



## **Student – Athlete Code of Conduct**

Last Updated: September, 2021

Athletic participation is a **privilege**, not a right. Adherence to the Egg Harbor Township Athletics Code of Conduct is required for the good of the student athlete and the success of the team, program, and school. It is imperative to note the Athletic Code of Conduct is not confined to school time or school functions but reflects an expectation and commitment to an everyday lifestyle in and outside of school, at all times, throughout the season.

### **Team Selection:**

Participation in athletics is a **privilege**, not a right.

The Head Coach will select the student athletes of the team with input from the Assistant Coaches during the tryout process. **All student athletes must be present starting the first day of season and/or the tryout/evaluation process to be considered for team selection.** Exceptions such as documented illness/injury by a doctor, an acceptable family emergency, death in family, or other extenuating circumstances must be pre-approved by the Head Coach and Athletic Director. The overall selection of the team will reflect the best interests of the continuing sports program at Egg Harbor Township High School. The Head Coach has final decision for team selection.

#### **Criteria for selection of team:**

- Academic eligibility
- Quickness and speed
- Strength and endurance
- Technical skills related to specific sport
- Character
- Coach ability
- Spirit, desire, and determination
- Team attitude
- Winning attitude and experience

### **Team Attendance**

Egg Harbor Township in-season events must take priority over outside sport conflicts. If the outside sport conflict has a direct impact on the post-secondary opportunity of a student-athlete, the parent may submit a written request to the head coach prior to the completion of tryouts. Exceptions for the minimal amount of time missed will be reviewed by the Head Coach and Athletic Director prior to approval.

All absences or late arrivals for team events must be pre-approved by the head coach of your program.

### **Selection of Team Captains:**

Captains will be selected for the team by the Head Coach, with input from the Assistant Coaches and/or team members. Attributes for selection of Captains:

- Good character
- Leadership ability
- Respect of teammates and coaches
- Team pride and spirit

### **Playing Time:**

The opportunity to represent Egg Harbor Township High School in an athletic competition must be earned.

All decisions concerning playing time and starting positions are the sole discretion of the coaching staff.

If playing time concerns are to be addressed, it is to be by the student athlete with the coach, not parent.

### **Residency:**

The student athlete must reside with his/her parents or legal guardian in a permanent address in the Egg Harbor Township school district. Failure to abide by this regulation could result in the team forfeiting games, state tournament eligibility and school discipline for the student-athlete.

In the event the residency changes during the sports season, the student athlete and parent must notify the Athletic Director immediately of this address change and it must comply with NJSIAA & EHTSD guidelines for residency.



### **Student Athlete Concerns:**

Appropriate concerns for parents to discuss with the coaching staff:

1. Ways to help your daughter/son improve in regard to their specific sport.
2. Concerns about your daughter's/son's behavior.
3. The treatment of your daughter/son, emotionally and/or physically.

Inappropriate concerns for parents to discuss with the coaching staff:

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy and/or play calling.
3. Other student athletes.

### **Academic Regulations:**

- 1) To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31) 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
- 2) To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (Feb. 1 to June 30), a pupil must have passed the equivalent of 12 1/2% of the credits (15) required by New Jersey for graduation (120) at the close of the preceding semester (Jan. 31). Full-year courses shall be equated as one half of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.
- 3) Note: In order for a 9th, 10th, or 11th grader to become eligible per CL 5, the student must be passing all courses taken during the 3rd marking period and accumulated 22.50 credits when grades are averaged for marking periods 1, 2, and 3. 22.50 credits after three (3) marking periods puts the student-athlete on track to obtain the required 30 credits at the end of the school year.
  - a. The above paragraph 1 shall not apply to incoming students from grammar school (8th grade).
  - b. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 1 and 2 above, a pupil who is eligible at the beginning of a sports season shall be allowed to finish that season.
  - c. Refer to NJSIAA Constitution at NJSIAA.ORG for more details.

### **School Attendance**

- 1) Student-Athletes must attend four hours of school to practice/play that evening.
  - a. Must arrive by 9:29 AM
  - b. In the case of other circumstances, The Athletic Director or Designee will determine exception due to extenuating circumstances and will have final approval or denial.
- 2) Truancy/Class Cutting
  - o Once reviewed by Administration may result in game suspensions and/or removal from the team.

### **Practice Rules:**

1. Be early.
2. Give your full and best effort.
3. Encourage your teammates to do their best.
4. Be dressed in proper practice attire.
5. Be prepared with all of your equipment at the start of each school day and practice. Specifically, dropping off extra-curricular items for activities such as sports during the school day is NOT permitted. We will not stop instructional class time to interrupt the teacher and class to deliver or call students out of class for such extra-curricular items. We also do not have an adequate or secure storage area in the Main Office to hold such items during the school day. Instead, parents may meet their child at 2:15 p.m., at the end of the school day, to personally deliver such items to them. Failure to follow this policy may result in the student-athlete not being able to participate in that day's game or practice.
6. Report injuries to your coach and/or trainer.
  - Note - If you must see a doctor for an injury, the doctor must clear you "in writing" for you to resume play. The doctor's note must be on file with the Athletic Director.
7. Profanity and unsportsmanlike behavior is unacceptable.
8. In the event an athlete must miss a practice, the athlete and/or parents are to contact the coach prior to the absence to discuss the reason for missing practice.
9. Accept constructive criticism from the coaching staff.
10. Strive for excellence!



### **Game Regulations:**

1. All student athletes must ride the team bus to and from all athletic contests unless special permission has been preapproved by the Head Coach and/or Athletic Director.
2. Team dress code will be enforced in school on game days, as determined by the Head Coach.
3. The student athlete is responsible for all equipment and uniforms issued. Student athlete will be charged full replacement cost for any equipment/uniform that is lost, damaged, or stolen.
4. The student athlete is expected to follow all rules of the National Federation of High School Sports Association which pertains to their specific sport.
5. Exhibit good sportsmanship at all times. Show respect to officials, fans, coaching staff, and opponents.

### **Player Conduct- On & Off campus, throughout the season, at ALL times:**

Social Media Guidelines for Athletes are as follows:

\*Everything you post is public information – any text or photo placed online is completely out of your control the moment it is placed online – even if you limit access to your site. Information (including pictures, videos, and comments) may be accessible even after you remove it. Once you post a photo or comment on a social networking site, that photo or comment becomes the property of the site and may be searchable even after you remove it.

\*What you post may affect your future. Employers and college admissions officers review social networking sites as part of their overall evaluation of an applicant. Carefully consider how you want people to perceive you before you give them a chance to misinterpret your information (including pictures, videos, comments, and postings).

\*Similar to actions made in person, disrespectful comments/behavior online will not be tolerated, such as:

- o derogatory language or remarks that may harm my teammates or coaches; other student athletes, teachers, or coaches; and student-athletes, coaches, or representatives of other schools, including comments that may disrespect my opponents.
- o incriminating photos or statements depicting violence, hazing, sexual harassment, full or partial nudity, inappropriate gestures, vandalism, stalking, underage drinking/selling/possessing/constructive possession and using controlled substances, or any other inappropriate behaviors.
- o creating a danger to the safety of another person or making a credible threat of serious physical or emotional injury to another person.
- o indicating knowledge of an unreported school or team violation – regardless if the violation was unintentional or intentional.

Do not have a false sense of understanding your rights to freedom of speech. Understand that freedom of speech is not unlimited. The online social network sites are NOT a place where you can post whatever you want without repercussions. Any of the above actions, but not limited to, may be considered conduct detrimental to the team. The information you post on a social networking site is considered public information. Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image of which you and our school can be proud of for years to come.

### **Player Conduct--on and off campus, throughout the season, at ALL times:**

**Reminder, participation in athletics is a privilege, NOT a right.**

1. Student athlete is to represent EHT with pride.
2. Hazing of any kind will not be tolerated.
3. Athletes are not to use alcohol, drugs or tobacco products (ie. consumption, distribution, possession and/or constructive possession).

Any conduct deemed detrimental to the student-athlete, team and/or overall good of the school system, anytime, on and off campus may result in consequences ranging from verbal reprimand to the removal from the team as determined by the head coach, with input from assistant Coaches. The Head Coach will consult with the Athletic Director before rendering a final discipline decision.

Note: If a student athlete is dismissed from a team (or quits) anytime during a season, all team fees paid by student athlete and his/her parent are non-refundable.