

New Caney ISD Athletic Department



2020-2021



Parent Information
Handbook

Purpose of the Parent Handbook

This handbook has been developed in order to establish a foundation for all athletes, coaches, teachers, administrators and community members to build upon. It is imperative all involved are of one philosophy and objective to avoid confusion and personal agendas. The expectations for athletes and their coaches within the New Caney Independent School District Athletic Department are high due to the fact that athletic completion is highly visible within the community. It is with full consideration and recognition of that fact this handbook has been developed.

Philosophy of Athletics

Interscholastic athletics is an integral part of the overall education process. A successful athletic program will enable a student athlete to realize the power of reaching his/her full potential. In most situations, the overall success of the athletic program sets the tone and atmosphere for the entire school. Athletics create opportunities for developing a positive self-image. Finally, the most important aspect of the athletic program is to develop young men and women to become constructive, contributing members of society.

NCISD Athletic Program Objectives

To provide the opportunity of athletic participation to every student who has the ability and desire to do so, while creating and implementing a positive environment that encourages both athletic and academic excellence.

Parent/Coach Relationships

Communication Coaches Expect From the Parents

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance
- Notification of injury or illness in a timely manner

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches

- Coach's interaction with your child
- Ways to help your child improve athletic skills
- Concern about your child's interaction with others

Topics Left To the Coaches Discretion

- Playing time
- Play calling
- Team strategy
- Other students/athletes

Parent-Coach Meeting Procedure

- Call the school and ask for the coach's extension
- Request a meeting
- If the coach is unavailable, call the Campus Athletic Coordinator and request a meeting to be arranged
- Do not confront a coach before or after a practice or game. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions. Abuse of this request will result in suspension from attending athletic contests

If the issue cannot be resolved with a parent-coach meeting, the parent should follow the line of communication listed below:

- Call the Campus Athletic Coordinator
- Call the Executive Director of Sports and Facilities
- Call the Campus Principal

24/7

NCISD athletes represent their school, family, and team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Athletes will be held to a higher standard both in school and in the community. This higher standard requires great responsibility; athletes may have to demonstrate restraint when dealing with challenging situations.

Athlete Code of Conduct

There are many advantages of being a member of an athletic team in the New Caney Independent School District. In fact, there are so many that it would be difficult to list them all. But there are some realities each athlete needs to be aware of before accepting the challenge of becoming a student athlete for his/her school.

1. You may practice and never get to start.
2. Training rules may cramp your social life. Sacrifices will be necessary.
3. You will have to practice every day after school, Saturday's and possibly holidays.
4. Less study time will be available, yet you must pass to be eligible to play.
5. Do not expect favors because you are an athlete, expect a challenge.
6. You will be expected to be well behaved on and off the field. What you do off the field may get you dismissed.
7. You will be expected to follow NCISD Student Code of Conduct.

Most things listed in Athletic Code of Conduct should be self-imposed rules. If you lack the maturity or self-discipline to adhere to those rules then it may be necessary for the Athletic Department to instigate disciplinary action, possibly even permanent dismissal.

To be admired as a champion and as an athlete – **ACT RIGHT!**

Conduct of an Athlete

1. No Profanity or trash talk. Remember, people don't see you, they see the school's name across your chest.
2. School attendance is required on game day unless approved by the coach and principal.
3. Truancy and unexcused absences are unacceptable.
4. Any athlete that is placed in ISS and/or suspended from school is not eligible to practice or play in a game until they have completed their punishment.
5. No jewelry during practice or games.
6. Go to practice. There are very few acceptable excuses to miss a practice.
7. Any athlete that quits a sport will not be allowed to go to another sport until the sport he/she quit has finished or they receive the consent from all coaches involved. Also, note that any athlete who quits or is dismissed from a sport forfeits that sports athletic award.

8. If a student becomes academically ineligible for two six-weeks in a row, they may be dismissed from athletics. The student can be reinstated when academics stability is demonstrated.
9. NO HAZING! (Hazing: any activity intentionally taken for the purpose of initiation in which any student(s) humiliates, degrades, or physically or mentally abuses any other student.)
10. Being in the environment of alcohol, tobacco or any illegal substance or activity is prohibited. If you are at a party, in a car, etc. where drugs and alcohol are present, **LEAVE!** Do not be found guilty by association.
11. Engaging in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts or sexual conduct in locker rooms or playing fields/courts, or while on athletic trips will not be tolerated.
12. Any conduct that result in arrest and/or citations other than a traffic violation from law enforcement officers will not be tolerated.

Violations of rules may result in but are not limited to the following actions:

1. Punishment deemed appropriate by head coach
2. Discipline contracts
3. Suspension from game/games
4. Suspension from an athletic team
5. Suspension from the athletic program
6. Permanent removal from the athletic program

The Code is in force twelve (12) months a year, grades seven through twelve (7-12).

Equipment

A record of all school owned equipment issued to athletes will be maintained by the athletic department. It is the player's responsibility to take care of such equipment. The player will be required to pay for any lost items. If an item of equipment is lost, replacement fee paid, and the item is subsequently found – it must be returned. A refund will be given with a receipt -- at the discretion of the coach. Students who owe for equipment will be placed on the fees and fines list.

Participation in Multiple Sports

Student athletes have one chance to participate in inter-scholastic athletics. Athletes are encouraged to participate in as many sports as their interest and abilities permit.

Non-School Sponsored Sports

It is the expectation of NCISD Athletic Coaching Staff that school sponsored sports take precedence over non-school sponsored sports. Athletes that miss practice or contests due to participating in club or league without permission of the head coach are subject to disciplinary action. Punishment for missing practices or a UIL contest for outside leagues and clubs include but are not limited to the following.

- Loss of playing time
- Change in team status (Varsity to J.V.)
- Game suspension
- Removal from team
- Dismissal from NCISD athletics

Transportation to and from Games

It is the expectation of NCISD Athletic Coaching Staff that athletes ride the bus with the team to and from games. We also recognize that under certain situations it may become necessary for a parent to arrange alternate transportation for their son/daughter. Should this arise the parent should contact the head coach of the sport as soon as possible and arrange a meeting to discuss the situation. If the athlete is permitted by the head coach of the sport to have alternate transportation provided the parent must have an **Alternate Transportation Form** completed and on file 48 hours prior to the event.

Off-Campus Travel Consent and Release

NCISD provides daily transportation to and from NCISD campuses and certain NCISD off-site facilities for students participating in school-sponsored activities. If the parent wishes to arrange alternative transportation for the student to and from NCISD's off-site facilities, other than the transportation provided by NCISD, the parent must have an **Off Campus Travel Consent and Release** form completed and on file prior to the event.

Social/Electronic Media

Coaches are subject to applicable state and federal laws, local policies, administrative regulations, and Educator's Code of Ethics related to use of social/electronic media use. Coaches and other approved employees are permitted by the district to communicate with students through the use of electronic media within the scope of the individual's professional responsibilities. For example, a coach may set up a social networking page for his or her team that has information related to practices and/or games. As a parent, you are welcome to join or become a member of such a page. An employee described above may also contact a student individually through electronic media to communicate about items such as practice times or upcoming game information. [See policy DH (LOCAL)]

If you prefer that your child not receive any one-to-one electronic communications from a district employee, you should contact the athletic director's office for the appropriate paperwork.

UIL Required Forms

All participants of athletic programs must complete and have on file all UIL required forms each year to be eligible for athletic participation. These forms must be on file before participating in a practice session, scrimmage, or game, (both in-season and out-of-season). All physicals must be completed on the New Caney ISD Physical Form. The campus athletic trainer must be made aware of any existing conditions or limitations that may impact the performance of an athlete

Athletic Injury/Illness

The health of all athletes is very important to all coaches and the athletic training staff. In the event an athlete becomes ill or injured they should inform the campus athletic trainer and head coach as soon as possible. If a parent feels their child needs to see a doctor about an injury, they need to make sure and communicate with the campus athletic trainer. If an athlete goes to the doctor, WRITTEN instructions from the doctor relating to the care and treatment of the athlete must be turned into the campus athletic trainer. All athletes under a doctor's care must have a written release to return to activity. **Parent notes for illness will not be accepted as a reason to miss practice for more than two days.**

Whenever an athlete is injured or has an illness of a minor nature, the athlete may be required to dress out (but not participate) and stay with their group during the workout. Athletes can learn from each

practice session, whether they are actually working out or simply observing. If you have questions about your child's injury or illness you should contact the campus athletic trainer.

Insurance

Student participation in athletics is voluntary. NCISD provides an accidental secondary insurance policy. Questions about this policy should be directed to the high school athletic trainers.

Supplemental Accidental Coverage for parents to purchase is also available. Questions about this policy should be directed to the high school athletic trainers.

Procedures for Handling Claims and Medical Bills:

A claim form for every athletic related injury will be initiated by the campus athletic trainers. Claims on injuries will be administered and tracked by the athletic trainers. Questions about insurance claims should be directed to the high school athletic trainers.

NCISD Athletic Department Random Drug Testing Policy

The athletic department conducts random drug testing on all our student athletes. The program is a "Three Strike Program" aimed at deterring drug use by student athletes participating in the UIL athletic program. The program is non-punitive. It is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for students and assist them in getting help when needed. Copies of the drug testing policy can be obtained from the athletic director's office.

The NCISD Athlete's Pledge

Individual and team success in sports results from commitment. The extent to which young athletes are able to make such commitments reflects their maturity as well as their dedication to family, friends, school and team. Your coach already has made a similar kind of commitment.

I have read and agree to the following **Pledge**:

As an athlete in NCISD, I promise:

1. To be a worthy representative of my teammates and coaches, abiding by school and community expectations and reflecting my team's values of commitment and hard work.
2. To reflect the knowledge that a commitment to victory is nothing without the commitment to hard work in practice.
3. To attend every practice unless excused by my coach.
4. To understand that my future as a responsible adult relates to how I commit to my academic and athletic activities.
5. To find the time to satisfy my family relationships and responsibilities.
6. To accept the responsibilities of team membership: cooperation, support of my teammates, shared responsibilities, positive interaction, and mutual respect.
7. To reflect my belief that a true winner demonstrates integrity, discipline, and self-respect in all things.

Parents and Athletes Agreement

I certify that I have read and understand the 2020-21 Athletic Handbook which may be received at the New Caney ISD Athletic Office or viewed online at www.newcaneyisd.org in its entirety and that I am signing voluntarily and with full understanding of the athletic handbook. This form must be signed and on file with the NCISD Athletic Department in order to be eligible participate in athletics.

Athlete's Name

Date

Athlete's Signature

Parent/Guardian Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature