

**CLARENDON C.I.S.D.**

**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

**2015-2016**

## CLARENDON C.I.S.D. ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

The Clarendon C.I.S.D. is committed to producing a wholesome, competitive athletic program that emphasizes the importance of **academics, sportsmanship, and citizenship**. The athletic program should be a source of **pride** to participants, staff, parents and community.

**Goals:**

- \* To provide an opportunity for a **competitive team experience**
- \* To promote **participation, good sportsmanship, and fair play**
- \* To instill **positive values** that can be realized while participating, as well, as later in life
- \* To promote **academic achievement** and the importance of a **good education**

Philosophically, the Athletic Department's goal is to provide a program that complements the academic curriculum. The program focuses on **participation, sportsmanship, and effort**. The coaching staff strives to instill **responsibility** and **discipline** that will benefit student athletes in the athletic arena, in the classroom, and in their daily lives.

**Athletics** is an important component of the **overall** educational experience. Accordingly, it is expected that disciplined effort and practice will pay off on the field of competition, in the academic classroom, and in the community. Students will be encouraged to join and participate. **Participation** inherently includes **attending practice, following athletic guidelines, attending class, and exhibiting a positive attitude**.

By participating athletically, students learn to **work effectively in groups, manage time, and develop team spirit** while fostering a healthy desire to excel. Athletics also plays an important role in assisting students to **develop self esteem, respect for others, honesty, responsibility, a sense of justice**, an appreciation for lifelong fitness, and strong ethical values including the understanding that the **use of steroids, illegal drugs**, and other questionable performance enhancing products are **not condoned**.

In Junior High, teams are judged by **participation, effort, and attitude**. Athletic progress and development of the team concept will be encouraged. Junior High participants will be included in each contest, when practical, provided they have **attended practice, exhibited a positive attitude, followed school and athletic guidelines, support other team members, and put forth a legitimate effort to improve and learn the basic strategies**. When possible and practical, extra games or intrasquad competitions will be scheduled to provide game experience.

Coaches on the varsity level will try and include all participants in games; however, they are **not required** to ensure that each player participates. Athletes should not expect substantial playing time unless warranted. Playing time is determined by **ability, work ethic, knowledge of the game, adherence to guidelines, attitude, and support for the entire team**.

## CLARENDON C.I.S.D. ATHLETIC PLAN

The Clarendon C.I.S.D. is committed to producing a wholesome, competitive athletic program that emphasizes the importance of **academics, sportsmanship, and citizenship**. The athletic program should be a source of pride to participants, staff, parents, and the community. Accordingly, everyone directly or indirectly involved must do his or her part to assure the success of the program.

### Guidelines:

1. Student athletes are expected to **achieve academically** to the best of their abilities. In order to be eligible academically, students must meet the current UIL and TEA guidelines.
2. Student athletes are expected to **demonstrate acceptable behavior at all times**. Any **unacceptable behavior will be subject to disciplinary action**. Clarendon athletes must remember that they represent themselves, their school, their coaches, their parents, and their community **24 hours a day**.
3. Student athletes are expected to **promote team attitudes at all times**, including riding the bus to and from games, sitting together before and after games, and eating together when the opportunity presents itself. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.
4. Student athletes are **expected to be dressed and groomed appropriately**. Any clothing that promotes alcohol, drugs, or sex is all considered unacceptable. There will be **no participation** in athletics until the conflict is resolved.
5. Student athletes are expected to be **on time and to participate in all practices and games**. In the event of illness, injury, or unusual circumstances, athletes are expected to let their coaches know of the problem in advance. Student athletes are expected to be on time and are expected to attend all games and practices whether participating or not. Unusual circumstances should be cleared through the coaches.

Student athletes are expected to practice and play if they are capable. Doctor's notes will be strictly enforced. An athlete under a doctor's supervision must have a doctor's release or notification from a parent of the release before the athlete can perform again.

6. Student athletes are expected to be **responsible for all equipment** provided by the school.
7. In the event of a conflict of activities, the following guidelines should be followed:
  - a. **School related activities should come first**.
  - b. Sponsors of conflicting school activities must be given sufficient notice by students in order to work out the best solution.
  - c. When multiple activities are involved, students will be asked to declare a primary activity. Students are then obligated to attend all practices and games for their primary selection before attending secondary activities. (District games and playoffs excluded.) Coaches may work out other arrangements if mutually acceptable.
8. Student athletes **ARE PROHIBITED from using or being in possession of tobacco, tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia**. **THE MINIMUM** penalty will be:
  - a. **FIRST OFFENSE**: 1 game suspension, running 10 miles and/or community service as determined by the head coach and athletic director.
  - b. **SECOND OFFENSE**: 2 game suspension, running 20 miles and/or community service as determined by the head coach and athletic director.
  - c. **THIRD OFFENSE**: **Total removal from the athletic program**. Athletes may request to be heard before a review committee (consisting of Athletic Director and coaching staff) after 12 months to evaluate the athlete's progress. The committee will have the authority to reinstate the athlete if it is determined to be in the best interests of both the student and the athletic program.

Offenses carry over from 7<sup>th</sup> thru 8th grade and then start over for 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12th grade. Each case will be reviewed to determine unusual circumstances and facts. **Voluntary participation:** any student athlete wishing to voluntarily participate in a substance abuse program, who has not been discovered to be in violation of the policy, may do so by contacting the Athletic Director and/or faculty or staff. Substance abuse programs are **not provided** by Clarendon C.I.S.D. The student athlete **will not** be subject to disciplinary action under these circumstances.

9. **In order to Letter**, athletes must meet the following criteria: athletes should participate at the varsity level, attend practice on a regular basis, and contribute to the team as needed to the best of their abilities. The final decision will be that of the head coach of each sport. The policy is designed to allow athletes, regardless of their athletic skill level, to Letter in recognition of their contributions to the program.
10. **If an athlete quits a sport**, all awards are automatically forfeited for the sport. To re-enter that sport, athletes must have approval from the coaching staff. Athletes may not participate in the next sport, unless mutually agreed upon by the coaches, until the prior sport is finished, and they **have ran 25 miles**. There will be a two week grace period at the start of each sport.
11. Student athletes are expected to enroll in the appropriate athletic period during the school day. In addition, student athletes are expected to participate in all pertinent off-season programs.
12. Student athletes should understand that **participation on an athletic team is a privilege and not a requirement**. Accordingly, athletes must be willing to sacrifice individual accolades and considerations for the good of the team. Teams will not be successful where **jealousy or selfishness reigns**. Athletes must accept the attitude that the team comes first.
13. Student athletes are **prohibited** from taking part in any type of **hazing and/or initiation** activities of any type, at any time, anywhere. Each case will be handled on an individual basis; based on the facts and severity of the situation, **consequences may include any and all listed consequences**, including a permanent expulsion from athletics.

Hazing, initiations, etc. can include any physical, psychological, emotional, and/or verbal abuse. In the event of any infractions of the athletic policies, student athletes will be subject to **ONE OR MORE of the following consequences**. Every effort will be made to treat each athlete in a fair, consistent manner after all circumstances are considered.

Athletes are expected to inform their parents of any disciplinary actions.

- Removal from athletics
- Removal from team
- Conference with or without parents
- Physical exercise
- Work crew
- Removal from practice
- Suspension from game – full or partial

Student/Athlete \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_