

San Dieguito Union High School District

Player / Parent Athletic Handbook

2016 - 2017

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Purpose

The purpose of athletics is to contribute to the overall educational experience of the balanced and total student. Concepts learned through athletics include teamwork, integrity, sportsmanship, restraint, persistence, leadership, self-esteem, discipline, and humility. Student-athletes will be expected to adhere to the following code of behavior:

Athletes strive to:

- At all times represent their school in a positive manner.
- Be on time; be enthusiastic, dependable, loyal, and cooperative.
- Be responsible and open to coaching.
- Be a team player and support their teammates.
- Abide by the general rules of discipline as established for you by the CIF, CIFSDS, and SDUHSD.
- Place academics first.
- Strive to improve.
- Demonstrate respect for teachers, coaches, and fellow athletes at all times.
- Maturely accept constructive criticism and take responsibility for his/her actions.
- Use appropriate language.

Participation on an athletic team is a privilege that is extended to every student who is eligible under regulations set up by CIF, CIF-San Diego Section (CIFSDS), and the San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD). Every privilege includes responsibility. The conduct of a student-athlete is closely observed by many people. An athlete is a representative of the team, the school, and the community. Therefore, it is important that each student-athlete be a gentleman or lady of high moral integrity and class at all times and in all places. This extends into the classroom, beyond the playing field and within the community.

Governing Body

California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) - Athletic competition is an integral part of the high school experience. CIF is uniquely positioned to foster student growth in values and ethics. CIF's operating principles of "Pursuing Victory with Honor," provides the opportunity to dramatically influence the actions of the athletic community. CIF strives to strengthen the integrity of students and adults across the state by promoting the concepts of sportsmanship, honesty, and quality academics. These priorities advance the highest principles of character—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship.

CIF—San Diego Section

The CIF-San Diego Section is a voluntary association of public, private, and parochial high schools. The Board of Managers is the governing body. The members of the Board are public school superintendents and private school representatives of 97 member high schools and 135,000 students. It is one of ten sections throughout the State of California.

The San Diego Section encourages and assists high school students, through participation in interscholastic athletics, to develop and strengthen values, attitudes, and skills that will promote their personal growth as individuals and as members of a diverse society. In addition, its purpose is to cultivate more cordial and friendly relations among schools through good standards of sportsmanship. The San Diego Section administers and conducts varsity level championship playoffs in 26 sports for the young men and women attending our member schools. The CIF-SDS is committed to preparing young men and women for a better tomorrow and to working with educators, parents, and the community to establish and maintain excellent high school athletic programs. For more information, visit their website www.cifsd.org.

Eligibility Rules, Regulations and Transfers

An athlete who participates in athletics agrees to abide by rules. These rules are the result of the combined efforts of four different groups; CIF, CIF-SDS, SDUHSD, and the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS). Information contained in this booklet will acquaint you with some of the bylaws and regulations all students must follow in order to protect athletic eligibility. The coach of each sport is responsible for teaching the rules that apply to that specific sport as published by the NFHS and the bylaws of the CIF-SDS. The eligibility standards of the CIF-SDS were accepted by each school when they became a member of CIF. If you have any questions regarding rules and regulations, please contact the Athletic Office for clarification.

In the following pages we have outlined CIF Rules that have specific importance to the athlete and parent. In some areas, SDUHSD has more strict guidelines than CIF. That is allowable: we are just not allowed to be more lenient. Any situation not specifically covered in this code will be referred to the Athletic Director. The eligibility physical will uniformly meet the standards of eligibility stated by the Constitution and Bylaws of the California Interscholastic Federation and CIF-SDS Green Book (www.cifsds.org). NOTE: Students cannot participate on any school team until all forms are signed and returned to the Athletic Office.

For many students, the high school years will be highlighted and enhanced by participation in our school's interscholastic athletic program. During this time, the CIF-SDS standards must be met in order to be eligible to compete and participate. In addition, there may be school, district, and conference standards that apply. Parents and student-athletes are urged to study these standards carefully, and before making any decision involving athletic participation, to consult with the school administrator/Athletic Director.

CIF—Residential Eligibility

A student has residential eligibility upon initial enrollment in:

The ninth grade of any CIF high school or a CIF junior high school under provisions of CIF Bylaw 302, OR

The tenth grade of a CIF high school from ninth grade of a junior high school.

SDUHSD—Residential Eligibility

Students living within the boundaries of the SDUHS District who are accepted for enrollment at their home school or school of choice in the ninth grade are considered eligible.

An athlete must live with his/her parent, legal guardian, or care giver within the geographical boundaries of the San Dieguito Union High School District to be eligible.

Changing Schools - Transfers

Entering High School – 9th Grade

It is a family choice in deciding the school in which they chose to enroll their children. Athletic eligibility is first established when the student enters 9th grade, regardless of the member school. This is called **Initial Residential Eligibility** and specific details are listed in CIF Bylaw 206. Students entering 9th grade must meet all academic and citizenship requirements of the CIF and are subject to local school/board policies in order to participate in CIF high school athletics.

CIF Bylaw 202.B. prohibits providing false information in regard to any aspect of eligibility. CIF Bylaw 510 (Undue Influence – Recruiting) prohibits any person or persons to secure, retain or influence what high school a student attends. In both cases, there are severe penalties for both the student-athlete and the school. The student-athlete penalty could include ineligibility for up to 24 months. Please report unethical behavior immediately to your school principal to help protect your student-athlete eligibility. Unethical behavior, recruiting and cheating hurts everyone.

Anytime a student moves from one school to another school (School “A” to School “B”), the student is considered a “transfer” student.

Classifications of Transfer Students

- 1. A valid change of residence student.**
- 2. A transfer without a valid change of residence.**
- 3. An involuntary transfer student** (*when a school/district forces the student to change schools*).

Regardless of the type of transfer, there will be paperwork, (forms and documentation) that the student and his/her parents/legal guardians will have to complete for the new school (School “B”) in order to request athletic eligibility. The new school (School “B”) will communicate with the transfer student’s previous school (School “A”) and work with the parents to complete the necessary forms to ensure not only residential eligibility but also academic eligibility.

On the following page is an abbreviated explanation that describes the athletic eligibility process for students who transfer under these circumstances. It is hoped that families will be better prepared to make “school choice” decisions with an understanding of the impact of those decisions on their student’s residential athletic eligibility.

A SIMPLE PROCESS

When a student transfers schools (changes from School “A” to School “B”) regardless of the reason for the change, the new school (School “B”) must take steps to ensure the athletic eligibility of the student. These steps will include:

The new school principal or administrative designee must determine if the student is academically eligible and has made a valid change of residence.

- The new school site principal/designee shall review if the student made a valid change of residence by following the process of its respective CIF Section for a “Valid Change of Residence.” The process will include submission of paperwork to the CIF Section office prior to participation in games/contests.
 - The new school must also verify the student has met the academic requirements of the school and CIF.
 - The new school (School “B”) and the prior school (School “A”) must verify there was no “Undue Influence.”
 - The new school (School “B”) must verify that there are no pending school discipline issues existing at the prior school (School “A”) that could jeopardize the student’s eligibility at the new school; that the move (by voluntary transfer or change of residence) did not occur either to avoid discipline or pending discipline, or that the move was involuntary due to discipline issues.
- The new school (School “B”) athletic director/administrator must contact the athletic director/administrator from the previous school (School “A”) to inform him/her of the valid change of address and check on any other issues that could affect the student’s eligibility.
- This process will not begin before the student is enrolled and attending the new school (School “B”).

If it is determined that the student did not make a valid change of residence, the new school (School “B”) must take a few additional steps prior to determining the eligibility of the student.

- All CIF Sections WILL require that the appropriate forms be submitted to and APPROVED by the CIF Section office PRIOR to the student participating in contest/games when there is NOT a “Valid Change of Residence”.
 - The new school is responsible for determining if the student meets the academic requirements of the CIF, CIF Section and the school.
 - The new school is responsible for using Pre-Enrollment Contact Affidavit (CIF Form 510.) to determine that there was no “Undue Influence.”
 - The school must also verify that there are no pending discipline issues existing at the prior school that could jeopardize the student eligibility at the new school.
- If this is the **student’s first transfer**, refer to Bylaw 207.B.(5) for his/her eligibility options as they may be granted unlimited athletic eligibility with a “**Sit Out Period**” in sports they have previously participated in the past 12 months. (If a request for a “**Sit Out Period**” is denied based upon not meeting the criteria of Bylaw 207.B.(5), there is NO appeal of this finding)

- If this is the **student's second (or more) transfer, the student will be limited to sub-varsity (limited) eligibility** in those sports as described in CIF Bylaw 207.B.(3).
- PRIOR to participation, the new school must seek approval of eligibility by the CIF Section office and submit all forms and paperwork for review and approval.
- There are limited circumstances where a hardship exception may be granted to the transfer rule. However, these hardships are specific and must be documented with court, school or police documents. Please refer to Bylaw 207.B.(5).c.

Sit-Out Period

Transfer students who wish to have varsity eligibility in a sport may choose the sit-out period, which means the student must sit-out from competition during the CIF designated period. Below are designated sit-out periods by season. Each period may be adjusted by the CIF-SDS depending on when the student transferred. For the 2015-16 school year, the eligibility dates for the Sit-Out Period for each of the three seasons are:

Fall Sports, 2015:	October 5, 2015
Winter Sports, 2015:	January 4, 2016
Spring Sports, 2016:	April 4, 2016

Transfer students may practice with the team during the sit-out period but may not compete in any scrimmage or game. Students choosing the sit-out period may not compete at the junior varsity or freshman levels during the sit-out period.

Pre-Enrollment Declaration

Any and all pre-enrollment contact of any kind with a student athlete must be disclosed by the student, parent(s), legal guardian(s), and or caregiver(s).

- Pre enrollment contacts must be disclosed to include dates and times contact was made
- Private lessons must be disclosed if they are with one of the athletic coaching staff members or athlete on the current or former team
- Coaches may not attend outside athletic events before the student athlete is officially enrolled in the school
- Persons associated with the school include but are not limited to current or former coaches, current or former athletes, parents of current or former student athletes, booster club members, alumni, spouses or relatives of coaches, teachers and other employees of the SDUHSD district.
- NO COMMUNICATION IS ALLOWED TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENT ATHLETES UNTIL THEY BECOME OFFICIALLY ENROLLED
- ALL TRANSFER STUDENTS NEED TO CONSULT WITH THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ONCE THEY BECOME OFFICALLY ENROLLED WITHIN THE SDUHSD DISTRICT SCHOOL

Scholastic Eligibility

Do not change a course schedule or drop a course without first consulting with the school principal, counselor, or athletic director to determine whether it will affect your athletic eligibility. A student is scholastically eligible if:

- The student is currently enrolled in at least 20 semester periods of work on campus (TP & LCC), OR at least 15 semester periods of work on campus on a 4 x 4 schedule (CCA & SDA).
- The student passed at least 20 semester periods of work at the completion of the previous

- regular grading periods, AND
- The student is maintaining minimum progress toward meeting the high school graduation requirements as prescribed by the governing board of the school district, AND
- The student has maintained during the previous grading period (school wide distribution of grades) a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in all enrolled courses unweighted GPA).
- Incomplete grades are considered failing grades for determining scholastic eligibility until such time as the incomplete grade is satisfied and a passing grade is submitted. Incomplete grades can only be given at semester reports (LCC and TP) or at quarter reports (CCA and SDHSA).
- If you do not fully participate (2/3 or more of day at LCC and TP or 3/4 of day at CCA or SDHSA , not including any homeroom) in your classes on a game or practice day, you cannot participate in any athletic team activities.

Academics

Academics are the number one priority for high school student-athletes. During the season, students should plan to do projects, homework, and studying outside of practice. Key lessons learned through participating in high school athletics are planning, prioritizing, and understanding one's time limitations. If there is an unavoidable conflict involving athletics and academics, **academics always take priority**. Consequences for missing practices, tournaments, or games may still result. Many times travel to an athletic competition means missing class. Students need to recognize demands that athletics can place on academic attendance and make appropriate choices.

Loss of Eligibility

Any athlete who loses his/her eligibility because of grades forfeits all right to letters and awards that he/she may have otherwise been entitled to receive for that sport. A student becomes ineligible for CIF competition if he/she participates in any tryout for a professional team in any CIF approved sport.

Age Limitations

A student, whose 19th birthday is attained prior to June 15, shall not participate or practice on any team in the following school year. A student, whose 19th birthday is on or before June 14, is ineligible.

Academic Probation (one time only)

The SDUHSD allows a student a one-time academic waiver when a student falls below a 2.0 GPA. Use of the waiver is at the discretion of each program's Head Coach, Athletic Director and Assistant Principal in charge of Athletics. The student will have to complete an individualized academic improvement plan during the probation period. The academic probation period ends when the next grading period's grades are posted (school wide distribution of grades—progress report or report card). For a student to qualify for academic probation they must be passing a minimum of three classes (4X4) or four classes (block schedule). Students are allowed **one** academic probation period during their four years of eligibility.

If a student does not bring his/her grades up to a 2.0 grade point average at the end of the probationary period, they will be deemed academically ineligible and will be removed from the team roster.

Summer school grades may be computed to improve grades given in the final session of the

regular school year. Each summer school class will be added as an extra class when computing a student's G.P.A.

Semesters of Attendance

A student who first enters the ninth grade of any school following the student's completion of the eighth grade in any school may be eligible for athletic competition for a maximum period of time that is not to exceed eight consecutive semesters following the initial enrollment in the ninth grade. Any school eligibility must be used during the student's first eight consecutive semesters of enrollment at that school or any other school. A student may only participate in four (4) seasons of any sport.

Competing Under an Assumed Name or Providing False or Fraudulent Information

Any student who provides false information in order to achieve athletic eligibility will be ineligible in all interscholastic athletic competition for a period of up to 24 calendar months from the date the infraction is verified.

Competition on an Outside Team

A student on a high school team becomes ineligible if the student practices or competes in a contest on an "outside" team in the same sport, during the student's high school season of sport. This includes club teams. See CIF Rule 600.

Conflicts with Outside Club Teams

Participation in our high school team athletics takes precedence over all other outside athletic activities. If conflict occurs, the high school event will come first. Athletes need to make sure their participation in outside club sports in no way negatively affects the team on which they are participating, or they may be asked to leave that team.

Undue Influence—Recruitment of Athletes

The use of undue influence by any person(s) to secure or retain a student or one or both parents/guardians of a student as residents may cause the student to be ineligible for high school athletics and shall jeopardize the standing of the high school in CIF competition and standings.

Use of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Illegal Drugs

By CIF and the SDUHSD signed Code of Conduct, students are prohibited from using any form of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, steroids, and performance enhancing drugs while attending a school activity or event.

**The San Dieguito Union High School District offers students an opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities and athletics. Student participation on an athletic team and in extracurricular activities is a privilege that is extended to every eligible student. With every privilege comes responsibility.*

It is the responsibility of every student to abide by the provisions of the District Discipline Guidelines as well as the Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

An athlete who participates in athletics agrees to abide by the combined rules developed by CIF-San Diego Section, San Dieguito Union High School District, and specific sport rules and regulations.

**Students suspended from school for 2 consecutive days or longer and those who choose our READI drug and alcohol program will be ineligible from all extra-curricular activities including athletics. The term of the suspension shall be 30 calendar days. The 30-calendar-day suspension will go into effect on the first day of the school suspension. During this period, students are*

prohibited from participating in all extra-curricular activities, athletics, team practices, team competition, athletic competition, school performances, rehearsals, etc. Try-outs will be permitted during this 30-day suspension. Violation of the San Dieguito Union High School District Discipline Guidelines may also result in the revoking of any awards for which the student might otherwise be eligible.

SDUHSD site administration may impose more restrictive guidelines with drug and/or alcohol use involving school team members. The rules and guidelines may include, but are not limited to, infractions committed during non school hours, infractions committed on non school days, or infractions that do not result in disciplinary action from the school.

All team rules, regulations and consequences separate from the SDUHSD Code of Conduct must be provided in the form of a written document to all athletes and parents. It is imperative that all coaches have each athlete and parent sign and return the team rules and consequences at the beginning of each season. (Any athlete that does not have this document on file will not be cleared to participate)?

Student Award Limitations

A high school student may not receive an athletic award for CIF high school competition of a combined total or more than one hundred dollars (\$100) in value, from all sources. The total athletic award may be two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for league, section, or state championships. When a student participates in other than CIF competition in a CIF approved sport, at any time other than the high school season of sport, the student is governed by the award rules of the amateur governing body for that sport.

Student Participation Conduct Penalty

Student participation in athletic contests is an honor. Student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times. During participation in all CIF competition, a student who is ejected or disqualified from participating in the remainder of a contest will be ineligible for at least the team's next contest pending a conference with either CIF commissioner. In addition, any student who physically assaults an official shall be banned from interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's interscholastic eligibility.

Penalties for Competition by Ineligible Athletes

Athletes who compete for their school in CIF contests while ineligible due to violations of CIF or CIFSDS rules will cause the following mandatory penalty:

Team sports—Forfeiture of contest (s) plus any profit share of playoff profit to school.

Individual sports—Forfeiture of points and awards earned by the ineligible athletes (s).

Physical Examination

A physical examination on a district form, certifying the student is fit to participate in athletics is required before a student is eligible to try out, practice, or participate in any CIF competition. A medical doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) or Physician Assistant (PA) must sign the form. Physicals are good for one calendar year. In addition, students must have insurance coverage.

Athletic Awards & Letters

Letter awards are earned by participating on a varsity squad. In order for a player to letter, minimum standards and requirements must be met. Because of the differences in many sports, each coach will set his/her own award requirements. Athletes who quit their teams or are removed from the team by the coach at any time during the season will forfeit any awards they would have received.

A Varsity letter and sports specific epaulet will be awarded to each athlete the first year he/she letters. Each subsequent year that the athlete letters, he/she will receive a bar.

Individual schools may issue a variety of other awards to varsity athletes. Check with the Athletic Director.

CIF Championship emblems, patches, or medals will be provided to all athletes of a team which has won the CIF Team Championship of that sport providing that the athlete has also earned a letter award in that sport for the same year. Awards recognition will be presented at the appropriate sports banquet at the end of each season.

Season of Sport Definition

In the CIFSDS, the season of sport for an individual is that period of time when the student is first rostered as an athlete on a team, regardless of playing time in an interscholastic contest. To compete in an interscholastic contest or scrimmage in the CIF-SDS, a student must be a rostered team member, and have five (5) practice sessions with the coach/team.

Conflicts with Other Extra-Curricular Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extra-curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of conflict of obligations. The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities, and to that end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid conflicts. This would include being cautious about committing to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the staff members involved and communicate immediately when a conflict does arise. The student-athlete will be responsible for contacting those involved and developing a solution so that the student learns to prioritize should a conflict arise.

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed that decision, he/she should tell the coach. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligation of a school activity, he/she should withdraw from that team. Examples of conflicts include family, vacation, in-class exams, and college visits.

Dropping or Transferring Sports

On occasion, an in-season athlete may find it necessary to drop out of a sport. If this is the case, the following procedure is suggested.

1. Talk with your coach.
2. Report the situation to the Athletic Director.
3. Return all equipment and uniforms issued to you.

Athletes who quit their teams or are removed from the team by the coach at any time during the season will forfeit any awards they would have received.

What is a Practice?

In the CIF-SDS, practice is defined as organized, systematic exercise to become proficient in a sport. Activities include, but not limited to, skill drills, game situation drills, scrimmages and games, or any other directed or supervised instruction (including, but not limited to, study of game film, chalk talks, and strategy or planning sessions) by the school coach, a school representative, a school team representative, an outside team coach, or any individual associated with an outside team or club.

Practice Allowance (CIF Rule 506)

For the benefit of the physical and mental health of our student-athletes, all practices (as defined herein) under the auspices of the high school athletic program during the season of sport shall be conducted under the following conditions (See also CIF Bylaw 504.M.):

A. All teams will be allowed no more than eighteen (18) hours of practice time per week and no more than four (4) hours in any single day.

(1) Multiple Practice Sessions:

- a. Double day practices shall not be held on consecutive days.
- b. Must include a minimum of three (3) hours rest between practices.

(2) Golf Only

- a. In the sport of golf only, a team is allowed a maximum of two (2) days per week of 18-hole practice rounds. [Counts as four (4) hours]

B. Any competition day would count as three (3) hours toward the allowable weekly and daily practice hours no matter the length of the contest(s). No practice may be held following the conclusion of any contest.

C. Definition of Practice

(1) Any school team or individual activity organized by the coach that is intended to maintain or improve a student-athlete's skill proficiency in a sport; AND/OR

(2) Any school team or individual activity that includes skill drills, game situation drills, inter-squad scrimmages or games, weight training, chalk talks, film review, meetings outside of school time (excluding parent meetings) that are implicitly/explicitly required by the coach; AND/OR

(3) Any other coach-directed or supervised school team or individual activity or instruction for a specific sport (private, small group or positional instruction, etc.) AND/OR

(4) Any other team or individual instruction for a specific sport organized or supervised by any team member, or anyone else associated with the high school athletic program, team or school; AND

(5) Outside organization activity (club, etc.), shall not be used to circumvent these Bylaws.

D. Other mandatory activities (including, but not limited to study hall, tutorial sessions, team dinners), shall not be considered part of practice time. These activities must be approved by the principal. Activities that would be included herein are exclusive to any activity already covered in number C.(1)-(5) above.

E. This Bylaw shall not supersede any School/District/Section policies that may be more restrictive.

F. Penalties

Following the determination of a violation of CIF Bylaw 506, a loss of practice day(s) and/or other sanctions, for each practice session infraction, shall be imposed by the Section as deemed appropriate to the level, extent, and duration of the infraction(s).

NOTE: For purposes of this Bylaw, the season of sport begins with each CIF Section's first allowable date of practice.

Missing Practices

Athletic teams will usually practice weekdays, Monday through Friday (some teams will also hold Saturday practices). An athlete should always consult his/her coach before missing practice and leaving campus. Missing practice or a game without good reason will be dealt with according to each coach's individual rules (Illness or a family emergency would be a good reason for missing a practice or a game). Do not schedule college visits during your season of sport. In any circumstance, however, it is expected that the coach will be notified in advance. Communication with coaches should be a priority.

Minimum Participation by a Student-Athlete

In individual sports, an athlete must have participated for his/her school of enrollment in more than one-half (1/2) of the CIF-SDS permissible maximum individual points of the sport in order to participate in the CIFSDS championship tournament in the sports of cross country, boys and girls golf, boys and girls tennis, wrestling; track and field, gymnastics, and swimming and diving. League and conference may have additional requirements.

Removal from a Team

An athlete that is removed from a team/sport in season due to disciplinary/academic reasons will not be allowed to participate or practice in another sport until the end of the regular season of the team from which he/she was dropped. In addition, all awards, letters, and certificates are forfeited.

High school programs strive to provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in student-athletes. We strive to prepare athletes for a successful life in our society. Here we have identified three areas that we would like all of our athletes to learn and appreciate:

- RESPONSIBILITY/COMMITMENT/COMMUNICATION
- LEARNING TO BE A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF A TEAM
- WORK ETHIC

Each athlete, coach, parent, and referee has a part to play for these program goals to be accomplished. By establishing an understanding of each other roles, we are better able to accept the actions of others and provide a greater benefit to our student-athletes.

PE Credit for Athletic Participation

SDUHSD student-athletes in grades 10, 11 and 12 who successfully complete a full season of a school-sponsored CIF interscholastic athletic program would be eligible to earn up to 20 credits of high school P.E. in their high school career. However, only 5 credits may be earned per season. This would not affect Independent Study P.E. (I.S.P.E.) students or Team Sports students who have their sport as a regular day P.E. class, e.g., Football P.E.

If a student successfully completed one season of sport as a 10th, 11th or 12th grader, they would receive 5 credits of P.E., and a second season would give them an additional 5 credits. Students would only be eligible for a total of 20 credits.

In order to be eligible for the 5 credits per season, the student must also meet the standards established in the Athletics / P.E. Credit Option Contract. The Contract must be signed by the student, parent, coach and Athletic Director, and would include criteria such as attendance, sportsmanship, etc. The contract must be turned in within the proper timeframe given per sport, per school site. Furthermore, in order to be eligible for the Athletics / P.E. Credit Option, students must have previously passed the 9th grade California High School Physical Fitness Test.

Expectations and Responsibilities

Student-Athlete Responsibilities

- Understand that academics are #1 priority.
- Competition in high school athletics is a privilege, not a right. Accompanying that privilege is the responsibility of the student to conform to standards established by the school teams and instituted by the NFHS, CIF, CIF-SDS, SDUHSD, and school athletic conference.

- Be on time.
- Be at all practices and games.
- Represent your high school in a positive manner at all times.
- Come prepared to be a part of the team.
- Come prepared to do your best. This includes proper nutrition, sleep and care of injuries and illness.
- Be positive.
- If you don't understand something, ask.
- Be respectful of yourself, your teammates, your coaches, your parents, the officials, and the fans at all times.
- Maintain a G.P.A of 2.0 or above throughout your season of sport.
- Take care of all equipment, uniforms issued and return them at the end of the season.
- Respect rules and policies.
- Remember, your level of effort and attitude define you . . . Not your win/loss record.

Parent Responsibilities

- Understand that academics are #1 priority.
- Attend seasonal sport night to learn about your student's team and meet the coaches.
- Help your student-athlete to understand that the team comes before the individual.
- All sporting events are to be alcohol and substance free.
- Schedule appointments, vacations, and college visits outside of school, tournaments, practice, or game time.
- Encourage your student-athlete to know and understand game rules as well as team rules.
- Help your student-athlete to come prepared to do his/her best by encouraging them to be physically and mentally prepared. This includes proper nutrition, sleep, and care of injuries.
- Encourage your student-athlete to communicate appropriately and respectfully with the coach.
- Pay admission fees when appropriate.
- Any events hosted by parents where students are present need to be alcohol and substance free.
- During home games, only student-athletes and their team are allowed on the field, in the dug-out, or on the court. Animals are not permitted on school grounds.

Coaches' Responsibilities

- Understand that academics are #1 priority.
- Be alert to your student's academic performances.
- Provide schedules for practices, tournaments, and games.
- Communicate changes in season schedule in a timely manner.
- Be on time.
- Come prepared for all practices and games.
- Encourage all student-athletes to do their best.
- Apply all school and team rules to all athletes equally.
- Be professional in all actions and words.
- Create a positive environment for our team.
- Communicate your expectations of your athlete and team.

- Communicate with individual athletes as to their role on the team.
- Clearly communicate all NFHS, CIF, SDUHSD, Conference, and team rules to athletes and parents.
- Return parent phone calls/emails in a timely manner.
- Explain vacation/absence policy.
- Allow students time away from practice to make-up tests due to athletic competition or to attend tutoring.

Expectations and Grievances

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging in today's world. We must realize that at the core, coaches and parents have the same goal—to see that each young person has a positive experience and become well-rounded individuals. Together we can best help our athletes reach their potential.

Expectations of Spectators:

- Applaud at the end of the contest for all performances of all participants, as they shake hands with each other, regardless of the contest outcome.
- Show concern for injured players regardless of team affiliation.
- Encourage people around you to display only sportsmanlike conduct.
- Refrain from blaming the loss of contest on officials, coaches, or participants. Leave with a positive attitude.

Communication you can expect from your student-athlete's coach:

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectation of individual athletes and team.
- Location, dates, and times of all practices and games.
- NFHS, CIF, Conference, SDUHSD, and school rules.
- Modes of transportation.

Communication that coaches can expect from parents:

- Non-confrontational situations.
- Appropriate concerns can be expressed directly to the coaches outside of practice, games, or the playing field.
- Specific questions about philosophy or expectations of their child.
- Notification of any absences prior to practices or games.
- A phone call to set up an appointment to discuss a concern.

Appropriate to discuss:

- Treatment of your child (mentally or physically).
- Ways to help your child improve.
- Concerns about your child's behavior/academic problems.

Inappropriate to discuss:

- Playing time.
- Coaching.
- Team strategy.
- Play calling or substitutions.
- Another athlete.

Steps for resolution:

The following process must be followed by parents to address issues or concerns regarding the team or a student-athlete:

1. First, a parent must contact the coach to schedule a meeting.
2. If issues are unresolved after meeting with the coach, a parent should schedule an appointment with the Athletic Director.
3. If issues are unresolved after meeting with the Athletic Director, a parent should schedule an appointment with the Assistant Principal in charge of athletics.
4. If issues are unresolved after meeting with the Assistant Principal in charge of Athletics, a parent should schedule an appointment to meet with the Principal.

The process for parents to address issues or concerns must be followed in the sequence outlined above. For example, the Athletic Director will NOT meet with a parent unless the parent has already met with the coach.

Event Behavior

1. Losing as well as winning is part of the game. All should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. Good sportsmanship is expected by all persons at all times. Discipline from coaches and the school will result if unsportsmanlike behavior is shown by team members. Accept loss as something to grow by, setting individual goals, and moving forward.
2. Self-control and maturity are expected. Fits of temper or clowning when things fail to go as the student desires or when team members are substituted out by the coach is not acceptable.
3. Game officials ensure that participating teams will compete fairly and safely.
REMEMBER: Officials do not lose a game for a participant or a team.
4. It is tradition and a rule that no one except the appointed team captain talk to the designated officials. The players' bench should be enthusiastic, but mannerly, at all times during a contest. No derogatory remarks should be made to or about the officials or to the opposing team.

CIF Ethics in Sports Policy

- Be courteous at all times (with school officials, opponents, game officials and fans).
- Exercise self-control.
- Be familiar with all rules of the contest.
- Show respect to players, officials, and other coaches.
- Refrain from the use of foul and abusive language.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the game officials.
- Do not use illegal and nonprescription drugs, anabolic steroids or any substance to increase physical development of performance that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, Surgeon General of the United States or the American Medical Association (see page 21 for more details).
- Win with character, lose with dignity.

CIF Ejection Policy

Any coach, player, team attendant, or spectator **ejected by a contest official** from any contest for any reason, at any level, is suspended indefinitely from participation, practice, or attending any SDUHSD sports contest, until a meeting is scheduled between the school administration, coach, player, and custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) with CIFSDS staff member(s). Meetings will be scheduled at a time to be announced. There is no appeal of the Commissioner's decision. Telephonic **and electronic** meetings are not permitted. Additionally, any person ejected (coach, player, spectator) is required to attend a CIFSDS Ethics in Sports Sportsmanship meeting which

will be held at a time to be announced. Failure to attend the sportsmanship meeting will result in immediate suspension of athletic eligibility or attendance at SDUHSD contests or practices until such time as the ejected person attends a **Sportsmanship Meeting**.

Early Release from Class

It is the responsibility of athletes to communicate with their teachers before they depart because of an athletic contest. Athletes with an early release time should remind their teacher of this before class on the day of the event. Students are responsible for any and all work and tests missed due to an early release. Students will not be permitted to leave class prior to a release time. It is a privilege to leave school early to participate in athletics. It is a teacher's choice to release a student.

Transportation

All student-athletes are required to travel to and from team road games / matches on school-provided buses or vans, unless directed otherwise.

Attendance Policy

Student-athletes are required to attend two-thirds (block schedule) or three-fourths (4x4 schedule) of their school day in order to be eligible to practice or play in a scheduled match, game or contest.

Equipment and Uniforms

- A. Uniforms are loaned to student-athletes by the school or Foundation and must be returned at the end of the athlete's season of sports.
- B. When players lose uniforms or equipments, they may not take part in any other sport until it is returned or paid in full.
- C. Athletes are financially responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them.
- D. Graduation privileges may be withheld for failure to return team uniforms, equipment, or pay for such items.

Hazing

Hazing in any form, including initiation which is degrading, is strictly forbidden by California State Law. No student shall conspire to engage in hazing, participate in hazing or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or other person. Persons violating this policy shall be subject to District discipline, misdemeanor penalties and forfeiture or entitlements.

Bullying / Cyberbullying

No individual or group shall, through physical, written, verbal, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, retaliate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any student or school personnel.

Cyberbullying includes the creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social media, or other technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Concussions

Student-athletes will not be allowed to return to play/activity until the student-athlete has been evaluated by a *currently licensed medical doctor trained in the evaluation*

and management of concussions and receives written clearance which includes the Return to Activity Letter & ACE form to return to play/activity from that licensed practitioner.

San Dieguito Union High School District insists that all decisions be made in the best interest of the athlete and that when any doubt exists as to the health of the athlete, they sit out.

Under which circumstances may the student-athlete return play/activity? Who is authorized to clear/approve the return to play/activity?

1. Athlete returns Return to Activity Letter & ACE form completed & signed by a currently licensed medical doctor trained in the evaluation and management of concussions, **and**
2. Athlete is free of signs & symptoms, as determined collectively by athlete's physician, the AT, and the coach, **and**
3. Athlete has been asymptomatic for 24 hours prior to beginning gradual return to play plan.

For further information regarding head injury/concussion management, please refer to the Centers for Disease Control's website: http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/high_school.html

Steroids

Student-athletes participating in interscholastic athletics are prohibited from using steroids and dietary supplements banned by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency as well as the substance synephrine.

Before participating in interscholastic athletics, a student-athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign a statement that the student athlete pledges not to use androgenic/anabolic steroids and dietary supplements banned by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency and the substance, synephrine, unless the student has a written prescription from a licensed health care practitioner to treat a medical condition.

A student-athlete who is found to have violated the agreement or this policy shall be restricted from participating in athletics and shall be subject to disciplinary procedures including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

National Collegiate Athletic Association

All student-athletes expecting to play NCAA Division I & II athletics must meet freshmen eligibility standards established by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

Playing in college can be a very rewarding experience. It can also be a very challenging one where the students involved must be extremely responsible and pro-active in gathering the information they need to try out and participate. In order to play athletics in college, especially a Division I or II school, you need to fill out a core class worksheet and register with the NCAA Clearinghouse online @ www.NCAA.clearinghouse.net. See your academic counselor for the forms and any other additional information you might need.

Qualifier

To practice, compete, and receive an athletic scholarship as a freshman, the requirements are:

Satisfy high school graduation requirements.

Must complete 16 core courses.

Achieve a core-course grade point average and ACT or SAT test score as described in the index.

NOTE: Grade point average and ACT/SAT scores vary according to the NCAA core GPA index.

NCAA Athletic Scholarship Information

Seminars are held throughout the county for student-athletes and their parents to explain the procedure for obtaining an athletic scholarship. The NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete is available online @ www.NCAA.org. If you have questions, see a counselor or athletic director.

NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

P.O. Box 4044

Iowa City, IA 52243-4044

(319) 337-1492 (customer service)

(319) 339-3003 (24 hour voice response)

Questions or comments? Email academics@ncaa.org

www.ncaa.clearinghouse.net

**Player / Parent Handbook
Guidelines Agreement
2015-16**

I have received and read a copy of the *San Dieguito Union High School District Parent / Player Handbook*, and I agree to abide by the guidelines describe therein.

Sport: _____

Player Name: _____

Player Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Must be turned in to your Coach