Hampton Township School District

Athletic Handbook for Student Athletes

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PURPOSE OF THE STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

The purpose of the Student Athletic Handbook is to provide both the parents and the student athlete with information regarding the high school athletic program. There are certain rules and regulations the School District has implemented and there are rules that are established by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association that must be followed by all the student athletes. The Athletic Department wants to make both the student athlete and the parent or guardian aware of these rules and regulations and to make them aware of other facets of the District Interscholastic Athletics Program.

PHILOSOPHY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

It is the philosophy of the School District that a competitive athletic program be provided and that the primary goal will be broad participation by as many students as possible. It is desirable that teams compete on an even basis with other schools, but never at the sacrifice of sportsmanship, academic priority, or general welfare of the school and students.

With the philosophy of the School District dedicated to providing an educational program for all children of the community, it is the belief of the professional staff that a carefully regulated program of interscholastic athletics should be maintained as an integral part of our total secondary school program. In developing an instructional program to meet the many and varied needs of the secondary school adolescent, care must be given to the inclusion of challenging activities for the physically as well as intellectually talented pupil.

Athletics must be for all boys and girls who are physically able to participate. The athletic program should be educational and should contain desirable learning experiences. Athletics must fit harmoniously in the overall educational program and shall be controlled by established school authorities, both local and state.

The contribution through participation in athletics should promote: health and happiness, development of physical skills, emotional maturity, social competence, moral values, a sense of cooperation, a spirit of competition, self discipline, an understanding of the democratic process, and a realization of the value of group goals.

Athletic contests should always be played with emphasis on fun, physical development, skills, social experiences and good sportsmanship.

MEMBERSHIP

Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA)

HTSD is a voluntary member of the PIAA. As a member school, Hampton agrees to abide by and enforce all the rules and regulations of the PIAA.

The primary role of the PIAA is to maintain rules and regulations that ensure equity in competition for the student athletes and a balance with other educational programs.

Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (WPIAL)

HTSD is a voluntary member of the WPIAL. The league was established to encourage member schools to improve the co-curricular program in athletics. By being a member of the WPIAL, HTSD agrees to comply with the schedules and the rules and regulations set forth by the league.

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAM

FALL SPORTS	WINTER SPORTS	SPRING SPORTS
Cross Country -Girls/Boys Varsity	Basketball (Boys) -Varsity - Jr. Varsity - Jr. High - MS	Baseball (Boys) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity -Jr. High
Football -Varsity -Jr. Varsity - MS	Basketball (Girls) - Varsity - Jr. Varsity - MS	Softball (Girls) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity -MS
Golf (Co-ed) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity	Indoor Track (Boys) -Varsity	Tennis (Boys) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity
Soccer (Boys) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity -MS	Indoor Track (Girls) -Varsity	Track & Field (Boys/Girls) -Varsity -MS
Soccer (Girls) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity - MS	Swimming (Boys) - Varsity - MS	Lacrosse (Boys) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity
Tennis(Girls) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity	Swimming (Girls) -Varsity - MS	Lacrosse (Girls) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity
Volleyball (Girls) -Varsity -Jr. Varsity -MS	Wrestling (Boys/Girls) -Varsity -Jr.Varsity -MS	
Sideline Cheer	Bocce (club)	Ultimate Frisbee (club)
Inline Hockey (club)	Ice Hockey (club)	Girls Flag Football (club)
Ice Hockey		

AWARDS

The Athletic Department has an award system that will be followed in all sports.

Awards:

First, Second and Third Year Participation Certificate- Given to the athlete if they do not letter in the sport.
First Year Letter-Athlete receives a certificate. Chenille letter is given along with a sport pin.
Second Year Letter-Athlete receives a certificate along with a service bar..
Third Year Letter-Athlete receives third year plaque along with a service bar.
Fourth Year Letter-Athlete receives fourth year plaque along with a service bar.
Team MVP = receives a plaque..

ATHLETIC LETTER AND PARTICIPATION AWARD CANDIDATES GUIDELINES

1. An athlete must display sportsmanship and conduct which exemplifies the school to his/her opponents, teammates and officials.
2. An athlete must conform to all participation and training rules established by the School District and the head coach for that given sport.
3. An athlete must have conformed to practice and game regulations as established by the coach in that sport.
4. The athlete must complete the season, including individual and post season competition.
5. The athlete must have returned all the equipment issued to him to the satisfaction of the Head Coach and Athletic Director.
6. Letters are only issued to a participant in a varsity sport.
7. Coach's discretion can be used to letter an athlete based on the following three attributes:

    a) Positive contribution to the team
    b) An athlete demonstrates good sportsmanship and a supportive attitude
    c) An injured player would have lettered if the injury had not occurred

*These are the minimum requirements for each sport. The head coach of each sport can establish stricter requirements. **The head coach will notify the student athletes of the requirements to letter before the start of the regular season.**

Minimum Criteria For Other Participants

Managers-

Managers will receive a letter **only in a varsity sport.**

A manager will receive a letter if in the opinion of the head coach the manager made a significant contribution to the program.

If the manager does not letter they will receive a certificate.

Statisticians-

Statisticians will receive participation certificates the first year.

The second year they are eligible to letter if in the opinion of the coach they have made a contribution to the program.

If a statistician does not letter they will receive a participation certificate.

Student Trainers-

Student trainers can letter if in the opinion of the certified athletic trainer they have put in the required time that was set up by the athletic trainer at the beginning of the season.

If a student trainer does not letter they will receive a certificate.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The Athletic Department gives two special awards to student athletes:

Three Sport Athletic Award- Given to any student who participates in three sports during the school year.

Scholar Athlete Award- Given to any student who participated in a sport, completed that sport, and that has received a 3.75 QPA at the end of the grading period that coincides with the sport they participated in.

Scholar Athlete of the Year - 1 Male, 1 Female - Given to 1 male and 1 female student athlete with the highest cumulative qpa through the 3rd nine weeks of senior year.

Letterman Jacket

All letterman jackets will be purchased by the individual student athlete**.** The Athletic Director will have samples available in the Athletic Office. Jackets can be purchased through Jostens at www.neffco.com

HAMPTON TWP. STUDENT ATHLETE RECOGNITION BY SCHOOL BOARD

The following criteria will be used to recognize the achievements of athletic teams and individual student athletes at school board meetings.

TEAM RECOGNITION:

PIAA Champions

PIAA Runner Up

WPIAL Champions

WPIAL Runner Up

Section Champions

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION:

Section Champion

WPIAL Medalist

PIAA Medalist - Regional

PIAA Medalist - Championship

Below is the list of medalists for each individual sport.

Cross Country: First 25 finishers receive individual awards.

Golf: First five female finishers and first ten male finishers receive individual awards.

East and West Regions: First three finishers receive individual awards.

Swimming and Diving: First eight finishers in each event receive individual awards.

Tennis: First four finishers receive individual awards.

Track & Field: Champion and runner-up Teams receive trophy. First eight finishers in each event receive individual awards.

Wrestling: First eight finishers in each weight class receive individual awards.

Regions: First four finishers (first six finishers in SE AA and SW AA) in each weight class receive individual awards.

NOTE: Any other specific individual award will be at the discretion of the School Board.

COACH- PARENT COMMUNICATION

Coaches are responsible for communicating information regarding the athletic program to parents. Parents are responsible for understanding the athletic program's rules, regulations and requirements and the coach's expectations.

Communication/information coaches should provide to parents:

- Philosophy of the program squad selection
- Coach's expectations of players
- Locations and times of practices and contests
- Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.
- Safety measures that are being taken to insure player safety
- Procedures concerning player injuries
- Team rules and guidelines
- All use of social media will be approved by the Athletic Director
- Lettering requirements
- Disciplinary procedures
- Information regarding procedures to contact coaches

Communication/information parents should provide to coaches:

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- Information regarding student injuries and any medical condition

Appropriate concerns for parents to discuss with coaches:

- Treatment of their child
- Ways to help their child improve (student athlete)
- Concerns about their child's behavior

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student athletes
- Playing time

Procedures for discussing parental concerns:

- Parents should not confront coaches or engage in discussions with coaches, either in person or via telephone, immediately before or after a practice or on a game day. Discussions during times of high emotions do not promote resolution of issues. The 24 Hour Rule is strictly enforced.
- Parents may discuss concerns with coaches via the telephone or request a meeting.
- If a parent meeting is desired, the parent should call the coach to schedule an appointment in advance.
- If the coach cannot be reached, the Athletic Director should be contacted to schedule the meeting.
- If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, the parent may schedule an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
- Coaches may also schedule a meeting with the Athletic Director to discuss issues with parents.
- If the situation is still unresolved, additional meetings with appropriate administrators may be scheduled.

In all situations the student athlete should be present for the meeting.

Procedure for removing players for behavior issues:

- Document the issues(s) that has occurred or is occurring
- Meet with the player with at least one other coaching staff member to discuss behavior
- COMMUNICATE immediately with the Athletic Director.
- Communicate with the parent/guardian regarding the issue.
    - Identify team rule(s) violated with consequences for action.
    - Document conversation with parent/guardian. Keep on file.
- Monitor behavior for improvement. If needed, work on an improvement plan for student(s).
    - Any incident of inappropriate behavior must be documented. (Recommend using a google doc)
- Include Athletic Director on all communications with parents or after any meeting with the student athlete.
- Prior to removing a players from a team or making a tryout cut for behavior the Athletic Director must be contacted prior to review the circumstances.

CONDUCT OF ATHLETES

A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the athletic department. The community, school administrators and the coaching staff feel very strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program of athletics. The welfare of the student is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration.

All students in the Athletic Program shall abide by a Code of Conduct, which will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. All students should be fully aware that participating in the athletic program is a privilege, not a right. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to theft, vandalism, disrespect of officials, teammates, opposing team or spectators, immorality, hazing or violations of the law, inappropriate social media posts, etc. tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic program and will not be tolerated.

When serious violations of the Code of Conduct occur, the School District will determine the penalty according to the degree of the infraction. Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in the temporary or permanent loss of participation in the Athletic Program.

DRUG/ALCOHOL POLICY

In accordance with the School District's Drug/Alcohol Policy a student that possesses, uses or is under the influence of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, mood altering substances or other substances during school hours, school functions or on school property is subject to discipline and rehabilitation. As part of this policy, a student athlete will be **excluded** from extracurricular activities, which will include all athletic contests and practices, for minimally **20 school days from the date of the violation.** The head coach in accordance with his or her rules and policies can take additional disciplinary action.

The complete Drug/Alcohol Policy can be found in the Student Handbook.

ELIGIBILITY

All students of who participate in interscholastic athletics must adhere to the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association eligibility rules for student athletics. If a student fails to comply with PIAA rules, they will lose their eligibility to represent their school in interscholastic athletics. If a student participates while ineligible, the school and/or the team will forfeit all contests the student participated in.

Listed below are the major eligibility requirements a student must meet in order to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics. This **does not** list every rule and every detail. If a student athlete has any questions concerning their athletic eligibility, they should see the Athletic Director or the Principal.

Age-

A student may not have reached the age of 19 before July 1 immediately preceding the school year to be eligible to compete on a Varsity/Jr. Varsity team. A student may not reach the age of 16 before July 1 immediately preceding the school year to be eligible to compete in a Junior High/ MS Program.

Amateur Status and Awards-

To be eligible to participate in a sport, a student athlete must be an amateur in the sport. They will lose their amateur status in a sport for at least a year if:

1. The student, the school, or an organization which they represent, or their parent or guardian, receives money or property for or related to their athletic ability, performance, participation, or services.

2. A student accepts compensation for teaching, training or coaching in a sport. A student may receive normal and customary compensation for acting as an instructor in or officiating recreational activities, or for serving as a lifeguard at swimming areas.

   A student may receive awards only from their school, the sponsor of an athletic event, the news media, or a non-profit service organization approved by their school principal. Permissible awards are a sweater, jacket, blazer, blanket, shirt, jersey, watch, ring, scroll, photograph, medal, plaque, or similar trophy, which must bear appropriate organizational insignia or comparable identification.

Name, Image and Likeness

The PIAA has recently approved a Name, Image and Likeness policy for high school athletes. This allows student athletes to earn money through NIL agreements.

Student athletes must notify the athletic department if entering into any type of NIL contract/agreements within 72 hours after entering into the agreement. Please contact the Athletic Office immediately if an NIL agreement is agreed upon (Additional information can be found on the website).

Attendance

Students must be regularly enrolled in the School District and must be a full time student. A student is only eligible at the school in which they are enrolled.

Students must be present at least one half of the school day (a minimum of 4 full academic periods not including lunch) in order to participate that day or evening in athletics.

Students who are sent home by the nurse due to illness may not participate in after school or evening events.

Students with pre-existing medical conditions that requires medical appointments that might limit their ability to attend for 4 periods should contact the athletic director to secure a medical exemption.

*Any student who is absent ***20 or more days during a semester*** will lose their eligibility until they have been in attendance 45 school days following the 20th day of absence.

Consent of Parent or Guardian

A parent or guardian must sign a certificate consenting the student to participate in a sport.

Period of Participation

A student cannot participate in interscholastic athletics if:

- They have reached the end of their fourth consecutive year beyond the eighth grade. If a student repeats a grade after eighth, they will be ineligible as a senior.
- Participated in six seasons beyond the sixth grade or four seasons beyond the eighth grade.
- Completed grades nine, ten, eleven and twelve, inclusive.
- A student may participate in only one season in each sport during each school year.

Physical Examination

Before a student participates in a sport, a PIAA physical signed by the parent and a physician must be turned in. The physical form must be dated June 1 or after for the physical to be valid. (See information on physicals on the Athletics website) All athletes must be registered on Health Roster.

Academics

All students who participate in a PIAA or club sport must fulfill the requirements of the school as well as those of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and/or the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL).

On a weekly basis, Hampton students must fulfill the academic requirements listed below to be eligible to participate in practices and games. Academic eligibility lasts for one week: Monday-Sunday.

• Students must be passing a minimum of four (4) full credit courses.
• Students cannot be failing more than one course.
• Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0.

Students are responsible for turning in missed assignments and completing makeup work in a timely manner. All work must be submitted to teachers by Friday at 3:15PM.

The athletic office pulls academic eligibility Monday morning and shares the eligibility list with coaches.

Coaches are responsible for enforcing all eligibility standards (academic and disciplinary). (See the Athletic Director for detailed athletic eligibility information and other athletic policies.)

Obligations

Student athletes are responsible for all obligations prior to the start of their respective season. Obligations are released Monday at noon from the HS main office. If a student athlete has an obligation they must rectify that immediately in order to participate in a contest.

Residency

Managing residency requirements is the responsibility of the Athletic Office in conjunction with the guidance, building administration. Head coaches will serve this cause notifying the Athletics Office when new athletes join the team.

Any person who enrolls at HTSD from another school district will be subject all PIAA requirements.

All Star Contests

Please contact the Athletic Office immediately if invited to an all star contest as an underclassmen. PIAA has specific guidelines for all star contests.

Transfers

A student cannot transfer from one school to another in whole or in part for athletic purposes. Students who transfer for athletic purposes or if they have been recruited will lose their eligibility for one year.

*All students who transfer into the School District must check with the Principal or Athletic Director before they begin to participate with a team in order to verify their eligibility for interscholastic athletics.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN AN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP AT AN NCAA COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

The NCAA has established a set or requirements a student athlete must meet in order to obtain an athletic scholarship at a Division I or a Division II school. The student athlete must also be registered with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center.

Information concerning the academic requirements and registration with the NCAA can be obtained from the student's guidance counselor, the head coach or from the Athletic Director. (See Handout)

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS

All student athletes are responsible for the uniforms and equipment that are issued to them. Student athletes are responsible to take care of and maintain these supplies. **At no time should a student athlete loan their school issued equipment and/or uniforms to other members of the team.** If a student does loan supplies to another student, **they are still responsible for those supplies** and they must turn those supplies in at the end of the season. If a student athlete does not return all uniforms and equipment that was issued to them, they will be charged the replacement cost. The student's report card will be held until the items are returned or the replacement cost is paid. All uniforms will meet NFHS requirements.

If a student athlete requests a uniform jersey for an all star game (seniors only) or for senior pictures, etc. the uniform jersey request form must be completed.

HAZING

The School District has established a policy regarding hazing. The purpose of the policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the District and are prohibited at all times.

Hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, the physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any athletic program recognized by the School District.

> *Endanger of the physical health shall include, but not be limited to, any brutality of a physical nature, such as: whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug or controlled substance, or any other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the safety of the individual.*
>
> *Endanger of the mental health shall also include any activity that would subject an individual to extreme mental stress, such as: sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion ji-om social contact, forced conduct which would result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which would adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.*

The School District will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual that is involved in hazing another student or students.

If a student believes that she or he has been subject to hazing, the student should promptly report the incident to the head coach of that sport.

MEDICAL RELEASE/RETURN TO PLAY

If a student athlete sees a medical doctor for an injury, the student athlete must obtain a **written medical release,** signed by the physician, in order to be able to resume participation in the athletic program. The student athlete **will not** be permitted to resume participation in the athletic program until the written release is turned into the Certified Athletic Trainer or the head coach. The School District **will not** permit the parent or guardian of the student to write a release granting permission for the student to resume participation.

Return to Play

Hampton uses a 5-Step Return to Play protocol that will be implemented for all Hampton athletes that suffer a concussion. Graduated return to play is used to safely return an athlete to participation and will be administered by the Licensed Athletic Trainers at Hampton (under the direction of a Licensed Physician). The return to play protocol will begin once the athlete is symptom free and returned to baseline level (if available). It is designed to increase the exertion activity under the supervision of the licensed athletic trainer. Each step must be completed while symptom free before return to play is considered. A written clearance from a physician is also required.

If a concussion occurs out of season, either the PIAA physical form or the section 6/7 forms from the PIAA physical form must be completed to reflect clearance to return to play.

An athlete may not return to athletic participation until:

- Symptom free
- Written clearance by a licensed treating physician
- Return to baseline testing score if available
- Successfully complete the 5-step return to play protocol with the Hampton athletic trainers

PARTICIPATION RULES

In order to participate in an interscholastic athletics all participants must adhere to the following rules:

I. The school administration may revoke the privilege of participating in athletics at any time for disciplinary reasons, flagrant misconduct or poor sportsmanship, excessive absenteeism, and failure to meet minimum eligibility requirements.

2. Any student participating in athletics at minimum must meet all eligibility requirements of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and HTSD.

3. A student must be present at least one-half day (4 full academic periods excluding lunch and study halls) in school in order to participate in a practice or contest that day or evening.

4. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to **know** the rules, regulations, guidelines and practice/game times and practice locations of the team in which they are the participant.

5. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to **notify** the head coach, well ahead of time, if there is a conflict or problem that will cause them to miss a practice and/or game. The team rules will determine consequences.

6. Any student who is in internal suspension or external suspension **cannot practice or participate in a contest that day.** The student is not permitted to be on school grounds during the suspension.

7. Athletes may choose the sport in which they wish to enjoy, but once the season has started no one shall change sports without the consent of each coach involved.

8. No athlete who is removed from one squad for disciplinary reason shall be eligible to compete in another sport for that particular season.

10. Athletes cut from one sport may try out for another sport providing they were not cut from the first sport for disciplinary reasons. They also have to report to the new sport immediately.

11. No student may try out for a sport after the first cut has been made. The only exception to this would be if they were moving from another sport in which they have been cut.

12. No student may try out for a sport after the first scrimmage or regular season contest in that sport.

13. No athlete may start another sport until the previous one has been completed.

14. No athlete may participate full time on multiple teams within the same season without prior approval of the Athletic Director and head coaches involved. **All team rules must be adhered to for all student athletes to ensure consistency of the programs**. Missing practice or a contest

to attend the other sport will be considered an ***unexcused*** absence. If the participation is to the detriment of the programs involved the request will not be granted.

15. No student may participate in any type of conditioning program, camp clinic, and/or open gym for any off- season athletic program while currently participating in a recognized middle/high school athletic program.

In order to participate in an interscholastic athletic program the following forms **must be turned in prior to the start of the season:**

A. **Physical Form signed** by both parent/guardian and a physician and completed in Healthy Roster.

B. **Student/Parent Handbook Sheet** - signed by both parent/guardian and student.

PHYSICALS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association requires that all students participating in an interscholastic athletic program must receive a physical examination from a doctor. Physicals for the upcoming school year must be given and dated **after May 1**. A student completing a Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation need not have a recertification for a period of twelve (12) months, unless the student suffers a serious illness or injury within those twelve (12) months.

The physician doing the examination must fill out and sign the PIAA Physical Form. The District **cannot** accept any other documentation as proof of a physical.

It is the policy of the School District that the parent(s) or guardian(s) of students participating in interscholastic athletics or extracurricular activities requiring a physical examination will be responsible for the scheduling and the costs of the physical examination. AHN will have athletic physical opportunities. See the athletics page for details.

All information must be uploaded and completed in Healthy Roster.

PRACTICES

1. All students are expected to attend **all scheduled practices.**

2. High School practices are usually scheduled after school. There may be a practice scheduled during the evening or a Saturday/Sunday. The head coach will notify the participants when practices will be held.

3. If a student cannot attend a practice, **it is the responsibility of the student athlete to notify the head coach well ahead of time.**

4. Failure to attend scheduled practices can affect a student athlete's playing time in games and could result in disciplinary action. Please refer to head coaches team rules.

5. No practice arrangements, formal or informal, are permitted without the presence of supervisory coaching personnel.

TEAM SELECTION

It is the philosophy of the School District that as many students as possible participate in the Interscholastic Athletic Program.

The School District is aware the number of participants in a sport may have to be reduced. We require the coaches to follow the following philosophy:

- Middle School: Introduction to interscholastic sports, everyone on the team contributes to the level of their skill development while continuing to develop the skills of each player at the skill level and ability of that athlete, Playing time is based on the above skill level factors.
- Freshman: Development of sport skills, attitude and effort are emphasized, everyone contributes to the level of their skill development and ability, playing time is based on the above factors.
- Junior Varsity: Enhanced sport skills, enhanced competition, skill development is emphasized, everyone contributes to their skill and ability level, playing time will favor more skilled athletes who demonstrate proper attitude. **No Seniors will be permitted to participate at this level except for extenuating circumstances discussed with the Athletic Director.**
- Varsity: Mastery of sport skills, competitive, emphasis on how to succeed (through skills, effort, team), everyone contributes but contribution may be limited to practice as playing time will favor more skilled athletes who demonstrate proper attitude.

Coaches are encouraged to maximize the opportunities for the students without diluting the quality of the program. Time, space, facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport.

-The philosophy of the School District is to have as broad of participation as possible.

-If coaches determine it is necessary to have try-outs; the coaching staff will inform the student athletes of this when the students initially sign up for the sport and/or at the beginning of practice.

- Parents will be notified of the tryouts before they begin.

-Choosing the members of athletic teams is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those teams.
- Participation in booster organizations in regards to booster fees, fundraising opportunities, team gear, etc. prior to the first official practice date of that sport does NOT guarantee that a student athlete has secured a roster spot on that team. Coaches will NOT factor any such participation into the selection process of teams.

-All tryouts will be a 2-3 days (In the event a student has a previous injury/illness… they will receive 2-3 days to try out if feasible).

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship is one of the most important values that can be taught through participation in an interscholastic athletic program. It is the collective responsibility of the school administration, the coaching staff, the parents and the fans, to teach and promote the principles of good sportsmanship to the student athletes. It is the goal of the Athletic Program to consistently strive to demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship in all the athletic contests.

The student athletes, the coaches, the parents, and the fans are the spokespersons for our school when they participate or attend an athletic contest. The actions of these people are viewed by the opposing fans, the local community and the media. A display of good sportsmanship will show the most positive things about the

school.

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association has put into effect the following rule to signify the importance the State Association puts on good sportsmanship. This rule will apply to all students who participate in an interscholastic athletic contest.

ANY COACH OR CONTESTANT EJECTED FROM AN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONTEST BY A PIAA-REGISTERED OFFICIAL IN THAT SPORT FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT OR FLAGRANT MISCONDUCT SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM COACHING OR PARTICIPATING IN THE NEXT CONTEST AT THE SAME LEVEL.

If the offense is for fighting or foul language the PIAA suspension is 2 games.

Hampton Athletics will impose an additional game suspension for any PIAA Disqualification of a player/coach.

The School District reserves the right to impose additional penalties if they feel the actions of the coach or contestant warrant it.

Parents/spectators that are abusive to officials, coaches, opposing team spectators, game management and/or administration are subject to removal from the contest and further disciplinary actions up to and including being suspended from attending Hampton Athletic Contests, home or away. Each situation will be handled individually and written correspondence will be provided. (see Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct)

TRANSPORTATION & MEALS

1. The District will supply transportation to and from away contests. All students are **required** to go on the school bus **to and from** away contests.

2. The District does not supply athletic activity buses to transport students home on weekdays for after school practices.

3. If for some reason, a student cannot ride the bus back to the school after a game, the parent of the student must fill out the **Student Travel Release Form** by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled event. The Student Travel Release Form is available on the School District website.

4. Any team that is traveling for a **postseason** contest outside of the WPIAL boundaries will be provided a coach bus. Auxiliary groups transportation will be decided by the school district.

5. Meals may be provided for athletes and coaches for PIAA championships at the discretion of the Athletic Department. Meals for WPIAL playoffs or championship games will only be provided if the student athletes were not able to eat lunch at school. Breakfast - $15, Lunch - $15, Dinner - $25

ATHLETIC INFORMATION

The Hampton Township Athletic Website can be accessed by visiting the https://www.ht-sd.org/ and clicking directly on the Athletics tab at the top of the screen. This website will provide you with the latest happenings in Athletics including game scores, upcoming events, student-athlete signings, and more. If you are interested in viewing the day-to-day or weekly activity calendar, visit www.chartiersvalleywpial.org. Directions

to the game, match or meet can also be found at the link.

If you have any questions regarding the Interscholastic Athletic Programs do not hesitate to call the Athletic Department at 412-492-6389.

Additional Phone Numbers

Athletic Training
Room-412.486-6000 prompt 1 ext.
1077

SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

The athletic department will adhere to all aspects of the HTSD School code of conduct policies and procedures as set forth in the manual.

HAMPTON ATHLETICS PARENT/SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

The FUNdamentals of Good Sportsmanship:

PIAA and Hampton are strongly emphasizing the importance of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP. The one thing we need to realize is that many people have not had GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP explained to them. Hopefully the following will help everyone to understand their responsibilities at a Contest.

GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION FOR THE RULES OF THE CONTEST.
Know the rules. If you are uninformed, refrain from expressing opinions on officials, coaches, or administrative decisions. The spirit of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP depends on conformance to a rule's intent as well as to the letter of a given rule.

EXERCISE REPRESENTATIVE BEHAVIOR AT ALL TIMES.
Understand his/her own prejudices that may become a factor in his/her behavior. The true value of interscholastic competition relies upon everyone exhibiting behavior that is representative of a sound value base. A proper perspective must be maintained if the educational values are to be realized. Your behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not.

RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE SKILLED PERFORMANCES REGARDLESS OF AFFILIATION.
Recognize the opponent's good performance. It is a courtesy that should be regularly practiced. This not only represents GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP but also reflects a true awareness of the Contest by recognizing and acknowledging quality.

EXHIBIT RESPECT FOR CONTEST OFFICIALS.
The officials of any Contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the Contest are a part of the Contest. We should not rationalize our own poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on a **Contest official. The rule** of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is to accept and abide by the decision made. This value is critical for students to learn for later application in life.

DISPLAY OPENLY A RESPECT FOR THE OPPONENT AT ALL TIMES.
Opponents are guests and should be treated cordially, provided with the best accommodations, and accorded tolerance at all times. Be a positive representative for your school, team, or family. This fundamental is the Golden Rule in action.

DISPLAY PRIDE IN YOUR ACTIONS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.
Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgement and your responsibility as a school representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, athlete, coach, or official, this value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.

Hampton Twp. School District encourages:

- Enthusiastic support of your team
- Good sportsmanship
- Family friendly atmosphere
- Commitment to safety
- Welcoming attitude to all fans and visitors

Hampton Twp. School District respectfully asks that no food or drink be brought into the gym at any time

Unacceptable Behaviors:

- Disruptive or unruly behavior
- Foul or abusive behavior or obscene gestures
- Rudeness to fellow fans or Hazel Park personnel
- Spectators are not allowed on playing surfaces at any time
- Use of alcohol or tobacco at Hazel Park athletic events

Fans who display unacceptable behaviors will be subjected to sanctions, including refusal of admittance, removal, and arrest.

First Offense – The spectator will schedule to meet with the Athletic Director with resulting action that may include removal from the next two athletic contests of the same sport. A letter will be sent by the Athletic Director and Principal to the spectator in question notifying them of the ejection and the dates of ejection (if necessary).

Second Offense – The spectator will be removed from all home athletic contests and other school events and activities for the remainder of the school year of the infraction. A letter of ejection will be sent from the office of the Principal notifying the spectator of the remainder of the school year ejection.

Third Offense – The spectator will be removed from all home Hampton Twp. athletic contests and other school events and activities for a one-year period. A letter of ejection will be sent from the office of the Superintendent notifying the spectator of the ejection.

Any athletic official, including but not limited to, contest officials, Athletic Director, Principal, Assistant Principals, game site supervisors, and anyone else in an administrative role on the site, may uphold enforcement of an ejection.

While the Spectator/Fan Code of Conduct encompasses behavior expectations and consequences for both student and adult fans, Hampton Twp. administrators may apply further consequences to a spectator or a student ejected from a contest due to the student violating the Student Handbook

RESOURCES:

PIAA Constitution and By-Laws

Hampton High School Student Handbook

Chartiers Valley Athletic Handbook (adapted)

Chartiers Valley website information (adapted)

GAME ON

Updated August 2025