



CHARLESTON CHARTER SCHOOL *for* MATH + SCIENCE
SCHOLAR-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

2023-2024

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MISSION

The mission of the CCSMS athletics program is to provide scholar athletes the opportunity to develop holistically in the realms of the classroom, the community, and in competition. We aim to produce athletes that are respectful, responsible, and ready to learn in every aspect of their lives.

Objective:

To sponsor a wide range of athletic activities for boys and girls designed to promote discipline, sportsmanship, accountability, and perseverance.

Academic Requirements:

Section 4 Academic Requirements of [SCHSL](#)

A. A scholar, while participating, must be a full-time student as determined by guidelines set forth by the State Department of Education. A student who is repeating a course for which he/she has previously received credit cannot count this course as one required for eligibility. This is considered as monitoring a course.

B. To participate in interscholastic athletic activities, students in grades 9-12 must achieve an overall passing average in addition to the following:

1. To be eligible in the first semester a student must pass a minimum of five Carnegie units applicable toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school.

2. To be eligible during the second semester the student must meet one of the following conditions:

a. If the student met first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of four, $\frac{1}{2}$ units during the first semester.

b. If the student did not meet first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of five, $\frac{1}{2}$ units during the first semester. In most cases on a traditional or AB block schedule, the following example would apply:

- If eligible first semester, must pass four subjects
- If not eligible first semester, must pass five subjects

In a 4 X 4 block schedule where units or ½ units are granted at the end of the first semester the following will apply:

- If eligible first semester, must earn 2 units
- If not eligible first semester, must earn 2 ½ units

3. Students must satisfy eligibility requirements in the semester preceding participation.

a. Credits earned in a summer school approved by the State Department of Education may apply for first semester eligibility. A maximum of two units per year may be used

b. Students eligible for a first semester sport will be permitted to complete that sport even if it extends into the second semester. Under the current League program, this will apply to participants in basketball and wrestling in the high school and middle school programs.

Grades will be reviewed weekly by administration. If a scholar has lower than a 75 in any class, they are required to attend tutoring for that class. Failure to attend tutoring could result in suspension from practice or games.

Administration:

- Chief Executive Officer: Mary Carmichael
- Lead Principal: Melissa Frasier
- Athletic Director: Lakyn Traquair
- Assistant Athletic Director: Worth Smith

Awards and Lettering

A scholar-athlete must participate in at least 75% of the varsity level competition in their specific sport in order to letter in that sport.

Scholar Athlete Responsibilities:

Scholars who choose to participate in CCSMS athletic program are to demonstrate a positive lifestyle and exemplary sportsmanship. Their goals should include a commitment to the following: personal growth, academic success, athletic excellence and leadership. Due to the scholar athlete's high visibility on and off campus, duties may involve individual or team behavior responsibilities. Each team will be required to complete at least one act of community service in an effort to better our community.

Sportsmanship

Unsportsmanlike acts that take place at the site of an interscholastic contest are South Carolina High School League matters. All ejections must be reported by the school to the South Carolina High School League office by the following day. The South Carolina High School League shall discipline violators of the following items:

19 1. An athlete who is ejected for using abusive language, flagrantly or maliciously contacting another person, making obscene gestures to opponents or spectators, shall be ineligible for a minimum of the next contest to the maximum of one year depending on the seriousness of the violation.

a. Player(s) ejected from a contest may remain in the bench area.

b. A suspended athlete may be in the bench area provided they are not in uniform.

2. Any ejection that warrants game(s) suspension will require the removal of the athlete's eligibility until the suspension has been served at the level of the ejection. Suspensions carry over from sport to sport and/or year to year. The student athlete is eligible for scrimmages and jamborees when the suspension is carried over from a previous sports season.

3. Game(s) suspension (depending on the nature of the ejection) may result in the following

: – a minimum of one game for swim, competitive cheer, football, lacrosse

– a minimum of two games for volleyball, cross country, golf, wrestling, track & field

– a minimum of three games for basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, tennis

Ejections during post season play for all sports may result in a minimum one game suspension.

4. Any attempt to verbally abuse, make obscene gestures to, threaten or strike an official or member of the opposing coaching staff, shall be considered a serious violation making the athlete ineligible for a minimum of the next two contests to the maximum of one year. Any action that warrants a maximum penalty will also require that the school be placed on immediate probation in that sport. The South Carolina High School League Office will review any other action(s) that result in an ejection with the possibility of additional penalties.

5. Any athlete who leaves the bench area to become involved in an altercation, either physical or verbal, will be disqualified from that game and will be subject to a minimum of a next game suspension depending on his or her involvement. A school whose athletes violate this bench policy will be subject to South Carolina High School League discipline.

6. An athlete who is ejected for the second time in the same sport will have his or her athletic eligibility removed for a minimum of two weeks. An athlete who has been ejected from three contests during a school year (all sports) shall become ineligible for the remainder of the school year. Game officials must report all player ejections so that the South Carolina High School League Office can officially notify the school of each violation. When an athlete is ejected for the second time in the same sport, the school is required to immediately begin the above prescribed penalty.

Parental Responsibilities

Parent involvement is an integral part of making athletic events run smoothly. Each parent should volunteer to work the concessions for at least one of our home volleyball or basketball games.

Parents are role models and should practice sportsmanship at all times. Spectators will be held to the same standard our athletes are held to by the league. If a spectator is removed from the event by an officer or an official, the following suspension will ensue.

Game(s) suspension (depending on the nature of the ejection) may result in the following:

- a minimum of **one** game for **swim**, competitive cheer, football, lacrosse
- a minimum of **two** games for **volleyball, cross country**, golf, wrestling, track & field
- a minimum of **three** games for **basketball, soccer, baseball, softball**, tennis

The suspension will be for all events, regardless of the venue. If a spectator refuses to adhere to the suspension, they will be banned from attending any event for the remainder of the physical school year.

Multiple Sport Participation:

Once a scholar begins an athletic season, they are committed to that sport until the season ends, barring unforeseen and legitimate issues. If an athlete quits a team or is dismissed from a team, that athlete will forfeit their right to play on any team for the remainder of that physical school year. The AD reserves the right to determine disciplinary action(s)

Only with permission from both coaches and the athletic director will an athlete be able to participate in open season workouts with another team while they are in season. Under no circumstances should an athlete abuse this right as their in season sport is their priority. **Multiple sport participation is highly encouraged at CCSMS.**

Personal Appearance:

Scholar athletes are representatives of the school. Hence, the dress as well as their decorum should reflect the principles and standards of the school during their entire matriculation at CCSMS (including off seasons.) Athletes should not receive minor referrals for non-navy outerwear, no id, hoods, or improper footwear. We are leaders on this campus and we will abide by the dress code that is in our school handbook.

Attendance:

Every athlete plays an important role on this team and in our athletic program. Players are expected to attend all training sessions in their entirety. Practice schedules will be available as far in advance as possible. Any changes will be announced via SportsYou and on our athletic website if weather or other circumstances change the arranged times for training.

Players working during the preseason/season will need to have a written document from the employer showing your employment at that institution. This document should be signed by the manager and given to the coach. Every effort will be given to the athlete to allow for work and their specific sport.

Athletes are expected to follow the attendance regulations of the school. Athletes who do not attend school at least half a day will be ineligible to participate in training or competition that day. If a teacher or administrator feels that a student-athlete is being consistently tardy, skipping, or disruptive in the classroom the coaching staff will deal with these problems immediately. Any absence from training must have advance approval from the head coach and should be documented via SportsYou. Skipping practice or arriving late to training or games will not only impact your individual playing time, it could lead to suspension or removal from the team. If you miss practice the day before a game you may be ineligible to play in that game.

Excused vs Unexcused

Examples of an excused absence include, but are not limited to, religious reasons, death in family, medical reasons, etc. An absence must be approved by the coach beforehand. Examples of an unexcused absence, no communication with a coach beforehand, work, travel not previously approved by coaches, personal reasons, etc. Approval from the coach will come down to their discrepancy.

Athletic Physical:

Parents are required to create an account in [PlanetHS](#) in order to fill out and upload mandatory forms. We will no longer take paper copies of these forms. Please make sure that when you sign your scholar up, you click every sport they are interested in playing for the school year. Please note that an updated physical is due **EVERY YEAR** and it must be dated on or **AFTER April 1st** of that year. For example, any physical dated on or after April 1, 2023 will be valid for the 2023-2024 school year.

Communication:

Every team will utilize SportYou as our communication platform. All communication will be available in the app. Please make sure that you have your team's specific code and that you have enabled notifications.

Hazing

Hazing is defined as the imposition of strenuous, often humiliating, tasks as part of a program of rigorous physical training and initiation. Hazing will not be tolerated within the athletic department. Scholar-athletes will be treated with dignity and respect and the expectation is that honorable treatment is reciprocated.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature in the workplace or learning environment. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated with our athletic department. If at any time a scholar believes that they have been a victim of hazing or sexual harassment, contact the Athletic Director immediately and an internal investigation will ensue.

CCSMS Discipline Contract for Athletics

Grades:

Scholar will meet all requirements laid out by CCSMS:

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA and not have more than one failing grade in any quarter.
- Any scholar with a failing grade may be required to sit until the GPA rises to 2.0.

Behavior:

Being a part of an athletic team is a privilege, not a right. The scholar athlete represents CCSMS as a whole. Therefore, the following will be adhered to while participating in CCSMS athletics.

- **1st discipline referral:** Extra Conditioning.
- **2nd discipline referral:** Suspension for a minimum of 1 game and extra conditioning.
- **3rd discipline referral:** Suspension for a minimum of 2 games and extra conditioning.
- **4th discipline referral:** Removal from the team.
- **In the event an athlete has tarnished the image and reputation of the team or athletic program, the coaching staff and administration reserve the right to remove the player(s) from the team. The offenses may include but are not limited to illegal behavior inside or outside the school building, fighting or disrespectful behavior towards staff and/or players, social media misconduct, etc.**

I have read the above contract in its entirety and agree to all conditions contained within.

Scholar/Athlete Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

AD Signature

Date