

Troy Middle School Athletics Expectations

Philosophy

It is the expectation of Troy Middle School Athletes to demonstrate and lead Troy Middle School in school spirit, both in the classroom and on the field. As coaches, it is our goal to prepare each athlete for the expectations and demands that the sports season brings during the 2018-2019 school year, along with preparing them for the next stages of their athletic career.

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to prepare our student-athletes to have a clear understanding of the expectations of the Troy School District's athletic program. Knowledge and understanding of the items contained in this handout will contribute to a strong athletic program and prove beneficial to the student-athletes involved. Further, it will provide the basis for our athletes to be viewed as outstanding citizens we would like them to be.

Co-Curricular Mission Statement

In support of the mission of Troy District 30-C, we believe that the co-curricular program fosters enjoyment and instills respect for self and others as it provides activities that build and enhance self-concept. As a contributing member in the co-curricular program, each student develops personal skills according to individual abilities, which will enrich lifelong interests.

Purpose

It is the objective of the school to offer as many practical opportunities for participation in athletics as possible. An attempt is made to include as many boys and girls as possible in a wide variety of athletic competition. The interscholastic program is designed for students who have a high interest in athletics and who have a desire to put in exceptional time and effort and make sacrifices to reach a high level of achievement.

Policies for Participation in Troy Middle School Athletics

Absences due to injury/illness

An athlete who misses five (5) consecutive days of school or athletic participation due to illness or injury must obtain written permission from a physician and present this to the Director of Student Activities or coaches prior to regaining eligibility to participate. Please note, three (3) unexcused absences will result from dismissal of the team. Please email or send a note prior to the absence. Unexcused absences include but are not limited to: after school detentions, skipping practice without reason, etc.

Academics

Academics always take priority over athletics. Student-athletes should manage their time in such a way that success in academics is achieved during their involvement in a given sport. If this cannot be done, students should not be involved in athletics (also see **eligibility**).

Attendance

Student-athletes are expected to make school attendance a priority. In order to be eligible for extra-curricular activities on a given school day, students must be in attendance at school by 11:00 am and attend all afternoon classes. The exception to this rule are pre-arranged absences, school-related functions, such as unexpected events as funerals, etc.

Changing Sports

Once a student becomes a member of any squad, he/she may not change to another sport during the season unless:

1. He/she is cut to reduce the size of the squad
2. His/her coach believes he/she would fit into another sport better; and therefore, initiates a change.

When an athlete quits a squad, is dropped because of scholastic difficulties, discipline, poor attendance, etc., he/she may not try out for another sport during that particular season until conferences are held with the coaches, Director of Student Athletics and Activities, Principal, and the parents.

Student-athletes may participate in a maximum of one sport during a given season. With the configuration of the IESA sports seasons, the exception to this policy is made for girls who are interested in participating in basketball, cheerleading, poms, or volleyball; they may do so while also participating in a sport that takes place during the preceding or following season. For example, if a girl wants to play softball, she may also play basketball, which begins towards the end of the softball season. While the coaches involved in the overlapping seasons will make every effort to work out conflicts, some conflicts cannot be avoided; however, if an athlete, participating in their current sport, successfully makes the team in another sport of an overlapping season, the athlete must complete the season of the original sport prior to participating in the second sport.

Commitment

The Troy School District recognizes that all students should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in extracurricular activities. A variety of athletic and activity programs are available for student participation throughout the year. Every effort has been made by District to reduce the number of conflicts between athletics and other extracurricular activities. **The commitment to a District athletic team means that all non-school conflicts are resolved on the part of the student-athlete in favor of the school**

team. The exceptions to this rule include such significant events as religious holidays, funerals, family weddings, etc.

Concerns

When questions or concerns arise regarding the athletic program, the following chain of command is to be utilized:

1. Student - Coach
2. Parent - Coach
3. Parent - Director of Student Activities

The student-athlete who chooses to participate on a team is most closely involved with the coach. It is the hope of the athletic department that if concerns arise, they can be resolved between the student and the coach.

Conduct and Character

As representatives of Troy School District, student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with established behavioral expectations, and will not conduct themselves in such a manner that they reflect a discredit upon themselves, their team/organization, or the school. All rules regarding behavior as outlined by the coach, the Troy School District 30-C Student-Parent Handbook, and the IESA will be applied (for specific expectations regarding alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other criminal behavior, see the Code of Conduct and Consequences section of the Student-Parent Handbook).

Misconducts that lead to an in-school suspension (ISS), will result in suspension from the practices or contests of the sport they are involved with for the day on which the ISS is served. Misconducts that lead to an out-of-school suspension (OSS), may result in removal from the team for the remainder of the season based upon the infraction and will be determined by the Administration, Director of Student Activities, and coach.

It is a privilege to represent our school and community in athletic competition.

Eligibility

Troy Community Consolidated School District 30-C is a member of Illinois Elementary School Association. This association sets the scholastic standards for athletes in Illinois. The following are regulations as established by the IESA and adopted by the District's Board of Education:

1. A student shall be doing passing work in all school subjects as determined by the local school district and the school shall certify compliance with this mandate.
2. Passing work shall be checked weekly to govern eligibility for the following Monday through Saturday.
3. The eligibility check will be turned in by teachers every Thursday at 3:30 pm to the Director of Student Athletics.

4. The Director of Student Athletics will call the athlete to Student Services on Friday morning to notify him/her that he/she is out of practice and competition from Monday through Saturday and a letter will be sent home to the parent/guardian.

To comply with those regulations, the following procedures will apply:

All students will be considered passing until the teacher has at least three objective, evaluative instruments to use in assessing the student's grade. This regulation is part of the teacher and student handbook. At the start of practice for each sport, the coach will distribute it to the athletes and instruct them to take it home to their parents or legal guardians. ***3 ineligibilities during the season will result in dismissal of the team.**

Equipment Issue and Return

Troy School District attempts to provide each team member with the best equipment possible. All equipment issued to an athlete is expected to be returned in the same condition as when issued (assuming normal wear and tear), or the athlete is expected to compensate the athletic department for the lost or damaged equipment. While the cost of uniforms is expensive, the compensation for lost or damaged equipment will be in the form of "replacement cost of \$65.00." Take pride in the equipment that is issued.

Medical Excuses

Student-athletes who are excused by a doctor from physical education classes may not participate in the practices or contests of the sport they are involved with for each day of the said excuse.

Participation on Non-School Teams

Athletes are allowed to participate in outside sports and activities but **Troy is to remain top priority over other outside sports organizations.** If an athlete misses a Troy practice or game due to other outside sporting events, they can be withheld from upcoming meets.

Personal Items

The student-athlete is responsible not only for the equipment issued to him/her, but for all personal belongings brought to a practice or contest site.

Physical Examinations

It is the Board and Administration policy and Illinois law that all students in interscholastic sports must show proof of having a current (within 12 months) physical examination, a copy of a birth certificate (should be done at registration), parental/guardian permission, and an insurance form on file with the Athletic Director prior to trying out for that sport. The IESA handbook also explains this requirement (section 3.060). It is the recommendation of the athletic department that each student-athlete undergo a physical examination during the summer, so that he/she will be eligible for athletics for the entire school year. Reduced price physicals are available at several local clinics.

Sportsmanship

Students, participants, and spectators are expected to practice the ethics of competition and principles of good sportsmanship, whether at home events or events at other schools. Any person found to be in violation of these ethics and principles may be barred from interscholastic contests either as a participant or as a spectator. The faculty, coaches, and administration of Troy School District consider good sportsmanship to be one of the important ingredients of healthy competition and athletic success. We encourage all participants and spectators to cheer for the Trojans, but should also recognize the performance of others, respect the opponent, and respect the efforts of the officials.

Supervision

Once a student-athlete has entered the practice or contest sites of Troy School District (specifically, the gymnasium, fitness room, cafeteria, and track), he/she may not return to classroom areas of the building unless accompanied by an adult. Practice or any other physical activity cannot take place unless the coach is present. Student-athletes are to meet at a designated area until the coach arrives. If an after school activity is cancelled, students will be asked to go home on their regularly scheduled bus route. The students will not be allowed to stay at school.

Uniforms

Uniforms contribute to team cohesion and unity of purpose. In addition, at any time that a student-athlete is wearing a uniform, he/she is an especially visible school representative. The uniforms are to be worn as intended. Student-athletes should not enter a contest site until fully dressed. Uniforms are only to be worn for the purpose of Troy School District sanctioned athletic contests, not in school. Any uniform not turned in or damaged will be billed for the replacement of the uniform at the cost of \$65.00.