

Shelton School District STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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1. DISTRICT PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

The Shelton School District believes that vigorous and extensive athletics and activities are an integral part of the total school experience. Activities and athletics enrich learning opportunities, develop participant's skills and talents, teach the skills of cooperation and teamwork, and foster school spirit as well as community pride.

The athletic and activity programs of the Shelton School District are organized and coordinated in order to recognize and accommodate differing age related stages of skill development and participation while at the same time promoting excellence at the highest levels of competition. All district athletics and activities shall be aligned with the highest level of performance or competition to provide program consistency, promote and maintain the ideals of good sportsmanship, and provide opportunities for maximum participation. The district will attempt to maximize the number of participants to the extent possible. In an effort to increase opportunities for student participation, the district will, whenever possible, support and/or facilitate community-based programs and will seek ways to provide incentives for staff involvement.

The athletics and activities program requires careful planning, supervision and periodic evaluation. Within the framework of the district philosophy and in conjunction with school district administration, each school building will organize appropriate activity and athletic programs and standards that ensure the health, safety and general welfare of all participants. All interscholastic activities and events shall be in compliance with state law and the rules and regulations of their appropriate governing organizations.

2.0.0 PERSONAL VALUE OF SHELTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS

Students who participate in athletic programs of the Shelton School District can expect to gain the following:

- Develop a level of skill-related physical fitness through a well-organized and focused conditioning program.
- Learns the meaning and value of group interaction. Team members practice together, suffer and prosper whether winning or losing.
- Experience a competitive and challenging situation that promotes poise, emotional and mental stability when faced with difficult situations.
- Share a common experience with other students, parents, family members and the community who have experienced or enjoyed interscholastic athletics.
- Gain self-confidence.
- Experience the satisfaction of winning and the lessons of defeat.
- Learn to work cooperatively as a member of a group striving for a common goal.

3.0.0 WHAT WE EXPECT OF OUR ATHLETES

3.1.0 As an Individual:

- Develop my skills to the best of my ability and give my best effort always.
- Compete within the rules of the game.
- Respect the dignity of everyone and not be abusive or dehumanizing of others.
- Be accountable for my actions, take ownership.

3.2.0 As a member of a team:

- Place team goals before personal ones.
- Be a positive influence on the relationships on the team.
- Follow the team rules established by the coach.

3.3.0 As a member of society:

- Recognize that my behavior becomes a model others choose to emulate.
- Strive to be a positive influence in my community.

- Work toward the goal of giving a significant amount of my time to the betterment of my community.

1. **COMPETITIVE ATHLETIC OPPORTUNITY FOR 6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADERS**

A competitive athletic opportunity for 7th-8th graders is as follows: Football, Cheer, Girls Soccer, Cross Country, Boys Basketball, Dance, Wrestling, Girls Basketball, Girls Volleyball, Boys Soccer, Track

A competitive athletic opportunity for 6th graders is as follows: Cross Country and Wrestling

We are a member of the Tri-Country Middle School League, which is sanctioned by the WIAA.

5.0.0 **HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM 9TH-12TH GRADES**

All students in the 9th -12th grades will participate in an interscholastic athletic program as a representative of Shelton High School. In most sports, teams will be offered at the varsity, junior varsity and c-team team levels. A sport will be offered in one of three seasons. In the **fall season**, which runs from mid-August – mid-November, the sports offered are: cross country, football, girls soccer, girls swimming, boys tennis, boys golf, and girls volleyball. In the **winter season**, which runs from mid-November-mid-February, the sports offered are: boys basketball, girls basketball, girls bowling, boys swimming and wrestling. In the **spring season**, which runs from the beginning of March – end of May, the sports include: baseball, fastpitch, girls golf, boys soccer, girls tennis and track and field.

6.0.0 **ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

To participate in the Shelton School District athletic program a student:

NOTE: 6.1-6.3 apply to all grade levels

6.1.0 Must have a parent or guardian register the student and sign all forms (online or packet). The student must also sign all forms. In addition, they must purchase an ASB card.

6.2.0 May not be failing a class (see academic requirements).

6.3.0 All student athletes that participate in extra-curricular athletics at Shelton High School, Oakland Bay Junior High, or Olympic Middle School will be subject to an ASB fee. This must be paid before the first contest. Failure to do so will result in the student-athlete to become ineligible until paid.

6.4.0 Must be under 20 years of age on September 1 for the fall sports season, on December 1 for the winter sports season, and on March 1 for the spring sports season in high school and less than 16 yrs old prior to June 1st of the previous school year in Junior High.

6.5.0 Must be in regular attendance the preceding trimester and enrolled and in regular attendance during the first 15 days of the current trimester in which you intend to participate.

6.6.0 After entering of being eligible to enter the seventh grade students are eligible to participate in sports for a maximum of six (6) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility.

6.7.0 Cannot accept merchandise or in-kind gifts of more than \$500 in fair market value per season during any one calendar year August 1 through July 31, nor accept a cash award, nor enter a competition under an assumed name, nor have signed a contract to play or have ever played professionally in any sport, nor have received salary or assistance from a pro sports organization.

6.8.0 Must be declared eligible by the District Athletic Director or designee and provide evidence of eligibility registration to the coach or advisor of each activity.

6.9.0 STUDENT MEMBER OF A SCHOOL - Students must be regular members of the Shelton School District in order to participate in an interscholastic athletic activity. Students are a "regular member" of a school if they are enrolled half time or more, exclusive of interscholastic athletic activities.

6.10.0 HOME BASED EDUCATION – Home based students must register with the Shelton School District with the intent to home school. Home based students do not receive assistance from the school district, nor does the school district receive FTE funding or any other outside sources for them. Home based instruction students are categorized as regular members of a school. Therefore, to be eligible to participate in interscholastic contests/competitions, the student must:

- A. Meet both WIAA and school district eligibility requirement standards of all students, including transfer student requirements.
- B. Meet and adhere to the same team responsibilities and standards of behavior and performance of other members of the team/squad.
- C. Participate as a member of the public school in which service area he/she resides with his/her family unit. After registering with the school district as a home school student, a student is subject to the transfer rules if he/she subsequently changes schools.
- D. Provide the school administration acceptable documentation of any interscholastic eligibility standards required of all other student participants.
- E. Comply with WIAA and local school regulations during the time of participation.
- F. Comply with WIAA RCW 28A.225.010 (4).
- G. Provide to school authorities all required forms and documentation.

6.11.0 HIGH SCHOOL RUNNING START STUDENT ELIGIBILITY - A Running Start student's eligibility is through the public school of residence/record, where the student accesses the Running Start program.

6.11.1 Member of the School - The Running Start student must be included on the school's P-223 count submitted to OSPI. Running Start is considered a mainstream program. The school of eligibility must be the "School of Record" for the Running Start student and include the same transcript records as all other students.

6.11.2 Regular Attendance - The Running Start student must comply with the WIAA minimum eligibility standards of attendance and comply with local school attendance eligibility policies required of all other students.

Note: Students who access the Running Start Program at the community colleges may find themselves on a different academic calendar from their high school for academic eligibility.

6.11.3 Previous Semester/Trimester - The Running Start student shall meet the requirements by having been in regular attendance during the previous semester/trimester immediately preceding the semester/trimester in which the contest is held. Coursework will be monitored at any time and, at a minimum, the previous semester grades recorded on the official transcript. The School Eligibility Standards must be consistently applied to all students. School board (or schools so authorized by school district policy) adopted standards greater than WIAA standards must be applied.

6.12.0 TRANSFERRING STUDENTS - After registering with, attending, or participating with a middle level or high school, students changing enrollment to/from one school district to another school district or from one high school to another high school within a multiple high school district shall be considered transferring students. In order to be eligible for varsity competition, transferring students must meet the transferring student requirements, or be granted a waiver. This section shall also apply to those students receiving home based instruction.

6.13.0 PRACTICE REGULATIONS - School sponsorship or promotion of practice and/or participation in a given sport contest must be restricted to the WIAA designated season as defined for that sport. One day is equal to one practice for purposes of the minimum practice requirements. Practice days are considered Monday through Saturday.

6.14.0 CONCURRENT SPORTS LIMITATIONS - A student shall not compete concurrently in more than one interscholastic sport per season. The one exception to this rule shall be for the student who competes during an alternate season, qualifies for the state tournament, and is required to practice prior to competing in the state tournament.

6.15.0 NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION - During any sport season after joining a school squad, students may not participate on college and/or professional teams in that sport. Students are not to be given special treatment or privileges on a regular basis to enable them to participate in non-school athletic activities, such as reduced practice times, special workouts, late arrivals, or early dismissals.

7.0.0 ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

7.1.0 WEEKLY GRADE CHECKS: Grade checks will be conducted on Friday of each week or the end of each trimester. If an athlete is failing one class (failing grade is an F letter grade), he/she will be placed on probation for the following week, still able to practice and compete. If an athlete is failing the same class the following week they will not be eligible to compete in competitions for the following week (Monday-Sunday) until they are passing all classes. Athletes, who are academically ineligible, will not travel or attend away athletic competitions. Practices are still permitted and required unless otherwise arraigned with coaching staff.

7.2.0 END OF TRIMESTER GRADE CHECK: SHELTON SCHOOL DISTRICT (SSD) STANDARD – Athletes are required to pass all trimester classes.

Trimester 3 (Fall Sports)

- Athletes that fail one (1) or more classes in Trimester 3 will be placed on academic probation through the fourth Saturday in September. Current fall trimester grades will be checked on the Friday before the fourth Saturday of September and:
 - Athletes passing all classes at this time will be removed from probation.
 - Athletes failing two (2) or more classes at this time will be ineligible to participate in contests for the next three (3) weeks.
 - Athletes failing one (1) class at this time will be ineligible to participate in competition for 10% of the sport season (see chart below).
 - Athletes who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to travel or attend away athletic competitions. Practices are still permitted and required unless otherwise arraigned with coaching staff.

Trimester 1 (Winter Sports) & Trimester 2 (Spring Sports)

- Athletes that fail two (2) or more classes in Trimester 1 or Trimester 2 will be ineligible to participate in contests during the first five (5) weeks of the succeeding trimester. Current trimester grades will be checked on the Friday of the fifth (5th) week and:
 - Athletes passing all classes at this time will become eligible to participate in contests.
 - Athletes failing one (1) or more classes at this time will be ineligible to participate in contests until they are passing all classes.
 - Athletes who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to travel or attend away athletic competitions. Practices are still permitted and required unless otherwise arraigned with coaching staff.

SPORT	10% OF SEASON	SPORT	10% OF SEASON
Cross Country	1 Race	Bowling	2 Matches
Football	1 Game	Wrestling	1 Meet
Soccer	2 Games	Baseball/Softball	2 Games
Swim/Dive	1 Meet	Golf	1 Match
Tennis	1 Match	Track & Field	1 Meet
Volleyball	2 Games	Dance Team	2 Events
Basketball	2 Games	Cheerleading	1-2 Games

7.3.0 The District Athletic Director, or designee, will check grades via Skyward. It will be the athlete's responsibility to confirm he/she has raised a failing grade and bring a note from their teacher to the athletic office (an email from the athlete's teacher will be accepted as well).

- **HARDSHIPS:** Athletes may appeal SSD academic standards to the Athletic Director on a case-by-case basis to gain academic eligibility. WIAA Standards may NOT be appealed.

8.0.0 ATTENDANCE

Athletics is intended to foster development of the student as a whole and serve in support of the academic program. Athletes are expected to cooperate fully by attending classes all day in order to attend practice or participate in contests on the same date. Attendance will be tracked in the athletic office. Coaches receive a daily attendance report and are responsible for holding athletes out of participation for unexcused absences.

8.1.0 An exception will be made for family bereavement or emergencies; pre-arranged, school-related or school-approved activities; and doctor, dental or legal appointments (written documentation from the physician, dentist, etc., must be provided prior to the activity).

8.2.0 A student-athlete serving an in-school or out of school suspension may not participate in practice or contests during the duration of the suspension, plus they must complete practice days equivalent to half of the length of the suspension.

9.0.0 CONDUCT AND CONTROL FOR ATHLETES

All students who participate in athletic programs in the Shelton School District are expected to comply with all rules and regulations specified in the student handbook as well as a higher set of standards set for athletics. These standards are outlined in this section of the athletic handbook. Rule infractions may be dealt with through general school discipline policy, the athletic handbook discipline policy, or both as may be dictated by the circumstances. Discipline may include probation, in which the athlete remains an active participant, suspension from athletics for varying periods of time, in or out of school suspension, or termination from the sports program, depending on the frequency and/or the severity of the infraction.

9.1.0 ENFORCEMENT PERIOD - Any student having registered and/or participated in the athletic program is subject to the athletic code of conduct from the first day of registration throughout the entire calendar year, including summer break (365/24/7).

9.2.0 INFRACTIONS - The following acts by a student athlete on or off school premises may constitute sufficient cause for athletic discipline. These infractions may include but are not limited to the following: disruptive conduct, disobedience of reasonable interactions of school authorities, refusal to identify oneself, unauthorized absence from school, practice, or a game, cheating, immoral conduct, vulgarity, or profanity (including suggestive gestures or statements on items of apparel), destruction or defacing property; gang related activity, extortion, intimidation, harassment, bullying, hazing, racist remarks, fighting, assault, theft, use, sale or possession of drugs and/or related paraphernalia, tobacco, alcohol, marijuana or possession or use of any dangerous weapons or objects, or the commission of any criminal act as defined by law.

9.2.1 SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES - Student-athletes are responsible for information contained in written or electronic transmissions (e.g. e-mail) and any information posted on a public domain (e.g. internet, chat room, blogs, Facebook, YouTube, TikToc, Snapchat etc...). Inappropriate or embarrassing information or pictures should not be posted in any public domain. Student-athletes are not precluded from participation in such online social networks; however, student-athletes should be reminded that they serve as representatives of their team, the athletic program and the Shelton School District. Texting, tweeting and uses of other social networks to disparage or criticize the team, other students, opponents, coaches or other school personnel is inappropriate behavior and unbecoming of a Shelton School District student-athlete. Any individual identified on a social networking site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior under the district's Athletic Code or other District policy applicable to student athletes may be considered in violation and subject to athletic discipline or suspension per policy guidelines.

9.3.0 CONDUCT & CONTROL DEFINITIONS

In Season: Begins with the first WIAA allowed practice day and ends with the last scheduled state contest for that season.

Out of Season: School Year: Any time not in season during the school year beginning with the first WIAA date for fall sports and ending with the last WIAA date for state tournaments in the spring.

Summer Break: Interpreted as out of season beginning the day after the last state tournament in the Spring and ending August 1st.

Possession Actual: The athlete is in physical control of an illegal substance for the purpose of consumption, sale or for any other reason.

Constructive Possession: Includes the presence of an athlete at an on or off campus event at which the illegal possession of drugs or alcohol is evident.

NOTE: If a situation develops placing an athlete where alcohol or illegal drugs are present the athlete must vacate immediately and notify their parent or guardian and a school official (coach, athletic director, or principal) to inform them of their situation. Failure to do so will result in athletic exclusion for violation of the constructive possession clause of the athletic code.

9.4.0 STANDARD APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS

All sanctions shall be in effect immediately and continue through the grievance process, should there be one. In the event that a season ends before the sanction is completed, the remaining disciplinary action will be carried over to the next entire sports season in which the athlete participates. For any infraction of the athletic code unless otherwise specified a **minimum of one interscholastic contest** will be forfeited in addition to any competitions missed during the disciplinary period.

9.5.0 USE OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

The substance policy covers violations for the use, possession, or distribution of alcohol/controlled drugs/steroids/tobacco. For the purpose of the Athletic Code "drug" includes any narcotic, hallucinogen, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, prescription drugs, controlled substance, and mood-altering drug or substance, including alcohol.

Penalties for the use, sale, or possession of prescription drugs and controlled substances shall be:

9.5.1 1st Violation: A participant shall be immediately ineligible for interscholastic competition in the current sports season. Ineligibility shall continue until the next sports season in which the athlete wishes to participate unless the student accesses an assistance program. A student who seeks help for a problem with controlled substances (drugs, alcohol) shall be given the opportunity for assistance through the school and/or community approved assistance program. Successful utilization of and compliance with the athletic code may allow the student athlete to have eligibility re-instated.

9.5.2 First Offense In Season: The athlete will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The suspension may be modified to 25% of the regular season contests for the sport played and the athlete may be allowed to return to practice provided the re-admittance steps are satisfied. Contest will be rounded to nearest whole number.

If the season ends before the suspension from 25% of the contests is completed, the completion of the suspension will be served in the next sport season played.

9.5.3 First Offense Out Of Season: The athlete will be suspended for 10% of the regular season contests for the next sport to be played and will be allowed to start turning out for practice if the re-admittance steps are satisfied.

9.5.4 Re-admittance Steps - The Principal or designee will consider an application for reinstatement if the following steps are completed:

- A. Written request for re-admittance citing why you believe you should be granted your request.
- B. Completion of a drug/alcohol assessment by an individual or agency that is acceptable to the school district. Results will be shared with the school administration.
- C. Compliance with the recommendations of the assessment.
- D. Completion of any school suspension.

9.5.5 SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS - IN OR OUT OF SEASON

9.5.5.1 2nd Violation: A participant who violates for a second time pertaining to the use, sale, or possession of controlled substances shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one calendar year from the date of the second infraction.

9.5.5.2 3rd Violation: A participant who violates for a third time shall be permanently ineligible for interscholastic competition.

9.6.0 USE OF TABACCO (Vaping)

9.6.1 First Violation: Exclusion from one scheduled contest and a tobacco intervention.

9.6.2 Second Violation: Exclusion for the remainder of the season.

9.6.3 Third Violation: Exclusion indefinitely (administrative prerogative).

10.0.0 DISCIPLINE IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

10.1.0 ATHLETIC PROBATION

In the event athletic probation is imposed the coach will:

- A. Inform the District Athletic Director of the proposed discipline and secure approval.
- B. Inform the student-athlete of the length of the probationary period.
- C. Inform the student athlete of the deficiencies and how to correct them.
- D. Send an athletic discipline letter to the parent/guardian with copies to the district athletic director and principal.
- E. Upon completion of the probationary period notify the athlete. If the deficiency is corrected, the student athlete is removed from probation; if the deficiency is not corrected, the probationary period is extended or the student athlete is recommended for suspension.

10.2.0 ATHLETIC SUSPENSION

In the event athletic suspension is imposed the following will occur:

- A. The coach and district athletic director will meet with the athlete to impose the sanction.
- B. The District Athletic Director will notify the parent/guardian by phone detailing the action taken.
- C. Written notification of the suspension will be sent to the parent or guardian.

- D. Arrangements will be made to meet with the parents, if requested.

10.3.0 ATHLETIC EXCLUSION

Prior to the exclusion of any student athlete from the athletic program, a conference will be conducted with the student athlete to inform them of the alleged misconduct and to allow the athlete an opportunity to present an explanation. If the explanation is unsatisfactory proceedings will continue as follows:

- A. The head coach and/or district athletic director will present to the parent/guardian and student athlete an oral and/or written notice of alleged misconduct and violation of school district rules; the evidence of school district rules; the evidence in support of the allegations; and the possible disciplinary sanction to be imposed.
- B. The student will be given the opportunity to present evidence in their defense.
- C. Following the conference, the District Athletic Director will make a determination as to the disciplinary action to be taken and notify the principal of the sanction.
- D. If athletic exclusion is imposed, written notice will be sent by mail to the student athlete and parent/guardian containing the following information:
 - a. The action taken (exclusion from participation).
 - b. The reason for such disciplinary action.
 - c. The right to an informal conference with the principal.

11.0.0 PRACTICES

An athlete is expected to be at all scheduled practices, meetings, contests and performances whether or not school is in session. If an individual is to be excused from practice they must contact the coach in advance to be excused or have a signed and valid excuse from their parent upon return. The coordinated development of team skills and the safety of each team member is enhanced by regular participation. Teams having a limited number of places on the squad require regular attendance by each team member in fairness to those who are excluded from participation. An athlete must be in attendance on a school day to practice. If you are too ill to attend school, you will not be allowed to practice. Practices will not occur on Sundays unless the District gives specific permission. Required practices may be scheduled on Saturdays and school holidays. Coaches will provide a schedule of Saturday and holiday practices well in advance. An optional practice may be held on the day school is cancelled, provided the driving conditions are satisfactory for students to travel. Students are encouraged to participate in non-school sport activities but WIAA rule does not allow them to be given special treatment or privileges on a regular basis to enable them to participate in non-school athletic activities, such as reduced practice times, special workouts, late arrivals, or early dismissals. A head coach may remove any student who cannot be reasonably expected to attend at least 90% of all practices.

Truancy from practice may result in suspension for the next contest, event or team as determined by the coach and/or district athletic director.

12.0.0 TEAM SELECTION/PLAYING TIME

12.1.0 Because of the nature of some sports and because of some facility limitations, it sometimes becomes necessary to limit the number of participants on a given team. We believe in our coaches. They are hired by the Shelton School District to manage and direct a specific athletic activity. Their responsibilities include evaluating and selecting students for teams as well as determining the degree to which each student will participate.

12.2.0 Head coaches may have additional rules and regulations which they feel are necessary and are not in violation of any rules and regulations of this code. Coaches must inform all of their players of additional rules and regulations and the rules must be in writing and distributed to all participants and signed by parent/guardian and returned to the coach prior to the first interscholastic contest. Violation of these rules may result in loss of playing time. Additional rules and/or regulations must first be approved by the athletic director.

12.3.0 Coaches' decisions regarding team personnel are based on a variety of factors. Some of these include the athletes' skill levels, teamwork, behavior, consistent performance, and grades. Any one, or any combination of these, plus other possible factors are weighed very carefully in this process.

12.4.0 Regardless of the subjective nature of the process and the potential for disagreement, only the coach is in the position to make selections for membership and playing time.

12.5.0 Each participant will be given an equal opportunity for evaluation. Substantiated emergency circumstances may require alternative opportunities for evaluation. Circumstances will be reviewed by the coach and athletic director.

13.0.0 INJURIES

All injuries must be reported to the coach and Certified Athletic Trainer. The Certified Athletic Trainer or coaching staff will treat injuries and will administer first aid and therapy if in their judgment it is needed. For injuries of a serious nature such as fractures, the coach/trainer shall require that a licensed medical practitioner check an injury and clear the athlete before returning to the activity. The clearance must be a written statement and if the return is on a limited basis, the statement must define what limitations are required. The following information must be included in the statement:

- A. Date of examination.
- B. Diagnosis
- C. Date of clearance
- D. Recommended treatment

The clearance statement must be presented to the Certified Athletic Trainer prior to the student-athlete being allowed to return to practice. The Certified Athletic Trainer will notify the coach and athletic director of the athletes' clearance to return to practice.

14.0.0 LETTERING & TEAM HONORS

Completion of the sport season in good standing is required in order for a student to be eligible for a letter and/or other team individual awards (exception: injury which limits participation). No awards shall be given to any student suspended for the remainder of the season as a result of an Athletic Code of Conduct violation or a suspension from school. A senior in good standing who has been in the program three seasons without meeting the lettering requirements for the sport but participated in at least 90% of the scheduled team activities will be granted a letter in recognition of their level of commitment to the sport if they meet the minimum criteria required of all athletes to be eligible for consideration for a varsity letter in high school sports.

A **minimum** of the following criteria must be met to become eligible for consideration for a varsity letter:

- Turn in all team equipment (uniforms, warm-ups, etc.) or pay appropriate fines for damaged or lost items.
- Play a significant role in the development of the team, as determined by the coaching staff.

NOTE: It is the coaches discretion as to who is eligible for a letter or other individual team award.

15.0.0 EQUIPMENT PROCEDURES

School equipment issued to the student-athlete is their responsibility. The student-athlete is expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Athletes will be financially responsible for non-returned, lost, stolen, or damaged equipment that has been assigned to them. Flagrant disregard for school equipment will not be tolerated and may result in athletic exclusion.

An athlete will not be able to turn out for a sport season if they have outstanding equipment, uniforms, or fines from a prior season. Exceptions may be granted by the district athletic director.

16.0.0 LOCKER ROOMS

Keep assigned lockers secure and locker rooms clean.

16.1.0 Valuables – Do not bring valuables as thefts do occur. Athletes are responsible for their property and should not leave it in another's care. Do not share lockers or give anyone else you combination.

16.2.0 Hazing – "Rough-housing" or "horse-play" of any sort will not be tolerated.

16.3.0 Showers – Coaches will strongly advise athletes to shower after each game and practice for health and sanitary reasons. Showers are required in activities such as wrestling where skin-to-skin contact occurs.

17.0.0 TRAVEL RULES FOR ATHLETES

Athletes are ambassadors of the Shelton School District and the Shelton community. As a representative, athletes are expected to conduct themselves to the highest standard of excellence in behavior, manners, and dress. The following rules will be enforced whenever it is necessary to travel to off-campus sites:

17.1.0 Athletes must travel to and from athletic contests in which transportation is provided by the school district. An exception to this expectation can be granted for an athlete to travel with their parent or guardian, if the parent gets prior approval from the District Athletic Director to transport their child. For liability reasons, such exceptions must be documented in writing by filling out a travel request form before the event. After an athletic contest, a parent or guardian can sign the sign-out sheet provided by the head coach after an athletic contest. ONLY someone who is a parent, guardian, or someone on a student's emergency contact list can sign out an athlete.

17.2.0 Under no circumstance will an athlete be allowed to travel with another student in a private vehicle to or from a contest out of town.

17.3.0 Athletes will remain with their squad under the supervision of their coach when attending any contests, practices, or school sponsored activity.

17.4.0 Misconduct while traveling to and from a contest or practice and while in attendance at an event is unacceptable and will be addressed per student handbook regulations.

17.5.0 Each athlete will be responsible for meals and extraneous expenses while traveling. A meal allowance will only be provided by the Shelton School District while at a STATE competition.

18.0.0 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

18.0.1 STEP 1: INFORMAL CONFERENCE

Any student athlete, parent or guardian who does not agree with any athletic discipline has the right to an informal conference with the principal, or his/her designee, and any other employee involved. A request for an informal conference will be made within five school days of the written notice of the action, or the right of grievance is forfeited. At the informal conference, the student athlete, parent/guardian will be subject to questioning by the principal or designee and will be entitled to question school employees involved in the matter being grieved.

18.0.2 STEP 2: FORMAL CONFERENCE

Any student athlete and parent/guardian who does not agree with any athletic discipline following the informal conference may, within three school days, present a written and/or oral grievance to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

18.0.3 STEP 3: SCHOOL BOARD

If the grievance is not resolved, the student and parent/guardian, within three school days, may present a written and/or oral grievance to the Board of Directors to be dealt with at its next scheduled meeting. Any such grievance to the board will be made within three school days after previous decisions have been rendered. The Board of Directors will notify the student athlete and the student athlete's parent or guardian in writing of its decision within 10 school days following the meeting.

19.0.0 ATHLETIC COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

19.1.0 COMMUNICATION TO EXPECT FROM YOUR ATHLETE'S COACH:

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectations the coach has for your son/daughter.
- Location and times of practices and contests.
- Team requirements: equipment, off-season training, etc.
- Procedures you should follow should your son/daughter become injured during participation.
- Participant conduct code and consequences for not following these guidelines.
- Requirements to earn a letter.
- Disposition of lost/outstanding equipment at the end of the season.
- Communication concerning your athlete's role on the team and how he/she fits into the future of the program.

19.2.0 COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS:

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach first.
- Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance.

- Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

19.3.0 CONTACTING THE COACH:

As your son/daughter becomes involved in the athletic programs in our district, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is also important to understand that there will be times when things do not go the way your son/daughter wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be the quickest and most effective way to clear up issues, avoid misunderstandings, and create opportunities for life lessons.

19.3.1 APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH THE COACH:

- The treatment of your son/daughter, psychologically and physically.
- Ways to help your son/daughter improve.
- Concerns about your son/daughter's behavior.

19.4.0 SCHEDULING A CONFERENCE:

Some situations may require a conference between the coach, the athlete and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important that all parties involved have a clear understanding of the other person's role and position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help resolve the concern.

1. Please do not approach the coach before or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings at these times usually do not work well for any of the parties involved.
2. Your son/daughter should first talk to the coach about his or her concerns.
3. Call to set up an appointment with the coach.
4. If the coach cannot be reached after a reasonable time, contact the athletic director and they will arrange an appointment for you.
5. If your meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, set an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.
6. If the issues remain unresolved after conferring with the coach and athletic director, an appointment should be made with the school principal.
7. The Office of the Superintendent should be involved only after all other avenues have been exhausted.

19.5.0 COACH IS A PROFESSIONAL:

At times it may be difficult to accept the fact that your student is not playing as much as you or he/she would like. Your coach is a professional who makes a judgment decision based on what they believe is best for the team and all involved. As you have seen from the above list, certain things can and should be discussed with the coach. We ask that other things, such as those that follow, be left to the discretion of the coach.

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Matters concerning other student-athletes.

19.6.0 PLEASE REMEMBER!

The game is played for fun! Scholarships are rare. Let players play, coaches coach, officials officiate. Remain positive in the face of adversity. Recognize failure as part of the learning process. Follow the hierarchy of communication below:

19.6.1 ATHLETE CONCERN (PERSONAL)

Step 1: The athlete must first talk to the coach by himself/herself.

Step 2: A parent and player meeting with the coach will not occur until step 1 has taken place.

Step 3: A parent meeting with the athletic director will not be scheduled until step 2 has been completed. If a meeting is scheduled, the coach and player will be required to attend.

19.6.2 PARENT CONCERN (PROGRAM)

Step 1: The parent must meet with the coach.

Step 2: The parent may not meet with the athletic director until step 1 is completed. The meeting will include the coach.

20.0.0 SPORTSMANSHIP

As a member school of the WIAA and its affiliate league we will abide by the “Just Play Fair” sportsmanship campaign. It is the responsibility of every athlete and adult to serve as a positive role model for our student body. Only positive cheers, signs, and chants that support our players, coaches, and the officials will be used. Player and spectator conduct will be positive, directed only to support our team, and not derogatory to our opponents or disruptive to the contest. It is the expectation of our school and community that athletes and spectators respect the rights of others by showing courtesy and consideration for all visitors and by accepting responsibility and the consequences for their actions. Our community has recognized the value of school activities as a vital part of education and sportsmanship as an integral part of the extra-curricular process.

20.1.0 SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENTS

20.1.1 SHELTON SCHOOL DISTRICT: Show pride, class, and respect. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat. Please enjoy the contest. In our schools every one is a winner.

20.1.2 2A Evergreen League: Please show pride, class, and spirit. Respect all athletes, coaches, fans, and officials. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat. Strive to represent your school, community, and league with pride and dignity. Most of all, remember to enjoy the game and promote good sportsmanship.

20.1.3 5th-8th GRADE PLEDGE: I pledge, as a member or supporter of a competitive school sport program offered to 5th-8th grade students in the Shelton School District to use only positive cheers and chants to encourage and support the players, coaches and officials. I understand participant and spectator conduct at all athletic events should be of a positive nature and not disruptive to the contest.

20.2.0 ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS - An individual can model sportsmanlike behavior by:

- Accepting the decision of officials
- Applauding good plays by either side
- Acknowledging opponents with positive remarks
- Following the lead of the cheer squad and not making up individual chants
- Treating the competition as a game and not a personal war or vendetta
- Showing concern for an injured player, regardless of team affiliation
- Encouraging and modeling sportsmanlike conduct.

20.2.1 SPECTATORS

Spectators are requested to:

- Remember that the game is for the players.
- Refrain from distracting the players during play.
- Recognize skill in performance regardless of affiliation.
- Treat the officials with respect at all times.
- Display good conduct and do not use abusive language.
- Cooperate and respond enthusiastically to pep squad members.

21.0.0 EJECTION FROM A CONTEST

Conduct resulting in an ejection from an interscholastic contest administered by game officials, coaches or school administrators shall result in the following:

21.1.0 For the remainder of the contest in which the ejection occurred:

- A. When a student is ejected, the coach continues to be responsible for the student. The student shall remain with the team.
- B. When a coach or other adult school representative is ejected, the coach or other adult school representative must vacate the playing area (gymnasium, field, and stadium.) If a head coach is ejected, an assistant coach or any school district personnel authorized to supervise students may assume the head coaching responsibilities for the remainder of the contest. If no other school district personnel are on site, the contest will be terminated, and forfeiture declared.

21.2.0 The school athletic director is required to submit an ejection report online to the WIAA office within 1 school business day following the completion of the contest in which the ejection occurred.

21.3.0 The first ejection of the season shall result, at a minimum, in the ejected person (student, coach, other school representative) being ineligible until after the next school contest in that sport at the same level of competition from which the person was ejected has been completed.

- A. An ejection due to violent conduct by a player or a coach or abusive language by a coach shall result in a suspension equal to twenty percent (20%) of the number of allowable contests for that sport as indicated below.

Number of regular season contests in that sport 1-7 (1), 8-11 (2) 12-15 (3) 16-20 (4)

- 1. Violent conduct is defined as the commission of a violent act against an opponent, official, spectator, teammate or other individual(s) when in or out of play. A player or coach is guilty of violent conduct if he/she uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not in the play. He/she is also guilty of violent conduct if he/she uses excessive force or brutality against teammate, spectator, official or any other person. Violent conduct may occur either on the field of play or outside its boundaries, whether the person is in play or not.
 - 2. Abusive language is defined as harsh or insulting language or profanity directed towards another individual.
- B. Even though a jamboree does not count as a contest for the purposes of meeting the suspension period, the suspended person is not allowed to participate in a jamboree.
 - C. A student who is on suspension may be on the team bench, but not in the school uniform, during the suspension period.
 - D. Any coach ejected shall not be involved in coaching to any degree during the contest from which he/she is suspended and shall not be allowed into the facility (gymnasium, field, stadium, locker room or hallway, etc.) during the suspension period.

21.4.0 Should a participant be unable to complete a suspension during the sports season in which the ejection occurs, the suspension shall be carried over into the participant's succeeding season of participation. In order for the suspension in the succeeding season of participation to meet this requirement, the participant must be a member of the team for the entire season for that sport.

21.5.0 The second ejection in the same sport and season shall result in ineligibility for the remainder of the season of that sport.

21.6.0 For aggressive physical contact with an official, the WIAA Executive Director has the authority to suspend the individual from further competition for a period not to exceed one (1) calendar year.

22.0.0 DISCLOSURES

22.1.0 SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is unlawful discrimination based on sex. Sexual harassment, both *quid pro quo* and *hostile environment*, is considered a form of gender discrimination under Title IX. Shelton School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not tolerate sexual harassment or suggestions of a sexual nature whether verbal, visual, or physical by anyone in the work or educational setting. Sexual harassment may constitute a civil or criminal offense. Federal, state, and local government statutes and policies will be followed in instances of sexual misconduct.

22.2.0 TITLE IX STATEMENT

Shelton School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability or any other basis prohibited by law. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extra-curricular school activities. The District supports the spirit, policies, and practices of affirmative action, and has implemented programs to address the diversity of our community.