

Corcoran High School

Student – Athlete Handbook

2015 – 2016 (05/05/15)

Athletic Philosophy

The Corcoran Unified School District believes that an athletic program provides opportunity for students to acquire tools for lifelong personal growth. These tools include self-discipline, ability to work as part of a team, perseverance, desire to play fair, and grace in winning and losing. Furthermore, lifelong participation in physical activity is valuable for physical and mental health and fitness.

In order to provide the greatest benefit to student-athletes, the Corcoran Unified School District will make every attempt to hire coaches who exemplify those tools listed above and provide within the limits of available resources the broadest range of competitive programs for all who wish to participate.

While the Corcoran Unified School District takes pride in winning, we do not condone “Winning at any cost” and discourage any and all pressures, which may lead to poor sportsmanship. At all times, the athletic program will be conducted in a way that is complementary and supportive of the educational program approved by the Corcoran Unified School District.

Sportsmanship

The underlying value of all high school activities is sportsmanship. Sportsmanship creates the moral framework, ethical content and the balanced perspective for winning and losing. Moreover, sportsmanship establishes the standard for the conduct of participants, fans and the contest itself. In all, sportsmanship assists in the character development of the participants and contributes to the strength and civility of sports and ultimately society.

As the people out front, coaches and student-athletes have a unique opportunity to impact the future of athletics. Sportsmanship should be everyone’s personal goal. No contest’s outcome is worth an ugly incident due to some spur-of-the-moment action. We must create an environment that is conducive to a higher goal than a win-at-all-cost environment. If we are successful in this, we will have attained a more lasting mark that a victory could possibly bring.

Expectations of Athletes

I. Participation

Athletics is voluntary. Participation is not required for graduation and thus, being on a sports team is a privilege, which must be earned and is not a right. With that privilege come responsibilities both on and off the field.

II. Athletics as a Part of the Educational Program

Athletics are just one of many parts of the education program that is provided to students. The reason students are in school is to learn and therefore academics will always come first. Maintaining academic eligibility is the student-athlete's responsibility. In addition, the commitment a student-athlete makes to his/her team and coach requires that choices be made and priorities kept.

III. Being a Part of the Team

Athletes learn many skills to play their chosen sport. One of the more important skill that must be learned is teamwork. To be successful, every member of the team must work together to make the whole greater than the sum of the parts. Sacrifice, loyalty, common goals, working with others and sharing responsibility are all important components of teamwork. As these traits are worthwhile to participants in activities, they are even more important for personal and career happiness.

IV. Coming Ready to Play

Athletes should come to practice on time, ready to listen and ready to learn. Athletes should be prepared physically and mentally for the season. This includes training in the preseason and taking care of your body and mind during the season.

V. Dedication

The athlete should be aware that nothing worthwhile is accomplished without hard work and a sincere desire to succeed. The athlete must also realize that he/she must work out of season as well as during the season and must be willing to sacrifice his/her own desires for the good of the team.

VI. Respect

At the very core of citizenship is respect---respect for self and for others, namely coaches, teachers, officials, spectators, school facilities, equipment and opponents.

VII. To Improve

As an athlete, you must establish goals and constantly strive to better yourself in order to reach those goals. Develop a desire to excel and always give your best effort.

Student-Athlete Participation Requirements

I. Eligibility

A. The eligibility requirements for participation in athletics are:

1. Students must maintain acceptable academic standing in order to remain and/or gain athletic eligibility. Eligibility is based on grades computed from the previous quarter/semester grading period(s); debts incurred from the previous year; and showing minimal progress towards graduation. To be academically eligible, a student-athlete must be passing four (4) or more of their eight (8) classes with at least a cumulative 2.00 GPA. An incoming sophomore must have at least 50 credits; an incoming junior must have 120

credits and an incoming senior must have 190 credits at the beginning of their respective years, unless a signed Academic Plan is on file with a Learning Director / Site Principal.

2. A student athletes debts for lost equipment, books, materials and/or other school related debts from the previous year must be paid in full once the new academic year begins. If not, an academic payment plan will need to be met regarding monthly payment of debts. Failure to meet payments may lead to loss of athletic participation.
 3. Athletic competition demands strenuous physical activity. Therefore, a medical examination and doctor's approval for continued participation in athletics is required annually and must be on file in the Athletic Department at Corcoran High School. CIF recommends that student-athletes obtain their physicals in June, for the physical will now allow the student-athlete to participate in all summer activities as well as the entire school year.
 4. All athletes and their parents must sign the CIF Ethics in Sports policy and Steroids policy. The acts and penalties discussed in the "Violations and Minimum Penalties" section will be strictly adhered to. Please see back of this packet.
- B. A student-athlete may immediately forfeit eligibility to participate in all athletic activities for a minimum of nine (9) school-weeks for the first offense if it is determined by the Principal or his/her designee that the student has committed any of the following infractions during school or school sponsored activities:
1. Unlawfully possessed, sold or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife or other dangerous and/or illegal object or weapon.
 2. Unlawfully possessed, sold or otherwise been under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs and/or androgenic/anabolic steroids.
- **The accused student will be contacted personally to give him/her the opportunity to rebut the allegations or explain the circumstances. Failure of the student to cooperate in such an investigation will result in the disciplinary action listed above. A student-athlete will lose the right to participate in athletics for one calendar year from the time of the infraction if they are found to have violated the abovementioned infractions a second time.**
- C. A student may forfeit the privilege of participation in his/her season of sport if the student has been suspended more than once during that particular season of sport.
- D. Any student who fails to make an athletic team may immediately try out for another sport. A grace period of two weeks will be allowed any student trying out for a sport without penalty for quitting.

- E. Any non-freshmen student-athlete who desires to quit a team after three weeks of the first official date of practice as set by the CIF will sit out thirty-days (30) days of regular season games of the next sport that he/she decides to participate in. The 30-day period will be in effect 30 days from the first official pre-season game of the next sport that he/she is participating in. Scrimmages do NOT count as official games. The 30-day suspension also applies to sports that are played in the same season of sport as the one that the student-athlete just quit. Freshmen are exempt from this penalty.
- F. Any non-freshmen who is removed from a team by the coach due to disciplinary/attendance reasons as stated in the rules and regulations of a each sport will automatically sit out 30 days of regular season games of the next sport that he/she decides to participate in. The 30-day period will be in effect 30 days from the first official pre-season game of the next sport that he/she is participating in. Scrimmages do not count as official games. The 30-day suspension also applies to sports that are played in the same season of sport as the one that the student-athlete was just dismissed from. Freshmen are exempt from this penalty.

II. Equipment

The head coach of the sport or advisor of the club will issue all necessary equipment. Each student is responsible for any equipment checked out to him/her. At the end of the season all equipment that is checked out must be turned in or paid for within the time stated on the repayment contract that has been set up by the athletic office and the student. Failure to maintain payments as stated in the repayment contract will result in immediate suspension from the sport that the student-athlete is currently in. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to make payments on time. Failure to turn in uniforms / equipment may also affect participation in the coming season of sport.

III. Locker Room

No athlete is to be in the locker room or gym unless supervised by a member of his/her coaching staff. Each coach is responsible for assuring that the locker room is supervised at all times.

IV. Individual Sports Rules

In addition to the above general school-wide policies, each sport will have a set of rules and regulations specific to the given sport. Head coaches will have these available for students and parents to sign. Failure to have team rules signed by the student-athlete and parent/guardian may forfeit participation of student-athlete until team rules are on file.

V. Lettering Student - Athletes

All student-athletes must play at least one-half of all scheduled contacts and meet all of the requirements put forth by the Head Coach in order to receive a

letter for their sport. Medical complications and/or injuries that a licensed physician deems as reason to discontinue sports, may allow the student-athlete to earn a letter if approved by the Head Coach. Coaches make the final determination as to who earns a letter.

VI. Appeal Procedures

An athlete or coach may appeal all disciplinary decisions to the athletic director. If either party is dissatisfied with the decision, they may further appeal to the site principal. If either party is dissatisfied with the principal's decision they may further appeal to the superintendent and finally to the board of trustees.

VII. Transportation

It is recommended that all students go and return from all events with his/her team. If a student wishes to travel from an event with a parent/guardian, the Athletic Department **REQUIRES** that a permission slip obtained in the activities office be filled out and turned in to the Athletic Department by the parent/guardian that releases their child to drive from contests for that season of sport with their parent/guardian. Should this permission slip not be on file and an emergency situation occurs, the parent/guardian must write a note to the head coach and personally hand it to the coach for approval. The dated release note should state that the parent/guardian is driving his/her child from the contest and accepts full responsibility for his/her child. Emergency transportation situations will be handled directly by Athletic Director/Principal or Principal Designee, the head or the head coach/assistant coach left in charge. Under no circumstances should a student-athlete be released to another student driving a vehicle or any other individual that is not the parent or guardian seeking alternative transportation.

VIII. Early Dismissal

Students dismissed early from school to attend athletic events are to report as quickly as possible to the gym or assigned leaving area. No student released early is to be wandering campus bothering students or classrooms. If your release time corresponds with the beginning of your next class period or is a few minutes after your next class period, it is the student's responsibility to check in with the teacher of that next class period. Failure to report to your next class period will result in non-participation of next event(s).

IX. Insurance

Please note that the insurance of the student athlete is the primary insurance when filing an accident report. The school's (Corcoran High School) insurance is **SECONDARY**.

Potential Dangerous Sports Activity Certificate Agreement

The following is a copy of the student/parent notice release and agreement form that all student-athletes and parent/legal guardian must sign: Please read carefully, fill out and turn into the athletic department office with physical application and CIF Form.

Student Name: _____

I understand that a sporting activity is a hazardous recreational activity, which may result in serious injuries, including death. It is the intent of the Sport Activity Certificate to eliminate liability for negligence of the Corcoran Unified School District, officers, employees, agents and volunteers (herein collectively referred to as "CUSD") from all liability arising out of or in connection with the above-described activity.

I hereby give my consent for the above named student to compete in the CUSD approved activity program, and travel with school representatives on authorized school trips. I, the undersigned, hereby release and discharge the CUSD officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from all liability arising out of or in connection with the above-described activity or all liabilities associated with any and all claims related to such activity that may be filed on behalf of or for the above named minor. For the purposes of this agreement, liability means all claims, demands, losses, causes of action, suits or judgments of any and every kind, that occurs during the above described activity and that results from any cause other than the sole active negligence or willful misconduct of the CUSD.

Student – Athlete's Name: _____

I AM THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE STUDENT LISTED ABOVE. I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AND I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE ATHLETIC/EXTRA-CURRICULAR POLICIES DESCRIBED IN THE STUDENT ATHLETE HANDBOOK OF CORCORAN HIGH SCHOOL.

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian" _____

Print Student Name: _____

Signature of Student: _____

****Please sign and return this page and following page****

**AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETE AND PARENT/GUARDIAN
REGARDING USE OF STEROIDS**

PRINT NAME OF STUDENT: _____

As a condition of membership in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), the Governing Board of the Corcoran Unified School District has adopted Board Policy # 5131.63 prohibiting the use and abuse of androgenic/anabolic steroids. CIF Bylaw 524 requires that all participating students and their parents/guardian sign this agreement.

By signing below, we agree that the student shall not use androgenic/anabolic steroids without the written prescription of a fully licensed physician, as recognized by the American Medical Association, to treat a medical condition.

We recognize that under CIF Bylaw-200.D the student may be subject to penalties, including ineligibility for any CIF competition, if the student or his/her parent/guardian provides false or fraudulent information to the CIF.

We understand that the student's violation of the school district's policy regarding steroids may result in discipline against him/her, including, but not limited to, restriction from athletics, suspension or expulsion.

Print Name of Student-Athlete: _____

Signature of Student-Athlete: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian/Caregiver: _____

Date: _____

TO: PARENTS & STUDENT ATHLETES

FR: CORCORAN HIGH ATHLETIC DEPT.

PLEASE READ ALL OF THIS STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK AND
**SIGN THE LAST THREE (3) PAGES of this
handbook. HAVE YOUR CHILD RETURN
THE SIGNED PAGES TO THEIR HEAD
COACH.**

***Keep the rest of this handbook for reference.**

*****PLEASE PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE LIMITS OF YOUR
CHILD'S SCHOOL INSURANCE POLICY.**