

**AMERICAN LEADERSHIP**  

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**ACADEMY**



**Parent/Student  
Athletic Handbook**

**2021-2022**

## **Fall**

HS Football (M)

HS Girls Volleyball (W)

HS Cross Country (M/W)

JH/HS Spirit Line and Cheer (Year-round) (W/M)

## **Winter**

HS Basketball (M & W)

HS Wrestling (M)

HS Soccer (M & W)

JH/HS Spirit Line and Cheer (W/M)

## **Spring**

HS Track (M/W)

HS Softball (W)

HS Baseball (M)

HS Boys Volleyball (M)

JH/HS Spirit Line and Cheer (W/M)

## **JUNIOR HIGH - CANYON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION LEAGUE**

### **QUARTER 1**

**AUG - OCT**

**BOYS BASEBALL  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
CROSS COUNTRY**

### **QUARTER 2**

**OCT - DEC**

**GIRLS SOFTBALL  
WRESTLING**

### **QUARTER 3**

**DEC - MAR**

**TACKLE FOOTBALL  
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

### **QUARTER 4**

**MAR - MAY**

**BOYS BASKETBALL  
GIRLS & BOYS SOCCER  
TRACK AND FIELD**

## **PARTICIPATION CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

The athletic office must clear students prior to participating in a sport.

The following guidelines will be enforced.

- Athletic fees paid prior to first competition.
  - JH - \$100
  - HS - \$150
- Physical (Must be dated on or after March 1<sup>st</sup> of the upcoming school year. Example: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 for the 2021-22 school year). Physicals need to be completed on the 21-22 AIA Physical Evaluation Form. No other documents will be accepted. All Pages of the Physical need to be uploaded in order to be approved.
- Register My Athlete - registration completed and all required documents uploaded to website ([registermyathlete.com](http://registermyathlete.com)). **We will not be accepting any physical documents in person.** No Clearance Cards (Blue Cards) will be handed out before tryouts. Coaches will be able to see if an athlete is cleared by their "Ready for Tryouts" status on Register My Athlete. Any athlete showing "Not complete" as their status is not cleared for participation in tryouts or practice.

### **Equipment/Uniforms**

Students are responsible for all equipment and uniforms signed out to them for the season. Students will be charged for any equipment/uniforms not turned back in or damaged beyond normal use during season.

### **Commitment**

Once a student has tried out and officially made a team or committed to a sport, the student is not permitted to quit unless forced to do so. For example: injury, illness, etc. If the student does quit, he/she then becomes ineligible to participate in any ALA extracurricular group or team during that season or following season (unless approved by the athletic director) Commitment as a team player is vital to the success of our sports program and to the other members of the team.

### **Detention/Suspension**

Students with discipline issues resulting in detention or suspension will be expected to serve punishment within the allotted time given by administration, even if this means missing practice or game time. Failure to serve will result in additional punishment. If the student misses school and/or practice time do to suspension or after school detention, additional disciplinary action may be assigned per individual sport by the coach.

## **Extra-Curricular Activity Eligibility**

### **Eligibility**

Criterion:

- Student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better with no failing grades.
- Student may not have received any “Red” discipline cards the week of and the week prior to game/activity day

### **Eligibility Duration and Deadlines**

- An eligibility report will be pulled every two weeks using the school’s student information system. If a student’s cumulative GPA is below 2.0 OR they have earned a failing grade, in any subject, they will be academically ineligible for a two-week period. If there was an inaccuracy in the eligibility report due to teacher input of grades, a student may be determined eligible with a signed statement from the teacher indicating the circumstances leading to the error. The Athletic Director has final say in any eligibility dispute.
- The eligibility report will be pulled on Wednesday’s and enforced for a two-week period starting the Tuesday following the date of the report. Grades will be pulled after the second week of a given quarter.

### **Academic Ineligibility Consequences:**

- Student may attend game/activity
- Student will not dress-out for the game/activity
- Student may not participate in the game/activity
- Student may participate in game day team attire/game day activity. There will be a 100% focus on academics until athlete is eligible.
- Student may not participate in team practice until deemed eligible.

\*Dress-up attire, see Student Handbook

### **Behavioral Ineligibility Consequences:**

Red Card

- Student may participate in game day team attire/game day activity
- Student may not practice on day(s) of suspension

- Student may not dress out for or play in the next game/activity following suspension

### **Eligibility Grace Period**

When a student is not eligible to participate due to academics, they will be allowed a grace period on the first grade pull of their sport season. Students will have until the following grade pull to rectify any delinquencies. During this grace period, students may practice and compete. If the student does not improve scores by the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade pull, they will be found ineligible and will not be able to perform or compete. Students found to be abusing the grace period may lose it.

### **School Attendance**

Students are required to be at school on the day of a competition for at least half of the day. Failure to be in school for the appropriate amount of time will result in the student athlete not being able to participate in the athletic activity that day.

### **Enrollment**

Students must be enrolled and taking 51% of their courses at ALA to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

### **Homeschool Students**

Homeschool students must reside in Pinal County to attend American Leadership Academy Ironwood campus. Homeschool parent must submit a copy of "Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool" to the Athletic Office. Approval must be granted prior to participation.

### **COACHES EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYERS**

- Each player will be treated as an individual regarding any discipline situation. However, any athlete who demonstrates poor behavior not conducive to the spirit of good sportsmanship and citizenship, or is in violation of American Leadership Academy policies, may be subject to disciplinary action, including possible expulsion or suspension from the program.
- While on campus all team members will abide by all school rules and display conduct as a representative of ALA. He/she shall demonstrate the utmost respect to administrators, teachers, coaches, and staff always.
- Any obscene or vulgar language will not be tolerated.
- Any player ejected from a game will be suspended for the following game and required to meet with administration prior to rejoining the team.

### **Alcohol, Tobacco, Steroids, and Controlled Substances**

Members of an ALA athletic team shall not use or attempt to use, have in their possession, or aid and abet anyone else to use tobacco, alcoholic beverages, steroids, or any form of narcotics or controlled substances, unless prescribed by a physician. Possession means having any knowledge of, or any control over, an item. Control includes, but is not limited to, having access to an item in a school locker, personal effects, a vehicle, or any other place where the item may be located. It is not necessary that a student intend to control the item. A student may acquire knowledge of an item visually, by being told about the item, or through other sensory perception. A student's knowledge will be based on the surrounding circumstances, not just the student's statements. For example, "forgetting" that an item is in one's locker, personal effects, or vehicle does not constitute lack of knowledge. Other disciplinary action, as deemed appropriate by the coach or the administration, may be taken.

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Players**

- Be committed to the team. Be prepared. Attend all practices, games, fundraisers, and activities with a positive attitude.
- Embrace whatever your role on the team may be. If you are in a reserve role, take your responsibility seriously, pushing your teammates to be the best they can be. Encourage and cheer on your teammates, whether you participate in the game or not.
- Be a good student. Meet your academic requirements to stay eligible.

### **Parents**

- Honor your child's commitment to the team. Do not plan activities that would make he/she break that commitment.
- Practices are closed to parents. However, parents are encouraged to come to as many games as possible to cheer on your child AND the rest of the team.
- Do not make comparisons between your child and another player. Realize you may not see the whole picture. Trust the coaches.
- Be a good example of positive dialogue regarding your child's teammates, coaches, opponents, and referees.
- If your child has questions regarding playing time or any other issue, encourage them to talk to the coach directly. We love to see the students take responsibility in addressing concerns, as they develop the leadership qualities taught at ALA.
- If you as a parent have an issue that needs addressing, please contact the coach and set up a time to meet. DO NOT approach a coach before or after a game/practice.
- Parents, NO coaching from the sidelines, it is distracting. Please cheer but refrain

from coaching and trying to get the players attention during the game.

## **PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION**

### **Communications expected from athletes' coach**

- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your athlete, as well as all the players
- Location and times of all practices and games
- Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, fundraising, off-season conditioning, camp/clinics
- Discipline that will result in the denial of your athlete's participation
- The procedure to follow in event of an injury while under the coach's supervision

### **Communications coaches expect from parents**

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

### **Appropriate to discuss with coaches**

- Mental and physical treatment of your athlete
- Ways to help your athlete improve
- Concerns about your athlete's behavior

### **Issues NOT appropriate to discuss with coaches**

- Playing time
- Team strategies
- Play calling
- Other athletes

## **PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Parents, fans and coaches who follow this simple code can help reinforce what sports are all about and will make the sporting experience a GREAT one for all involved.

- I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will remember that the game is for the youth involved, not the parents.
- I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
- I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child by demonstrating good sportsmanship. I will show respect, courtesy and positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
- I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health or well-being of the athletes.
- I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect, regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard.
- I will refrain from ridiculing or yelling at my child or any other participant, for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will respect the officials always.
- I will not question, discuss, or confront a coach at an event. I will take time to speak with the coach at an appropriate time and place.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the "official" coaches.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary actions that could include but not limited to the following.

- Verbal warning by official, head coach or administration
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension
- Parental season suspension



## **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor in accordance to six core principles: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Good Citizenship (the "Six Pillars of Character"). The Code applies to all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in Arizona.

*I understand that to participate in athletics, I must act in accord with the following:*

### **TRUSTWORTHINESS**

Be worthy of trust in all I do.

- *Integrity* - Live up to high ideals of ethics and do what's right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.
- *Honesty* - Live and compete honorably, don't lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- *Reliability* - Fulfill commitments; do what I say I will do; be on time to practices and games.
- *Loyalty* - Be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.

### **RESPECT**

Treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of other student-athletes.

- *Class* - Live and play with class, be a good sport, be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity, give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre-and post-game rituals.
- *Disrespectful Conduct* - Don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or racial nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- *Respect Officials* - Treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with officials' calls during or after an athletic event.

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

- *Importance of Education* - Be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level and remember that many universities will not recruit student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education.

- *Role Modeling* - Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right and that I am expected to represent my school, coaches, and teammates with honor, both on and off the field. I will consistently exhibit good character and conduct myself as a positive role model.
- *Self-Control* - Exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.
- *Healthy Lifestyle* - Safeguard my health; don't use any illegal or unhealthy substance including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.
- *Integrity of the Game* - Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

## **FAIRNESS**

- *Be Fair* - Live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded, always be willing to listen and learn.

## **CARING**

- *Concern for Others* - Demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to others or myself.
- *Teammates* - Help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

## **CITIZENSHIP**

- *Play by the Rules* - Maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.
- *Spirit of Rules* - Honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.
- Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the school administration.

## **ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Athletic Code of Conduct is for all athletes, spirit line, band members, team managers and student athletic trainers. Participation in athletic and activity programs is a privilege and ALA is committed to honoring the Code of Conduct.

### **Expectations of Athletes**

1. No member of an athletic team, spirit line, band, team manager or student athletic trainer will use, attempt to use, possess, sell or assist any other scholar in the use of the following:
  - a. Tobacco/tobacco products
  - b. Alcohol and drugs (i.e. transporting alcohol or drugs/drugs paraphernalia in your car, consumption of alcohol, or any form of controlled substance drugs/look-alike drugs.)
  - c. Steroid or performance enhancement drugs No member of an athletic team, spirit line, band, team manager, or student trainer will exhibit behavior/citizenship that is considered detrimental to his/her team or school. Some examples of inappropriate behavior may include, but are not limited to, illegal acts, insubordination, theft, vandalism, fighting, possession of a weapon, lying to school officials, falsifying information, hazing or bullying.

### **Violations**

1. If there is an alleged violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct:
  - a. The athlete's privilege of participation will be determined at a meeting to be held to discuss the infraction
  - b. The athlete's parents/guardians shall be notified and advised of the date and time of the meeting.
  - c. The meeting will include the athlete, parents/guardians, athletic director/administration and school officials involved with the alleged violation.
  - d. The parents/guardians will be provided a written summary of the meeting.
  - e. Failure to attend the meeting will be viewed as an acknowledgement of responsibility.
2. Any violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct that results in a suspension during the school year will result in the following consequences:
  - > FIRST OFFENSE - Games missed due to suspension or 10% of regular season, whichever is more. Athlete will be encouraged to seek counseling and/or professional help.
  - >> SECOND OFFENSE - Games missed due to suspension or 20% of regular season, whichever is more. Athlete will be encouraged to seek counseling and/or professional
  - >> THIRD OFFENSE - May result in exclusion from the athletic team/program.
3. The Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect beginning with the athlete and parents/guardians signing the contract. These policies are in effect on or off campus through the calendar year and do not supersede ALA's disciplinary policies or coach's rules. Discipline for violations will start from the point of discovery and meeting with the athlete.
4. If an athlete participates in a sport after a violation of the code, he/she must complete the season on the roster to compete in the next season. Athletes who are unable to complete a sanction during the course of the sports season shall complete the sanction during the next sports season. Athletes who violate the athletic code will be declared ineligible and suspended from athletic participation as stated above.

An athlete who feels that his/her rights have been violated may appeal the suspension, in writing, to the principal within five (5) school days. The principal will review the appeal and

the results will be communicated to the parents/guardians. The principal's decision is final.

## **ATHLETIC POLICIES**

### **HAZING POLICY**

Soliciting, encouraging, aiding or engaging in hazing in any form is prohibited at American Leadership Academy. "Hazing means any intentional, knowing or reckless act directed against a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in or maintaining membership in any organization, club or athletic team whose members are, or include other students. Hazing, further defined is any act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person. Students found in violation of the Hazing Policy will be subject to disciplinary actions.

### **HARASSMENT POLICY**

American Leadership Academy is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in relation to race, religion, sex, age, national origin and disability. The policy will prevail in all matters concerning athletes and adults. Student athletes found in violation of harassing another student, in any of the above-mentioned areas, would be subject to disciplinary actions per American Leadership Academy.

### **EQUIPMENT & UNIFORM POLICY**

Students receiving athletic equipment and uniforms are responsible for ALL equipment and uniforms issued to them. The athlete will be charged with the replacement cost of lost or willful damage to any equipment or uniform he/she is issued.

### **ATHLETIC FEE POLICY**

I have read and fully understand the American Leadership Academy ATHLETIC FEE POLICY. I understand that unpaid participation fees may result in the student athlete becoming ineligible to participate.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES**

I have read and fully understand the Athletic Code of Conduct. I understand that any behavior or word that disparages an opponent or referee will NOT be tolerated.

### **AIA ELIGIBILITY AND SUMMARY OF BY-LAWS**

I have read and fully understand the summary of bylaws concerning athletic eligibility.

### **HOMESCHOOL POLICY**

In accordance with Arizona Revised Statute 15-802.01, a homeschool student must reside in Pinal County to participate in American Leadership Academy Ironwood athletic programs. Homeschool parent must submit a copy of, "Affidavit of Intent to Homeschool", to the Athletic Department prior to participation. Per ALA policy, grade checks must be submitted every two weeks and the athletic participation fee must be paid in full, prior to the first competition.

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By signing the E-Signature on Register My Athlete means that I have read and understand the rules and procedures outlined in this handbook. I am responsible for my actions and I know what's expected of me while being a part of American Leadership Academy athletics.