



Athletic Handbook

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Athletic
Handbook

Revised in January 27, 2019

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Student-Athlete Candidates:

Your son/daughter is a student-athlete for International Programs School's Athletic Program as part of an IPS athletic team. Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate commitment for the whole season in order to complete IB-CAS requirements. We need your help in reinforcing essential school practices and policies regarding interscholastic athletics. These are found in the enclosed IPS Student-Athlete handbook of athletic rules and regulations for participation. Participation in IPS' Athletic Program is a privilege, not a right, and carries with it responsibilities to IPS, the team, the student body, and IPS' school community. IPS student-athletes must be responsible and make commitments which includes and implies sacrifice, dedication to physical fitness, a healthy lifestyle, sportsmanship and, most importantly, academics.

An athlete who accepts the privilege of participating in our athletic program accepts responsibility to be an ambassador for International Programs School. This responsibility applies whether the student-athlete is on campus or at a competitor's school as a player or spectator. While all students at IPS are expected to conform to IPS' Student Behavior Policy, 2.4.N. ([Family Handbook](#)), student-athletes, because of their visibility, have the additional responsibility to maintain a healthy mind and body, good sportsmanship and a positive attitude in all sporting competitions and training sessions.

All parents and athletes are required to read the enclosed IPS Athletic Rules and Regulations of Participation document as well as supporting appendices before completing the contract in order to participate. Any questions regarding these rules may be directed to the coaches or Athletic Directors.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please join us in supporting your child, their team, and IPS' Athletic Program.

ATHLETIC RULES & REGULATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Athletes are reminded that athletic and sport-specific rules and school policies in regard to attendance, grades, and behavior must be followed. IPS' Student Behavior Policy, 2.4.N. ([Family Handbook](#)) is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. All student athletes are required to conform to its rules as well as with the Athletic Rules and Regulations.

Acceptable Attendance and Behavior

Students who wish to participate in the Athletic Program must be in academic good standing, have acceptable attendance, exhibit conduct becoming of a student-athlete, and maintain good behavior records. The conduct of an athlete shall be closely observed in many areas of life, in and outside of IPS.

Conduct Becoming a Student-Athlete:

- Student-athletes must always remember that they are representatives of their school and community.
- Student-athletes must make a constant effort to project a positive, respectful image at IPS and as representatives of IPS at other schools.
- Student-athletes should always be considerate of those around them and never allow themselves to get into embarrassing situations that may disgrace himself or herself, the IPS athletic department or International Programs School.
- Student-athletes always display good sportsmanship, are respectful in language and actions toward officials, are a good role model at IPS, and demonstrate appropriate classroom conduct toward teachers and other students.
- Student-athletes are respectful toward coaches, teachers, administrators, teammates, officials, and opponents.

Practice Attendance:

All athletes need to be in attendance at all scheduled practices unless excused by the coach. Unexcused absences may result in suspension or dismissal from the team. Athletes need to be on time for practice. Arriving late or being absent from practice can result in not starting the following game. The athlete who will be absent from a practice or a game, must inform the coach(es) by email as soon as he or she knows that he or she will be absent. Student athletes will attend at least 50% of class periods to be able to practice.

School attendance on game days and after game days is required. Athletes should maintain a good attendance record at school.

Reporting a Violation of IPS' Code of Conduct and/or IPS' Athletic Rules and Regulations

Any athlete observed exhibiting conduct unbecoming an athlete at any time may be referred to the Athletic Director. Poor sportsmanship and other behavior unbecoming an athlete representing IPS also may result in suspension or dismissal from IPS' athletic programs. Such violations may be reported by any student or adult. Athletic Directors will investigate the alleged violation and determine which disciplinary action, if any, should be imposed. Athletic Directors need to advise their respective principal of the alleged violation.

Consequences for Violating IPS' Student Behavior, 2.4.N. (Family Handbook 2016)

A student athlete who violates IPS' Student Behavior Policy, 2.4.N. ([Family Handbook](#)) will be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures under the Athletic Rules and Regulations, in addition to other discipline imposed by the school.

Consequences imposed on a student athlete might include:

- A single game suspension
- Multi-game suspension
- A one-year suspension from participating on athletic teams or in competitions/tournaments, etc
- Permanent removal from IPS' interscholastic athletics; or
- Any other consequences deemed appropriate including IB-CAS report.

Please note that the referenced consequences are advisory recommendations. The Athletic Director has the authority to depart from these recommendations based on the nature of the offense and disciplinary records of the student athletes.

Other Misconduct

Examples of conduct unacceptable for student-athletes include, but not limited to:

- Truancy or unexcused absences from school or classes
- Insubordination or lack of cooperation toward school personnel
- Fighting; ejection from a contest; vandalism; violation of the rights of others
- Stealing; cheating; and any other conduct deemed "unbecoming of an athlete."

Appendix A: MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Mandatory requirements for participation in Athletic Programs include:

1. Satisfactory attendance and behavior records;
2. Adherence to any identified sport specific rules and regulations; and
3. Adherence to all other IPS' Student Behavior Policy, 2.4.N. ([Family Handbook](#)) or Athletic Code Requirements

Sport Specific Rules

Coaches may establish essential agreements and regulations that govern practice and competition (these may supplement IPS' Athletic Rules and Regulations but not conflict with said rules). Coaches have the authority to initiate discipline of team members engaging in conduct that is unacceptable of a student athlete. Sport specific rules must be clearly communicated to parents and athletes in writing. These rules must have prior approval and be on file with the Athletic Director.

Violation of all other School or Athletic Code Requirements:

Time out suspension for in-school behavior by IPS administration may automatically results in game suspension for the remainder of the current season. Violation of all other athletic code requirements is subject to intervention ranging from disciplinary action to dismissal, determined by the coach of the team, Athletic Director, and/or Principal.

Appendix B: CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATING THE ATHLETIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

International Programs School adheres to a three-tiered approach regarding consequences to violations of the Athletic Rules and Regulations. The three tiers of consequences are intended to facilitate the goals of an educational institution to alert, inform, and provide students with an opportunity to learn from mistakes and be successful with future choices. Athletic Rules and Regulations will be in effect from the beginning of the student athlete's initial interscholastic participation at IPS through the student-athlete's high school graduation. The beginning of the season is defined as the first day of practice.

The disciplinary actions notes are advisory recommendations for penalties. The Athletic Director and/or Senior Administration have the authority to depart from these recommendations based on the nature of the offense and disciplinary records of the involved student athletes. As a general rule, discipline will be progressive and subsequent violations occurring during the same school year will result in increased penalties for the student-athlete.

A violation of the rules typically will result in the following:

- **First Offense:** Suspension from participation in 20% - 30% of the regularly scheduled contests of the team on which he/she is playing.
- **Second Offense:** Suspension from participation in 50% - 60% of the regularly scheduled contests of the team on which he/she is playing.
- **Third Offense:** Dismissal from the team for a period up to one calendar year. All final decisions regarding the appropriate sanction to be imposed for a violation of the rules are appealable to Athletic Directors and Senior Administration. An athlete dismissed from the program or who quits the program will forfeit her/his letter award.

Carry-Over:

If the duration of the consequence goes beyond the end of the current season, it may carry over to the next season in which the student athlete participates. It will not affect the tryout period for the next season and will be thoroughly evaluated by the Athletic Directors and Senior Administration.

Suspensions:

Suspensions apply only to regularly scheduled contests or events and do not include scrimmages.

Loss of Leadership Positions and Post-Season Honors:

Any violation of the rules will result in loss of team captaincy and/or other athletic leadership positions. Athletes who violate the rules will be ineligible for postseason awards from International Programs Schools. This includes Outstanding Achievement, Most Valuable Player, etc. as determined by the team coach.

Self-Referral

1st offense only: In recognizing the importance of the values of honesty, principle, and integrity, any first-time violations that are self or family reported, prior to IPS' initiation of an investigation and/or disciplinary proceedings against the student athlete, typically will receive a reduction in penalty of 50%.

Implementation of Suspension:

Suspensions begin immediately after the athlete is determined to be in violation of the IPS' Code of Conduct and/or the Athletic Rules and Regulations. All violations of the Code of Conduct and/or Athletic Rules and Regulations shall be maintained in the student athlete's athletic record and the student athlete's history of violations shall be considered when determining appropriate sanctions for misconduct. Student-athletes cannot practice or participate in contests during periods of in/out of school suspension. On game days, the suspended student-athlete may attend the athletic contest and sit on the bench (not in the team uniform), if approved by the principal.

Transportation to Athletic Contests

All players will ride with their teams to athletic competitions played outside of IPS. Players are not allowed to drive themselves, transport teammates, nor be transported by parents. Parents are allowed to sign players out to take them home once the competition is finished.

Injuries:

There are inherent risks of injury associated with sport participation. Injuries should be reported to the coach immediately. If an injury occurs, the athlete needs to communicate with the coaches and/or school nurse first before seeing a doctor, as appropriate.

Financial Concerns:

School issued uniforms are the financial responsibility of the student if they are not returned at the end of the season.

Tournaments:

Local and/or International: Participation in out-of-town competition is a privilege. Tournaments are dependent upon the potential verbal and financial commitment of the player's parents by the announced deadline.

Appendix C: ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

[2016+ Assessment Policy](#) [Academic Honesty Policy 2017+](#)

A Middle or High School student who receives two or more unsatisfactory grades (below a C-), or one failing grade (F) will be put on academic probation. Students on probation **might** be limited in their co-curricular participation until academic performance is at the C or better level, as per the principal's discretion.

Academic Requirements

A student who receives, at the end of any grading period or at the end of two team grade-check periods, a grade below C (72 or lower) in any class may not participate in extracurricular athletics for two school weeks. A completed team grade-check sheet submitted to the coach every two weeks is the responsibility of every player. Any student with grades lower than a C / C+ (73-79) will be on probation until the next grade-check. However, an ineligible student may practice. An ineligible student is not allowed to travel with the team. The student regains eligibility after the seven (7) calendar days waiting period has ended following the two weeks evaluation period when the principal and teachers determine that he or she has earned a passing grade (C or above) in all classes, other than those that are on the advanced list.

Academic Probation: [Assessment Policy @ IPS 2017+](#)

Athletes Failures and probation - the following will be used by administration to support students:

- Students may not be given a failing grade on a report card unless the parent has received documented notice indicating that that student is failing. Parents of students experiencing any difficulties **MUST** be informed of these challenges.
- A Middle or High School student who receives two or more unsatisfactory grades (below a C-), or one failing grade (F) will be put on academic probation. The student will remain on academic probation until he/she has earned a C average with no more than one unsatisfactory grade in any subject. Students who receive an F in any course will continue on probation until the principal notes significant improvement.
- Students on probation may be limited in their co-curricular participation until academic performance is at the C or better level.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS SCHOOL ATHLETIC CONTRACT TERMS OF AGREEMENT FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Parent Section

I, _____, have read the IPS Athletic Handbook Rules and Regulations of Participation document as well as its supporting appendices online. I understand the requirements which apply to International Programs School student athletes. I agree to those terms and conditions.

As such, I give _____ permission to participate in _____ (Student's Name)

_____ during the _____ school year. (Sport and Level)

In giving my permission for my child's participation in this sport, I understand and recognize the potential hazards of participation in this sport and that injuries may occur as a result of this participation. I affirmatively state that my child is also aware of the potential injuries, is in good health, and has no conditions which would prevent participation in this sport or increase the risk of injuries as a result of such participation.

Parent's Signature

Date

Athlete Section

I have read and understand the contents of the IPS Athletic Handbook Rules and Regulations of Participation documents and supporting appendices online. I agree to those terms and conditions. I agree to be bound by the Code of Conduct and regulations for participation in athletics. I understand that, by participating in a sport, I am a representative of International Programs School and a role model for fellow students. I agree to behave myself in an acceptable and appropriate fashion. I further understand that participation in the Athletic Program is a privilege, not a right, and is subject to International Programs School rules and regulations.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date