAL PAPERWORK PROGRESSION

Coach distributes physical packets to student-athletes at annual pre-season meeting. (Student-athletes may pick up additional forms in the nurses office).

Parents will complete the necessary paperwork:

- **Emergency Verification Form**
 - **Physical Forms**
 - **Code of Conduct Form**
 - **Steroid Form**
 - **Concussion Form**
- (See parent memo for explanation.)**

Completed forms returned to the school nurse.

School nurse collects all required forms and stamps the Emergency Verification Form (which she gives to the athletic trainer). The following forms are returned to the coach:

- **Code of Conduct Form**
- **Steroid Form**
- **Concussion Form**

The athletic trainer verifies that the student-athlete has taken the ImPACT test and returns the Emergency Form to the coach.

Coach checks each student-athlete to ensure all forms are collected and then returns the completed forms to the Athletic Director. (All forms must be submitted and approved before any athlete may participate.)

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of others and provide a greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as the players on the squad
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements
- Procedure should your child be injured during practices or games
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

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

As your children become involved in the programs in Parsippany Hills High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- Ways to help your child improve
- The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- Concerns about your child's behavior

It is difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. The coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe is best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as the items listed above must left to the discretion of the coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- Playing time
- Team position
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the procedure listed below should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issues of concern.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

- Student-athlete and coach should discuss the concern
- Parent should call to set up an appointment with coach
- Parent, student-athlete and coach meet
- Parent, student-athlete, coach and Athletic Director meet
- Parent, student-athlete, coach, Athletic Director and Principal
- Parent contacts the Superintendent for appointment

EXPECTATIONS AND PHILOSOPHY

Please take a few moments to read this. Hopefully, this will help you understand how a competitive program is conducted and what comprises our expectations and philosophy.

1. In each program, a coach and/or coaches who are qualified individuals are hired by the school district to be responsible for team selections. The head coach establishes criteria for selection, possibly with input from the entire coaching staff. This may be a highly subjective process. Team selections, practices, and decisions regarding game situations are the responsibility of the coaching staff.

If you have questions regarding the process, please feel free to address these questions directly to the head coach. Please call the coach to make an appointment outside of school time, practice time or game time. If you have further questions the coach has not been able to answer, please contact the Athletic Director.

2. The Parsippany Hills High Schools athletic program has become highly competitive. Due to the size of our school and the limited opportunities, we are not able to place every student on a team who wishes to participate. While this is not our desire, it is reality. The hardest thing our coaches have to do is to tell young people they will not be on a team. Please be sure when your child tries out for a team, both you and your children understand there is a very real possibility they may not be selected. If selected, both you and your child should be prepared to accept placement at any team level, i.e., 9th grade, junior varsity or varsity. It is disturbing to have students try out for a team and then quit because they were not placed where they think they should be. By doing this, they have taken away someone else's opportunity to be on a team.

Normally, coaches have a very short amount of time to make team selections. They try to do the very best they can in keeping the most talented athletes, filling positions for play and appropriately placing them on the proper team. They are under a good deal of pressure to assemble the most competitive team possible. Anyone of us might select different athletes for the team. I believe it is the coaches' responsibility and right to select the team with whom they will work for the entire season.

3. There are many "select teams" or "All Star teams" sponsored by many different organizations in which our student-athletes participate. Participation on one of these teams does not guarantee any player a spot on any high school team. While I believe students can gain valuable experience outside of the school athletic program, neither parents nor students should count on this type of participation to guarantee a spot on a high school team.

4. In order to make a varsity team as a senior, a player must be outstanding and also play a position the team needs. Underclass student-athletes possessing these qualities have the same opportunity to make a team as the senior does. Parsippany Hill's team structure (9th, Junior Varsity, and Varsity) dictates there will always be more underclass players than upper class in the total program. At selection time, it will be the coaches' decision as to what team the student-athlete is placed.

5. A main goal of our competitive athletic program is to put the most talented member of the team in competition to win the contest. Starting positions and playing time are not guaranteed to seniors making the team or anyone else for that matter. Each member of a team is very valuable to the team's overall progress. Some student-athletes may play a great deal of time in a contest, while others may not see any playing time or what a parent would consider "significant" playing time. Each student-athlete should have personal improvement as one of his or her goals.

By being a member of a team, regardless of time spent in actual competition, a person can learn many valuable lessons. Among them are the following: citizenship, sportsmanship, appreciating good play by an opponent, working together to meet team goals, responsibility and commitment to team and school, loyalty, placing team above self, learning to accept instruction and criticism, respect for others, winning and losing with dignity, self control, and being responsible for one's own actions.

I sincerely hope this helps you understand the goals and philosophy of our competitive athletic program in the Parsippany Hills High School. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding any aspects of the athletic program.

VALUES OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Athletes...

- Have better grades than those not involved and athletes in season have better grades than out of season
- Have better attendance than general student population
- Have a much lower dropout rate than their fellow students
- Have a better chance of succeeding in college
- Take more average to above average courses than non-participants
- Tend to focus more on long-term goals than on short-term goals
- Tend to be more self-assured
- Ninety five percent (95%) of Fortune 500 executives participated in school athletics while forty seven percent (47%) were members of the National Honor Society.

PARENT CODE OF ETHICS

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other high school sports events.

- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all high school events.
- I will remember that the game is for the student-athletes not for adults.
- I will do my very best to make the high school athletic experience a positive one.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.

GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOR OF THE SPECTATORS

- Remember that you are at a contest to support and cheer for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Remember that interscholastic athletics are a learning experience for students and mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- Remember that a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest; it is not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of contest officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc.) before, during and after contests, on or near the site of the event (e.g., tailgating).
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment school and athletic administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the educational benefits of interscholastic athletics and the role of good sportsmanship.
- Be a positive role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Behavior Standards

As specified by the National Federation and State High School Association

Acceptable Behavior

- Applause during introductions of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponent who fouls out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive school yells in positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for injured player regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Yelling or waving arms during opponent's free-throw attempt.
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booming or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing own yells instead of following lead of cheerleaders.

GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOR OF THE STUDENT-ATHLETE

- Accept and understand the seriousness of the responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students and elementary students. This will assist you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the sport.
- Treat fellow teammates and opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport?
- Wishing opponents good luck before the contest. Congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will make a positive statement about you and your team.