



**PARENT-STUDENT
MODIFIED ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

REVISED April 2014



BYRAM HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Dear Athletes and Parents,

Welcome to the Byram Hills School District's Athletic Program. The information contained within this booklet is provided to help communicate the policies, procedures, and expectations of our interscholastic athletic program.

The main goal of our program is to provide competitive experiences that are enjoyable and successful, and help each individual reach their full potential within a safe and healthy environment.

When your daughter/son chooses to participate in one of our athletic programs, he/she will have to commit themselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. This handbook will acquaint you with specific policies and rules necessary for a well organized program of interscholastic athletics. Our athletic program is governed by the Commissioner of Education's basic code for extra-class activities, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, as well as the Byram Hills Board of Education.

The H.C. Crittenden Middle School and Byram Hills High School are members of New York State Public High School Athletic Association and Section One.

If you have any questions regarding the Byram Hills Athletic Program or this handbook, please contact me at 273-9200 X4981.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Gulino
Director of Athletics

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EDUCATIONAL GOALS OF THE BYRAM HILLS INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Competence

A student athlete in a quality program is competent in terms of:

- Skill development
- Knowledge of the Game/Strategies
- Fitness/Conditioning/Healthy Behavior

Character

A student athlete in a quality program demonstrates:

- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Dedication
- Trustworthiness/Fair Play
- Self Control

Civility

A student athlete in a quality program demonstrates civility toward others showing:

- Respect
- Fairness
- Caring

Citizenship

A student athlete in a quality program demonstrates citizenship through actions showing evidence of:

- Loyalty/Commitment
- Teamwork
- Role Modeling

**BYRAM HILLS
MODIFIED PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

All eighth grade students are eligible to participate in the modified interscholastic athletic program. At this level, the focus is on learning athletic skills and game rules, fundamentals of team play, socio-emotional growth, healthy competition, while placing appropriate physiological demands upon the adolescent body.

Emphasis is placed on participation of athletes. The amount of contest participation is based on attendance, commitment, attitude, skill level and effort. Participation is not necessarily equal at this level. However, opportunities for meaningful contest participation for each team member will exist over the course of the season.

The Byram Hills School District employs a “no cut” policy at the modified level. We expect our modified athletes to be committed to their team and teammates. In order to remain on a modified athletic team, all athletes must fulfill certain basic commitments:

- All required forms must be completed and submitted no later than 3 days after the first scheduled practice.
- The athlete must have met or exceeded the state mandate of required practices to be eligible to compete by the second scheduled contest.
- If any athlete misses a combination of three practices and/or games during the season, he/she will be removed from the team.

Ultimately, the number of teams, and the size of the squad in any sport, will be determined by the Director of Athletics.

If there are not enough eighth grade participants to field a team, then seventh grade students will be allowed to join for that particular team. The Athletic Department has established a minimum number of participants necessary for each sport offered to determine at which time a seventh grade try out will be conducted.

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association is the governing body for interscholastic athletics in Section One. Regulations, by which practice sessions are governed, are outlined in their regulations. In order for desired development of the adolescent athlete to occur, practice sessions are vital.

BYRAM HILLS ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

<i>FALL</i>	<i>VARSITY</i>	<i>JV</i>	<i>FROSH</i>	<i>MODIFIED</i>
<i>Cheerleading</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Boys Cross Country</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Girls cross-country</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Dance</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Girls Field Hockey</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X</i>
<i>Boys Football</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Boys Soccer</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X*</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Girls Soccer</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X</i>
<i>Girls Swimming</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Girls Tennis</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Girls Volleyball</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>

<i>WINTER</i>				
<i>Boys Basketball</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Girls Basketball</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X</i>
<i>Cheerleading</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dance</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Ice Hockey</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Boys Skiing</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Girls Skiing</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Boys Swimming</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Boys Track & Field</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Girls Track & Field</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>

<i>SPRING</i>				
<i>Boys Baseball</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X*</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Boys Golf</i>	<i>X</i>			
<i>Girls Golf</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Boys Lacrosse</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X</i>
<i>Girls Lacrosse</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Girls Softball</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X</i>
<i>Boys Tennis</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Boys Track & Field</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>
<i>Girls Track & Field</i>	<i>X</i>			<i>X</i>

Interest and participation will result in additions and deletions to our programs.

**These teams are subject to year-to-year decisions based on participation numbers.*

GETTING READY TO PLAY

1. Attend the Athletic Sign-up Meeting prior to each season

Approximately one month prior to each season a sign-up meeting will be conducted during the school day. The Athletic Department uses this information to determine program numbers and for coaches to generate rosters.

2. Requirements for Participation

A. Physical Examination (white).

A yearly physical examination is required. The "Pre-Sports Medical Screening and Health History" form must be completed by a physician and submitted to the School Nurse prior to participation. The physical covers all sports. The physical exam is good for 365 days from the date of the physical. As a service provided by the Athletic Department, "sports physicals" are conducted once a year at the middle school and high school during April or May. These physicals are conducted by our school physician and health services team. This physical is free of charge.

B. Athletic Participation Form (online)

- *Permission to Participate*
- *Sports Warning*
- *Medical History Update*
- *Emergency Medical Treatment Information*

The Athletic Participation Form is on the athletic website and should be completed and submitted online. Updated physicals should be brought to the Nurse's Office. Do not give these forms to coaches or bring them to the athletic office.

The Athletic Participation form can be completed up to 30 days prior to the start of the season. An athletic participation form must be submitted for each sport season.

3. Attend Pre-Season Meeting

*One of the most important ingredients for a successful sport season is effective, open and appropriate communication between the coach, parents, and student/athlete. In order to ensure that this communication takes place, **pre-season meetings** are scheduled by the athletic department at the beginning of each season. When pre-season meetings are scheduled, student/athletes and parents are required to attend.*

Topics of Discussion at Pre-Season Meetings

- Athletic Program policies & procedures
- Game Schedules
- Practice schedules
- Expectation of players, coaches, and parents
- Goals for season
- Parent roles
- Transportation
- Eligibility rules
- Code of conduct

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A. Conduct of Student /Athlete

All athletes shall abide by our school district's Code of Conduct. Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality, or violations of the law will not be tolerated. Also, training rules must be followed by all student/athletes to ensure a well-organized, disciplined, educationally sound, safe sports program. Due to the serious nature of this rule, the coach involved, the Athletic Director, the parent, and the student/athlete will meet and determine a just penalty according to the degree of the infraction. Penalties can range from probation, to suspension from subsequent contests, and to a permanent denial of participation. Penalties can carry-over into the next sport season that the athlete participates in. All athletes placed in a position of leadership, for example, captain, etc., will be removed from the position if they violate the athletic code related to the use of chemicals or for major misconduct violations.

Procedure for Suspension for Code Violations

- 1. All head coaches wishing to suspend an athlete will immediately notify the Director of Athletics, and the case will be reviewed to determine what action will be taken.*
- 2. All athletes concerned will be notified by the Director of Athletics, and will receive a hearing and an opportunity to respond to the violation presented.*
- 3. The student/athlete may continue to participate until the investigation process is completed.*
- 4. The Director of Athletics will ensure that the student/athlete's rights are preserved, and that a proper due process procedure is provided in all cases.*

CHEMICAL HEALTH CODE OF CONDUCT: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

I. Philosophy and Purpose

The Board of Education establishes this policy in further support of Policy 5300, Code of Conduct, and in recognition of the School District's responsibility to send a clear message of concern about the abuse of chemical substances and tobacco in our larger society, coupled with practical steps toward education, prevention, and -- where necessary -- discipline, in our own schools. While these issues are addressed in the comprehensive Policy 5300, Code of Conduct, extra curricular activities constitute a distinct area where the privilege of participation offers an important opportunity for another level of education.

The Byram Hills School District recognizes the use of chemical substances or tobacco as a significant health risk, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of the individual. The abuse of chemical substances or tobacco negatively affects extracurricular participation. Non-abusing student/athletes are affected by the abuse of chemicals or tobacco by team members, and other significant persons in the student/athlete's life, and all use presents significant safety concerns for both user and nonuser alike.

The Board's goals in establishing this policy are, therefore:

- *To help students make prudent and responsible choices, including avoidance of chemical substance or tobacco use and abuse;*
- *To help structure a school community with a heightened awareness that substance abuse will not be condoned, and where the community expectation of nonuse is communicated.*
- *To create a safe school environment that is free from substance abuse, primarily through education, and, where necessary, through disciplinary measures.*

A. Essential Partners

The Board also recognizes that no policy such as a Chemical Health Code of Conduct for Extra Curricular Activities can succeed in philosophy or practice without the essential partnership of the various groups in the school and community. Parents have the primary role, working both within their own families and with the schools for education, role modeling, prevention, and discipline. School officials, from coaches and activity advisors to principals and other administrators, have daily responsibilities in the same areas as explicitly stated below, and in Policy 5300. Most important of all, by their conduct and example, students who wish to exercise the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities, and in particular those who wish to hold positions of leadership in those activities, are essential partners in the effort to prevent substance abuse.

II. Education and Prevention

The School District will provide an extensive program of education and prevention regarding the use of chemical substances or tobacco as a significant health and safety risk, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of the individual. In addition, for students who wish to exercise the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities, further educational efforts will be undertaken.

The Byram Hills Athletic Department will provide education at pre-season meetings, team meetings, and workshops for athletes and parents to help them understand the risks of substance abuse. For athletics and all other extracurricular activities, materials will be distributed to students and parents to supplement other educational efforts. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the responsibilities of students assuming positions of leadership in extracurricular activities.

Since the best discipline is self-imposed, the goal of all education and prevention steps is to help students reach levels of conduct where disciplinary consequences imposed by the school are rarely needed. When the school must invoke disciplinary consequences, the goal is to help all students make better choices, and reach better levels of conduct, in the future.

III. Prohibited Student Conduct: Chemical Substances

Regardless of the quantity, a student shall not use or consume, have in his or her possession, buy, sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol, any steroid product, any

recreational drug or substance, or any substance defined by law as a controlled substance (i.e., prohibited substances). It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally-defined drug which is specifically prescribed for the student/athlete's own use by a personal physician.

Incidents such as those described above are prohibited on school property or school buses and at school functions, whether at home or away, and constitute direct violation of the District's Policy 5300, Code of Conduct for students. The school administration recognizes that it has the highest level of responsibility for monitoring student behavior and for enforcing this policy when students are on school property or at school functions, and will exercise that responsibility accordingly.

As stated above under "Essential Partners," parents and students have primary responsibility for behavior that occurs off campus, at home, or in the community. However, the District relies on a partnership to support policy enforcement and in cases of clearly evident off campus violations, may invoke disciplinary measures, particularly with respect to the responsibilities of students in leadership positions.

IV. Disciplinary Procedures, Penalties and Referrals

The school officials charged by the Board with responsibility for disciplinary matters in extracurricular activities are the administrators of the various buildings, aided by the directors of the various programs. These administrators are authorized to impose appropriate disciplinary action when necessary, emphasizing the student's ability to grow in self-discipline in the future.

Coaches and advisors are required, and students and other members of the school community are encouraged, to report instances of prohibited conduct to the administrator in charge. Administrators weighing disciplinary action will consider the same factors outlined in Policy 5300, Code of Conduct, and will select appropriate steps from the outline of Penalties below. As a general rule, discipline will be progressive; repeated violations will result in more serious penalties.

Although under State education law athletic and other extracurricular participation is a privilege the school district may curtail or revoke without the same formal steps required for suspension from the regular school day, in Byram Hills the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

A. Penalties

Students who are found to have violated the Chemical Code of Conduct may be subject to the following penalties, alone or in combination. These penalties are intended for application regarding extracurricular activities, and may be assigned in addition to those other sanctions imposed by the Byram Hills School District for drug or alcohol violations on school grounds:

- *Loss of eligibility for a portion of the extracurricular activity's events, or the athletic season's games or contests. The student must attend and participate in all practices and meetings during the suspension period, without the privilege of event or game participation.*
- *Loss of eligibility for an entire athletic season or extracurricular cycle.*
- *Loss of eligibility for a longer period.*

- *Removal from leadership position, office, or captaincy for an entire athletic season or extracurricular cycle.*
- *Loss of eligibility for leadership position, office, or captaincy for a longer period.*

Guidelines for Application of Penalties

All infractions should be treated seriously.

- *Penalties may be cumulative, beginning with the onset of the student's participation in extracurricular activities. (Such participation occurs most commonly at the middle or high school level.) Second or third infractions shall be subject to increasing consequences.*
- *Infractions at the end of a season or activity should be regarded as seriously as those at the outset of a season or activity, and penalties that overlap seasons may be imposed.*
- *In application of penalties to extracurricular activities with differing time commitments and event or game opportunities, an effort will be made to assign penalties of similar gravity for similar offenses.*
- *Student leaders are expected to maintain the highest standards and to serve as role models in the school community. As a result, loss of leadership position for an episode of substance abuse should be an expected consequence.*

Severe Infractions

The penalties outlined above are intended as responses to students who use the defined substances in violation of the policy. In the case of more severe violations, the penalties will be greater at the discretion of the responsible administrators. Such violations would include but are not limited to giving, selling, and/or distributing controlled substances, violent behavior under the influence of controlled substances, and endangering the safety and welfare of others.

Administrative regulations may be developed to further delineate the application of these penalties. This policy, and any accompanying regulations, shall be distributed to all secondary students and their parents at the start of the school year. The policy and regulations, once distributed to students and parents, shall be consistently and thoroughly applied to all extracurricular activities.

B. Referrals

Students who are found to have violated the Chemical Health Code of Conduct may also be subject to referrals separate from disciplinary action, which are aimed to provide further education, counseling, or support. In each and every case of violation, the student will be required to meet, a minimum of one time, with the Student Assistance Counselor. For subsequent violations, the number of required meetings may be increased.

In some instances, the student may be referred for voluntary counseling or treatment outside of school.

Students may also request a referral for participation in some form of community service intended to ameliorate their particular violation of trust within the school community. Such service will supplement, rather than replace, any disciplinary consequence.

V. Prohibited Student Conduct: Tobacco

Students involved in extracurricular activities shall not use any product containing tobacco, including but not limited to cigars and cigarettes, chewing tobacco and snuff.

A. Penalties

Students who are found to have violated the Chemical Health Code of Conduct may be subject to the following penalties, alone or in combination. These penalties are intended for application regarding extracurricular activities, and may be assigned in addition to those other sanctions imposed by the Byram Hills School District for drug or alcohol violations on school grounds.

Administrative regulations may be developed to further delineate the application of these penalties:

- *The student shall be required to meet with the administrator in charge of the program.*
- *The student shall lose eligibility for a portion of the extracurricular activity's events, or the athletic season's games or contests. The student must attend and participate in all practices and meetings during the suspension period, without the privilege of event or game participation.*
- *The student shall be required to meet with the administrator and Student Assistance Counselor for intervention recommendations.*
- *Additional penalties will be issued at the recommendation of the administrator.*

B. Referrals

See III. B., above.

VI. Supplements and Over-the-Counter Drugs

Use of any over-the-counter drug, medication, or food supplement in a way not prescribed by the manufacturer is not encouraged, and is potentially dangerous to the individual. Even natural substances in unnatural amounts may have short-term or long-term negative health effects. All students and their parents/guardians should consult with their physician before taking any over-the-counter drug, medication or supplement product.

VI. Evaluation of the Chemical Health Code of Conduct

In order to provide for a periodic evaluation of this Code of Conduct in practice, all violations, together with the penalties invoked, will be logged by the administrators in charge through the course of each school year and reported annually to the Board of Education. This

data, when reviewed for evaluation purposes, shall withhold as confidential the names of any individual students.

OBJECTIVES FOR THE ATHLETE

- A. To use the opportunity to learn new athletic activities.*
- B. To improve playing skills.*
- C. To develop physical endurance and desirable habits in health and safety.*
- D. To develop friendship with squad members.*
- E. To learn and demonstrate good sportsmanship.*
- F. To develop the realization that athletic competition, like life, affords privileges and definite responsibilities.*
- G. To learn that play for the sheer sake of playing is secondary in an athletic program to striving for individual and team excellence in performance.*
- H. To develop friendship and social experience through contests with schools in other communities.*
- I. To learn that striving to win is of the utmost importance to a young person, and that in the pursuit of victory, a violation of a rule brings a penalty, as it does in the game of life.*

OBJECTIVES FOR THE SCHOOL AND STUDENT BODY

- A. To promote sportsmanship, fair play and good citizenship for participant and spectator alike.*
- B. To promote strong school spirit and morals.*
- C. To promote broad participation and spectator interest within the student body.*
- D. Spectators and students, as members of the host school, are expected to treat visiting squad members and fans as guests of the school.*

PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communication You Should Expect From Your Child's Coach

- *Philosophy of the coach*
- *Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all players on the squad*
- *Locations and times of all the practices and contests*
- *Team requirements, i.e. special equipment, off-season equipment*
- *Procedure should your child be injured during participation*
- *Discipline that results in denial of your child's participation*

Communication Coaches Should Expect From You

- *Concerns expressed directly to the coach*
- *Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance*
- *Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations*

Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches

- *The treatment of your child mentally and physically*
- *Ways to help your child improve*
- *Concerns about your child's behavior*

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgments based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those described in the next segment, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches

- *Playing time*
- *Team strategy*
- *Play calling*
- *Other student athletes*

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the procedure discussed below should be followed to help reach a resolution to the issue of concern.

Procedures For Discussing Concern With A Coach

- *Call to set up a meeting with the coach. Byram Hills High School: 273-9200, ext. 4980
H.C. Crittenden Middle School: 273-4250, ext. 3933 (Fall), (Winter & Spring) ext.3617*
- *Please don't attempt to talk to a coach before or after a game or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.*

The Next Step: What Can The Parent Do If The Meeting With The Coach Was Not Satisfactory

- *Call to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director. The parent/guardian, coach, and Athletic Director will meet to discuss the problem*
- *At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.*

Parents are encouraged to discuss issues with the Athletic Director. However, if a parent has specific complaints regarding a coach, then the coach must have the opportunity to be present to meet with the parent.

We hope the information provided will help make your family's experience with the Byram Hills School District Athletic Program enjoyable and rewarding.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A BYRAM HILLS ATHLETE

Being a member of a Byram Hills athletic team is a privilege and an honor. To many athletes, it is the fulfillment of an early ambition. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be fulfilled. A great athletic tradition has been developed by the hard work of many people over the years. As a member of an athletic team at Byram Hills, you have inherited a great tradition. Your actions will reflect not only on those who you are associated with now, but those who have contributed so much to our school in the past.

Many of our athletes have gone on to successful collegiate careers. Many others have established league, section and state records. Because of this fine tradition a challenge is set for you to work hard and to make sure that your actions reflect the standards that are set up by the Athletic Department.

In today's society you will be asked to make sacrifices that will benefit yourself, your team and your school. Never before has the pressure of peer groups been so strong. You must learn to say "NO" to risky lifestyle choices. In the long run you and your family will be proud of the sacrifices and dedication that you will have put forth to be a member of our athletic teams. If you take this opportunity to make yourself a better individual, it will be truly a gratifying educational experience. The highs and lows of athletic competition are the result of hard work, dedication and discipline and are rewarded with the accumulation of fond memories and personal achievements.

RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOURSELF

The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and to develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the most from your high school experiences. Your studies, your participation in other school activities, as well as in athletics, prepare you for your life as an adult.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

All student/athletes are expected to stay in good academic standing. The Athletic Department has in place procedures to enhance communication among the faculty and coaches to provide academic support for student athletes so that they may participate fully in the athletic program while progressing in the classroom.

- 1. Following the first faculty report, the Athletic Director will have a conference with the student/athlete and decide on a course of action with the student/athlete.*
- 2. When the athletic director receives a second referral from a faculty member, the athletic director will schedule a conference with the coach and parents of the student/athlete. Follow-up action may include, but not be limited to the following:*
 - a. Student/athlete continues to practice and fulfill all the responsibilities of a team member*
 - b. The student/athlete will arrange make-up time with the appropriate teacher*
 - c. The student/athlete will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season*
 - d. The student/athlete may be suspended for a contest or contests*
- 3. A second incident that would require a parent conference will result in dismissal from the team that season*
- 4. Should Step #2 occur in a subsequent season, procedures a-d (above) will become effective immediately.*
- 5. The Athletic Department will always stress the importance of effort on the part of our student/athletes to progress to the best of their ability in the classroom*

PRACTICES AND CONTESTS

- 1. All student athletes must make a commitment to attend all practices and contests on time.*
- 2. Athletes must attend school in order to participate in that day's practice or athletic contest. An athlete must be in attendance for a minimum of half of the school day (4 consecutive periods).*
 - A. The Coach will notify athletes and their families of the team's games, practices and time schedules.*
 - B. If an athlete is going to be late or absent from practice it is his / her responsibility to notify the coach.*
 - C. An excused absence is for family emergencies or sickness. Please notify the coach directly.*
 - D. Absence on a day preceding a contest may be a reason for not participating in the next contest.*
 - E. Each sport has a required number of practices necessary in order to scrimmage or play in a contest, as outlined by NYSPHSAA, Inc.*
 - F. Students scheduled for Physical Education must participate in class in order to be eligible to practice or compete on an athletic team.*
 - G. If a student is suspended from school then he/she will be ineligible to participate on the day of the suspension, and subsequent suspension days.*
 - H. If an athlete goes home from school sick, they are not allowed to return for a practice or game.*
- 3. Schedules - Keep in mind that schedules are only a guideline. There are many reasons (inclement weather, unplayable facility, transportation problem, etc.) that can cause game cancellations. During Sectional play; game opponent, date, and time are not determined until shortly before the contest.*

SECTION ONE EJECTION AND CARD ACCUMULATION POLICY

1. *When an athlete is ejected from a contest, the following action will be enforced:*
 - a. *First ejection – that player cannot attend or participate in the next scheduled contest.*
 - b. *Second ejection – that player cannot attend or participate in the next two scheduled games.*
 - c. *Third ejection – that player cannot attend or participate in any remaining contests including sectionals or any post season games.*

Note: If an athlete is ejected in the final game of the season and participates in a sport during another season, he/she is ineligible to participate in the first scheduled contest. Example: A football player is ejected in his final game and also participates in baseball in the spring. He is ineligible for the first game of the baseball season.

2. *Three yellow cards accumulated by a single player in the regular season will result in a one game suspension. The continued accumulation of yellow cards after his/her one game suspension will result in the following:*
 - a. *The fourth accumulated yellow card will result in an additional one game suspension.*
 - b. *The fifth accumulated yellow card will result in a two game suspension.*
 - c. *The sixth accumulated yellow card will result in suspension for the remainder of the season including all sectional and post season contests.*

**In the event that a player receives two yellow cards in the same game, resulting in a red card, the two yellow cards will still count towards the season total. NOTE: Girls Lacrosse will be exempt from the card accumulation policy for the 2005-6 season.*

3. *The accumulative card total is for regular season play only. This process will begin again for postseason play unless the athlete was removed from competition in the regular season due to an accumulation of six yellow cards.*
4. *During the postseason a one game suspension will be implemented after three yellow cards and a one game suspension for each additional yellow card received through the Sectional, Regional and State championship tournament.*
5. *The coach is to report all ejections and yellow cards to his/her Athletic Director and the Section I office for tabulation. Reporting may be by mail, fax or e-mailed for tabulation.*
6. *Refusing to report, or failing to report infractions, and allowing players to continue to play under these circumstances will result in the forfeiture of all games played by the individual.*

If/when a team's card total (yellow and red) reach more than 10 cards, the coach and Athletic Director is responsible to inform the Section One Director and the Sportsmanship Committee Chairperson. If 10 cards are totaled during the season, the school will be considered in need of assistance with sportsmanship. League representatives, the Sportsmanship Committee of both will meet to determine what appropriate action might be taken to assist this school.

JEWELRY & VALUABLES

*No jewelry shall be worn in any sport according to the NYSPHSAA *Jewelry Regulation. Students wishing to pierce their ears or body parts should be aware that jewelry must be removed in order to be an eligible participant. Coaches are not permitted to allow "taping over" of earrings or other jewelry. Necklaces, earrings, bracelets, rings, etc. must be removed for all practices and contests. Any visible body jewelry must be removed as well.*

Student should not bring valuable items (laptops, cameras, cell phones, etc.) to school.

**New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Inc.*

LOCKERS

All athletes should use their PE lockers. It is the responsibility of the athlete to keep personal property locked.

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS

Byram Hills School District will supply all uniforms and equipment necessary for practice and competition. However, personalized pieces of equipment that cannot be reconditioned must be purchased by the athlete (i.e. Baseball caps, lacrosse gloves, goggles, etc.) Teams can purchase athletic sportswear of their own through the "Bobcat Boosters."

It is the responsibility of the student/athlete to return to the coach all clothing and equipment issued. Any lost or stolen equipment must be paid for by the student/athlete. The student/athlete may not start the next season or receive athletic awards until all equipment and clothing are returned or paid for.

RISK

By the very nature of athletic activity, participants are at risk of physical injury. No matter how careful the athlete and the coach are, no matter how many precautions are taken, the risk cannot be eliminated. The risk of injury includes minor injuries such as ligament sprains and muscle strains. The risk also includes catastrophic injuries such as permanent paralysis or even death. It is important everyone understands these risks and that athletes follow ALL safety directions from their coaches because they are established to reduce risk of injury.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

The Byram Hills School District carries insurance coverage for student injuries that occur within its supervised activities. Please be aware that a family's personal insurance coverage must first be used to its allowable limits. The school's coverage makes payment toward any unpaid balance incurred due to the injury. Our state "Pupil Benefit Plan" is a "scheduled excess" plan that may not cover the entire balance left after your insurance is used.

SELECTION CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURE

The intent of the Selection/Classification Program is to provide safe and suitable participation in appropriate level of competition for students. The Selection/Classification Program is only for the exceptional athlete. Selection Classification is not used to fill a varsity, junior varsity or freshman team. In the Byram Hills School District, only eighth grade students are eligible to make application for the Selection/Classification process. At no time will a student be promoted to a higher level of play if it means preventing an upperclassman from participating.*

**In programs where students compete in the following non-contact sports: swimming, golf, tennis, cross country and track, exceptional seventh graders may be considered.*

SPORTSMANSHIP AND FAIR PLAY

Visiting team members, students and adult spectators are guests to be accorded all the courtesy and consideration that a friendly, well-mannered and well-intentioned host would normally give. The visitors, in turn, are to act as invited guests, using the home school's facilities with care and respecting the rules and customs of the home school.

- *Officials are the proper authorities to make decisions regarding rules and their interpretation; these decisions should be accepted.*
- *Spectators, student athletes and coaches must recognize that their conduct plays an important role in establishing the reputation of their school and that their positive actions can relate directly to the success of their teams.*

NOISE MAKERS

All noise makers (cow bells, whistles, air horns, etc.) are prohibited from all Section I contests, both home and away for all sports.

TRANSPORTATION

Student athletes will be transported to away contests by school authorized vehicles only. Athletes are not allowed to drive to away contests. If an athlete misses the bus they will be ineligible to play in that contest.

The Athletic Department recommends that students return to school with their team. Parents may transport their child home from an away contest when a "Transportation Release Form" has been submitted to the Director of Athletics.

Transportation Form A:

Respond Yes or No on the Athletic Participation Form. You no longer need to submit a paper copy of the "A" form if you check the appropriate box on the Athletic Participation Form

- *Allows you to transport your own child*
- *Submitted once per season for the entire season*

Transportation Form B

- *Allows parents to take home another child with that parent's permission.*
- *Submitted per contest. Must be submitted by noon on the day of the request.*

The Athletic Department will not honor phone requests, or hand written notes.

Forms can be faxed to: 914-273-7276

RETURN TO PLAY AFTER AN INJURY

Following any injury, that required treatment by medical personnel (emergency room or private physician), or for any student-athlete under treatment by a private physician, a written "permission for return to participation in the athletic program" must be submitted by the attending medical personnel. This permission must include: nature of the injury, date of return, restrictions and modifications if any, and must state "return to athletics." The chief school physician may be consulted in situations that warrant further review.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS/EARLY DISMISSAL

On any day that school is closed due to inclement weather or other unplanned circumstances, teams cannot practice or compete in games or scrimmages. The same procedure will be followed on days when there is an early dismissal due to weather, or other unplanned circumstances.

ATHLETIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Athletic Advisory Council meetings are usually held on the first Friday of each month, from 8:00A.M. - 9:30A.M. The function of the group is to serve as a sounding board, not a policy-making or decision-making body. The membership is comprised of six parents: one parent with a child in each of grades 7-12. Parents remain on the committee through that child's graduation, after which an additional parent is chosen with a child in grade 7.

Additional membership consists of: four coaches from modified and varsity; four student athletes -- two male and two female; an academic teacher, an assistant principal and a Board of Education member. There are also three community liaisons from youth athletics and town recreation.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

NAME	TITLE	SCHOOL	TELEPHONE
<i>Michael Gulino</i>	<i>Director of Athletics</i>	<i>Byram Hills High School</i>	<i>273-9200 ext. 4982</i>
<i>Dave Mack (fall)</i>	<i>Assistant to Athletic Director - Modified</i>	<i>H.C. Crittenden M. S.</i>	<i>273-4250 ext. 3933</i>
<i>Jared Christian (winter & spring)</i>			<i>273-4250 ext. 3617</i>
<i>Julie Gallagher</i>	<i>Nurse</i>	<i>H.C. Crittenden M.S.</i>	<i>273-4250 ext. 3950</i>
<i>Anneliese Galgano</i>	<i>Athletic Secretary</i>	<i>Byram Hills H.S.</i>	<i>273-9200 ext. 4981</i>
<i>Dr. Corsaro</i>	<i>School Physician</i>	<i>Byram Hills School District</i>	