

NEW SUMMERFIELD ISD



Athletic Handbook

2019-2020

The mission of New Summerfield ISD Athletics is to enhance the academic experience and encourage learning through excellence in athletics while developing character, integrity, responsibility and sportsmanship as indicators for success. Furthermore, it is our vision to build competitive programs that promote student success and recognizes the value of each student as a participant while *“Building Champions through Character and Commitment.”*

W SUMMERFIELD ATHLETICS



-----Please Sign and Return-----

Date _____

I have read the New Summerfield ISD *Athletic Handbook* and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in New Summerfield ISD athletics. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my extracurricular participation.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

I have read the New Summerfield ISD *Athletic Handbook* and understand the requirements for my child's voluntary participation in New Summerfield ISD athletics. I understand the consequences that my child will face if he or she fails to adhere to these rules and agree to such terms.

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

As a student-athlete representing New Summerfield ISD, you have the responsibility to uphold all New Summerfield ISD rules and regulations, as well as any other policies or procedures imposed by the Athletic Department and individual team coaches. New Summerfield Athletics is committed to helping you develop your maximum academic and athletic potential. You are responsible for being knowledgeable about and adhering to the information contained in this handbook.

1.1 Behavioral Expectations

By agreeing to participate in the New Summerfield Athletics Program, you will have many additional demands and expectations placed on you. As a student-athlete, you will receive more scrutiny than your peers and are expected to develop and maintain a high standard of personal behavior. The expectations include, but are not limited to the following:

1.1.1 Represent New Summerfield ISD in an appropriate manner.

1.1.2 Respect for the personal worth, dignity and rights of others.

1.1.3 Exhibit a positive work ethic, pursue academic excellence and improve in athletic skills and performance.

1.1.4 Practice personal and academic integrity.

1.1.5 Dress in a mutually respectable manner that represents the school in a positive light. Each coach may determine a Specific standard of dress and grooming.

1.1.6 Care for equipment and facilities by using equipment properly and safely, cleaning up after yourself and taking care of any clothing or equipment issued to you.

1.1.7 Respect for school policy as well as local, state and federal laws. The athletic department reserves the right to penalize students for misbehavior outside athletics.

1.2 Sportsmanship

New Summerfield ISD is dedicated to the principles of sportsmanship and fair-play, as well as character-building through interscholastic athletics. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. Student athletes are expected to abide by the following:

1.2.1 Student-athletes are expected to treat all players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect and sportsmanship.

1.2.2 Use of obscene or inappropriate language and gestures while competing is prohibited.

1.2.3 Student-athletes may not strike or physically abuse any spectator, official, coach or player.

1.2.4 Any action that violates New Summerfield ISD standards as determined by the coaches, principal, or superintendent shall result in penalties.

1.3 Academic Responsibility

The primary objective of all student-athletes at New Summerfield ISD is to earn a high school diploma and develop the necessary skills for success in life. You have the responsibility to attend class, pay attention, and behave with manners in order to achieve this objective.

1.3.1 Student-athletes are expected to be in class on time, prepared to learn, and complete all assignments by the allotted deadline.

- 1.3.2 Student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and games as they are structured to supplement the overall learning process across the curriculum by teaching time-management, goal setting, and discipline.

- 1.3.3 When students miss class for extracurricular activities, both the coaches and the student athletes are expected to communicate in advance with faculty to find out what work and lesson will be covered during the time of absence

1.4 Social Media

With the development of the increased prominence of social networking sites, student-athletes must be careful with their electronic communications. Any communication by a coach or student-athlete that compromises the integrity or reputation of New Summerfield ISD shall result in penalties.

1.4.1 Remember that electronic communication posted in open forums is out of your control, but you will be responsible for a parent post that is obscene or negligent.

1.4.2 Assume that all material posted will be seen by your mother, father, coach, teacher, and the school principal.

1.4.3 Student-athletes should refrain from posting information, photos, or other items online that could embarrass your family, your team, and New Summerfield ISD.

1.4.4 Do not post the following:

1. Personal information such as address, phone number, and date of birth.
2. Do not post nudity or obscene gestures.
3. Do not post comments discussing issues with your team or coach.

1.4.5 You will be held accountable for communication that compromises the reputation of your team, school, or community.

1.5 Tobacco/ Drugs/ Alcohol

1.5.1 The use of tobacco products is prohibited for all student-athletes, coaches, game officials, and athletic staff in all sports during practice and competition. Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from practice or competition.

1.5.2 The use of illegal drugs (not prescribed by a doctor) and alcohol is strictly prohibited for student-athletes at New Summerfield ISD. Student-athletes are subject to drug testing.

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Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from practice and competition for a minimum of 15 calendar days on the first offense.

1.6 Team Rules

Coaches should supplement the Athletic Handbook with expectations that are specific to their sport. Student-athletes who violate team rules are subject to penalties imposed by the specific sport's coach. Additionally, students who begin and quit a sport must follow the proper procedure.

1.6.1 Participation in each sport will be based on meeting the requirements for eligibility as well as the requirements set by the respective coaching staff.

1.6.2 Students who wish to compete in club sports (soccer) must be a participant in another UIL Sponsored sport. The rationale for this stipulation is in the interest of promoting those sports in which New Summerfield ISD has the ability to compete for district, area, regional, and state honors. The club sport is added to supplement participation in the overall athletics program.

Quitting a Sport

1.6.3 Any student who wishes to quit a program must:

- a. Bring a note from parents stating that they are aware of his/her intentions and its implications.
 - b. Forfeits his/her right to participate in that sport and will not be able to participate in another sport until the teams' season is over that the athlete quit.
 - c. If the head coach agrees that it would be in the best interest of both the program and the athlete that the student quits, there will be no penalty.
 - d. There will be a two-week grace period from the day the athlete begins the sport. (If the athlete quits during the grace period there will be no penalty).
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1.7 Athletic Injuries or Illness

The health and well-being of each student-athlete is paramount at New Summerfield ISD. Students who sustain injury or illness should follow the steps below:

1. Report the injury or illness to the head coach immediately.
2. Report the injury or illness to your parent.
3. The coach will assess the situation and refer you to an athletic trainer or contact your parent to discuss a doctor's visit if necessary.

1.7.1 A note from a physician or athletic trainer must be submitted to the coach before a student-athlete will be allowed to return to practice and competition.

In summary, the Code of Conduct is intended to assure that student-athletes are representing New Summerfield ISD in a manner that brings respect to our community.

Disciplinary Action

Major Offense- 3 Strike Policy:

Major offenses may include but are not limited to the use of drugs or alcohol, hazing, harassment, stealing, fighting or any other serious violation of the law or rules.

Strike 1: 1ST Offense – Suspension from competition for up to 15 days.

Athlete must still attend all practices.

Strike 2: 2nd Offense – Suspension from competition for up to 30 days.

Athlete must still attend all practices.

Strike 3: 3rd Offense – Removed from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

Re-admittance must be approved through the campus principal and superintendent and will be based on grades and disciplinary record during the time away from athletics.

Minor Offense- Policy:

The coach will address penalties assigned to minor offenses. Examples of minor offenses may include but are not limited to:

1. Profanity- will not be allowed.
 2. Jewelry- will not be allowed in practice or games.
 3. Attire- Athletes will wear appropriate attire while at practice, games and travelling. The head coach of each sport will set the requirements during that season.
 4. Hair Length (Males)- Male athletes must keep their hair no longer than a set length. Hair must be above the collar, must be above eye-brows and cannot cover more than half of their ear.
 5. Punctual- Athletes must be on time to practice, competition, class, meetings and departures.
 6. Cleanliness- Keep your locker and the locker room clean.
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LETTER JACKET POLICY**

1. For an ATHLETE to earn a Varsity Letterman's Jacket they must have completed all of the following:
 - A. Must complete the season in a sport
 - B. Must remain in good standing with the coach of that sport and his/her peers. C. Must play in at least half of the quarters or innings of VARSITY competition throughout the season. (Basketball, Baseball, Softball)
 - D. Must score a point at the District Meet on VARSITY (Track, Cross-Country). E. Must place at the District Meet as a team member or individual. (Tennis)
 - F. Must Qualify for the Regional Meet. (Power Lifting)
2. For a CHEERLEADER to earn a Varsity Letterman's Jacket they must have completed all of the following:
 - A. Must complete the year.
 - B. Must remain in good standing with the coach and his/her peers. C. Must not have received demerits or reprimand from sponsor.

3. For a student to earn an ACADEMIC UIL Letterman's Jacket they must have completed the following:

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- A. Must remain in good standing with the coach and his/her peers.
 - B. Must compete at the District Level of Academic UIL for at least TWO years.
 - C. Must score a point at the District Level ONE of those years with either team or as an individual.
4. For a student to earn a DRAMA Letterman's Jacket they must have completed all of the following:
 1. Must remain in good standing with the coach and his/her peers.
 2. Complete 2 years as a cast or crew for UIL One Act Play or Advance to Area Competition.
 5. FRESHMEN MAY NOT RECEIVE A VARSITY LETTERMAN'S JACKET for any extracurricular activity. However, they may earn their letter during this time and receive their jacket his/her sophomore year.

ORDERING OF LETTERMAN'S JACKET

1. Letterman Jackets will be ordered TWO times per school year and orders MUST come through and be approved by the campus principal.
2. Sponsors and Coaches of an extracurricular activity must present the campus principal with a list of their Varsity Lettermen TWO weeks prior to ordering date approval.
3. Ordering Dates:
 - A. 1st Week of October (Prior year Spring Sports, Cheerleading, Academic UIL and Drama)
 - B. 1st Week of April (Prior year Fall Sports)
4. Distribution of Letterman Jacket's
 - A. Letterman Jackets will be distributed by the campus principal.
5. The NEW SUMMERFIELD ISD will pay for the JACKET and the LETTER. Any additional patches must be paid by the student/parent.

COACH / PARENT RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a positive experience for everyone.

Parents have the right to know, and understand, the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:

- 1) Coach's philosophy.
- 2) Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter, as well as other players on the team.
- 3) Locations and times of practices and contests.
- 4) Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment needed, school & team rules, off-season expectations.
- 5) Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- 1) Concerns regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
- 2) Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
- 3) Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance. As your child becomes involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It's important to understand there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. These are the times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- 1) The mental and physical treatment of your child.
- 2) What your child needs to do to improve.

- 3) Concerns about your child's behavior. It is very difficult to accept your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches' make decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating. As you can see from the list above, certain

things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:

- 1) How much playing time each athlete is getting.
- 2) Team strategy.
- 3) Play calling.
- 4) Any situation that deals with other student-athletes. There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, refer to (*UIL Parent Information Manual*), the following procedure is suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be

followed: 1) Call the coach to set up an appointment.

- 2) If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic administrator and ask him or her to set up a meeting with the coach for you.
- 3) Think about what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting.
- 4) Stick to discussing the facts, as you understand them.
- 5) Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it.

What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach didn't provide satisfactory resolution?

- 1) Call the campus principal to set up a meeting with the campus principal, coach, and parent present.

- 2) At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary. Student's involvement in co-curricular activities has been proven to increase their chances of success later in life. We hope the information contained in this manual helps make that experience more enjoyable for everyone involved.
- 3) If another meeting is necessary, the campus principal will contact the superintendent to set up the meeting and inform all involved parties of the date and time.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

1. Remember that you are at the contest to support and yell for your team, and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.
2. Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made.
3. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
4. A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.
5. Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
6. Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups.
7. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
8. Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
9. Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during, and after the game on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).
10. Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
11. Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

12. Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.
13. Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility.
14. There is no such thing as a “right” to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a “privilege” and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct themselves accordingly.

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ELIGIBILITY

As a member school of the University Interscholastic League (UIL), New Summerfield ISD is dedicated to ensuring that all student-athletes meet the requirements outlined for participation in interscholastic athletics.

RESOURCES

For information on New Summerfield ISD visit:

www.newsummerfieldisd.org

For Game Schedules and Scores visit:

Sports section of

www.newsummerfieldisd.org

For information regarding the University Interscholastic League visit: www.uiltexas.org

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SCHOOL BOARD POLICY STATEMENT

The rules and regulations in this handbook are subject to the amendment and approval of the New Summerfield ISD School Board and Superintendent and are published in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University Interscholastic League (UIL).