



Athletic Eligibility Agreement Policy

GRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Updated Spring 2019



When participating in athletics at Gridley High School, student-athletes are representing their team, school, community, and family. Therefore, the following is expected of all student-athletes:

- A. Meet the academic standards of Gridley High School and the Gridley Unified School District;
- B. Make arrangements for all assignments missed due to early releases for competitions;
- C. Are respectful of the personal and school property of their school as well as other schools.
- D. Respect the rules and decisions of the officials;
- E. Conduct themselves in a manner that positively represents the student-athlete's team, school, community, and family.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Student athletes must meet NSCIF and Gridley High School eligibility.
2. Student athletes may not compete on outside teams in the same sport during the season of sport.
 - a. (i.e. AAU basketball during basketball season)
3. Student athletes must earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale with no "F's" at each quarter grading period. When a semester grade is given, that grade must be used.
 - a. If a student does not earn a minimum 2.0 GPA and/or has no more than 1 "F" at the end of a quarter grading period, they may be placed on probationary status. The student athlete may stay on probationary status for one quarter grading period provided they meet the requirements of the contract. If the student is on probationary status and fails to meet the requirements of the contract they will either be ineligible to compete in contests for 1 week or will be deemed ineligible and removed from the roster.
 - b. If a student has 2 or more "F's" they are not eligible for probationary status with the only exception being incoming freshman for the 1st quarter of their freshman year.
 - c. If a student is on a team and deemed ineligible, they will be removed from the roster and cannot practice or participate in any team functions.
 - d. Per CIF rules, once a student is on probationary status or is deemed ineligible, they must regain their eligibility by earning a minimum 2.0 GPA with no "F's" in a quarter grading period before being allowed to go on probationary status again.
4. All student athletes fall under the GHS Discipline Plan the entire school year inclusive of holidays and breaks. They must follow all rules and will be disciplined according to the student handbook.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

1. Student athletes must attend school for the full school day to be eligible to practice or participate in a contest. The student athlete must be in attendance the last regular school day prior to a contest scheduled on a weekend or holiday to be eligible to participate.
 - a. If a student is unable to participate in practice because of absences from school, they are not allowed to attend practice. They may attend contests, but may not be in uniform.
2. Excused absences for appointments (such as doctor, dentist, DMV, etc) and other serious family obligations are possible exceptions, subject to interpretation by administration.

FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE:

Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of athletics at Gridley High School. Doing so requires a significant commitment and it is understood that not all sports are a good match for every student. However, all members of a team are valuable, and leaving or quitting during a season hurts all members of the team. In an effort to encourage students to try new sports, yet still ensure students honor their commitments and are responsible for their actions, GHS has the following policies:

1. Students may try and quit a sport before the **second** contest without consequence.
2. If a student quits or is removed from a team after the **second** scheduled contest, regardless of the reason, they are required to fill out an "Intent to Withdraw" form which must be signed by the student, parent/guardian, coach, athletic director, and an administrator.
3. Per administrative review, the student may not participate in any organized team activities of another sport **until the season in which the quit/removal took place is completed.**
4. Per administrative review, the student may be ineligible to participate for the **first 20% of the scheduled contests** of the next sport they choose to participate in.
5. Per administrative review, the student may not receive credit for the season of sport to count towards PE credit.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER:

Students can earn 1 year (10 Credits) of Physical Education credits by participating in 3 seasons of sport over the student's four years of high school attendance. In order for a season of sport to count, the student must be on the active roster for a minimum of 8 weeks.

TRANSPORTATION:

Student athletes must travel to all athletic events by means of school provided transportation (bus, van, coach, or approved parent).

Student athletes have three options for returning to GHS after contests:

1. Barring extenuating circumstances, student athletes are expected to take the school provided transportation.
2. Go home with their parent/guardian, provided the coach has approved it and the parent/guardian has signed the player out with a coach prior to leaving.
3. Go home with another adult provided the student athlete's parent/guardian has completed the School Release Form and it has been approved by administration prior to leaving for the contest, the coach has approved it, and the designated adult has signed the player out with a coach prior to leaving.

Failure to adhere to this rule may result in suspension from participating in the next scheduled contest pending administration/coach review.

EQUIPMENT:

School equipment checked out to a student-athlete becomes the responsibility of that person. Student athletes are financially responsible for any lost or damaged uniforms or equipment, and may not be allowed to participate in another sport until all lost or damaged uniforms or equipment are returned and/or paid for.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL:

Student athletes who are suspended from school will be ineligible to participate in any contests for the duration of their suspension **in addition to** any contests that fall within a **minimum** of five (5) school days beginning on the first school day following the student's return from suspension per admin discretion. The period of ineligibility is in effect during weekends and holidays falling in the midst of the five school days.

APPEALS PROCESS:

The athletic director is charged with the interpretation and enforcement of this agreement. Should a student or his/her parents or guardian, wish to appeal decisions of the athletic director, they have the right of due process. See the GHS Student Handbook for the procedures of Due Process.

EQUAL ACCESS:

1. GHS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. Every student has access to all course offerings and are able to participate in all school sports or activities of their choice. For more information regarding equal access, please call the Principal.
2. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that mandates a "free and appropriate public education" to children with disabilities. Gridley Unified School District follows the education code for special education to be in compliance with IDEA.

STUDENT ATHLETE DRUG TESTING POLICY

GRIDLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (BP 5131.61a)

The Governing Board is committed to maximizing the health and safety of district students and recognizes the district's role in helping to protect students from the dangers associated with illegal drug use and drug abuse. To support the district's substance abuse prevention efforts, the Board desires to establish a drug testing program in the district's high schools that will provide a deterrent from drug use and help refer drug users to appropriate counseling and rehabilitative services. (cf. 5131.6 – Alcohol and Other Drugs) (cf. 5131.63 – Steroids)

Participation in the district's drug testing program shall require the written consent of students' parents/guardians (final page of this document). The Superintendent or designee shall provide information about the program, including the district's policy and procedures, to all high school students and their parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year. All informational materials provided for this purpose shall contain clear statements about how the program will be implemented, including, but not limited to, a list of every substance that to be tested for and how students may be withdrawn from participation in the program. (cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications) (cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Drug testing procedures shall ensure appropriate student privacy while maintaining the viability of the process. The specimen shall be collected in a private facility behind a closed door.

Parents/guardians shall be notified after any positive test results are confirmed. Test results shall be kept separate from the student's other educational records and shall be disclosed only to school staff designated by the Superintendent or designee as responsible for program implementation. The district shall not release test results to law enforcement authorities except in compliance with a court order.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to principals, coaches, and other district staff involved in implementing the district's drug testing program. (cf. 4131 - Staff Development) (cf. 4231 - Staff Development) (cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Students who test positive in any voluntary drug testing program shall be encouraged to or required (multiple positive tests) participate in an assistance program and will be required to take subsequent drug tests as a condition of athletic competition. No disciplinary or punitive action outside of athletic competition shall be taken against any student who tests positive in the voluntary drug testing program. (cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

The Superintendent or designee may establish a non voluntary, random drug testing program for students participating in athletics. (cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities) (cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

No fee shall be charged for student participation in the district's drug testing program.(cf. 3260 – Fees and Charges) (cf. 6145.2 – Athletic Competition)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop:

1. Informational materials to be provided to participating students and their parents/guardians about the drug testing program. The informational materials shall require parents/guardians to notify the school when their child is taking any medication by presenting either a copy of the prescription or a physician's written verification of this fact.
2. A drug testing consent form to be signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian prior to allowing the student to participate in athletics. The consent form shall clearly indicate that the consent can be withdrawn and that the only consequence for such withdrawal will be that the student will no longer be able to participate in athletics
3. Procedures addressing how students will be selected, how often tests will be conducted, how samples will be collected and transported, and how results will be confirmed

Any student participating in athletics who fails a required drug test shall be disqualified from participating in the athletic activity in accordance with district policy and shall be referred to an assistance program.

First Time Positive Verification (Failed Drug Test):

1. The parent or guardian will be notified.
2. A due process hearing will be conducted by the principal or his/her designee with the parent or guardian and the student.
3. The student will be suspended from competitive activity for 15 days. The suspension shall be carried forward to the next sport in which the student participates on a prorated basis in the event the suspension is not fulfilled during the season in which the infraction occurred. Testing for that individual will become mandatory for the remainder of the school year beginning 45 days after the failed test, and conducted no more than once per 30 day period.
4. The student will be encouraged to participate in a drug assistance program.

Second Offense:

1. The parent or guardian will be notified.
2. A due process hearing will be conducted by the principal or his/her designee with the parent or guardian and the student.
3. The student will be suspended from competitive activity for 45 days. The suspension shall be carried forward to the next sport in which the student participates on a prorated basis in the event the suspension is not fulfilled during the season in which the infraction occurred. Testing for that individual will become mandatory for one calendar year upon return from suspension after the failed test, and conducted no more than once per 30 day period.
4. Student will be required to participate and provide verification of participation in a drug assistance program.

Third Offense:

1. The parent or guardian will be notified.
2. A due process hearing will be conducted by the principal or his/her designee with the parent or guardian and the student.
3. The student will be suspended from competitive activity for one calendar year. Testing for that individual will become mandatory for the duration of the student's athletic eligibility in the Gridley Unified School District, and conducted no more than once per 30 day period.
4. Student will be required to participate and provide verification of participation in a drug assistance program.

Fourth Offense:

1. The parent or guardian will be notified.
2. A due process hearing will be conducted by the principal or his/her designee with the parent or guardian and the student.
3. The student will be suspended from participating in athletics for the remainder of his/her athletic eligibility within the Gridley Unified School District.

Northern Section, CIF Concussion Information Sheet

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a “ding” or a bump on the head can be serious. You can’t see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away.

Symptoms may include one or more of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Headaches· “Pressure in head”· Nausea or vomiting· Neck pain· Balance problems or dizziness· Blurred, double, or fuzzy vision· Sensitivity to light or noise· Feeling sluggish or slowed down· Feeling foggy or groggy· Drowsiness· Change in sleep patterns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Amnesia· “Don’t feel right”· Fatigue or low energy· Sadness· Nervousness or anxiety· Irritability· More emotional· Confusion· Concentration or memory problems (forgetting game plays)· Repeating the same question/comment

Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Appears dazed· Vacant facial expression· Confused about assignment· Forgets plays· Is unsure of game, score, or opponent· Moves clumsily or displays incoordination· Answers questions slowly· Slurred speech· Shows behavior or personality changes· Can’t recall events prior to hit· Can’t recall events after hit· Seizures or convulsions· Any change in typical behavior or personality· Loses consciousness

What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns to soon?

Athletes with the signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that adolescent or teenage athlete will often under report symptoms of injuries. And concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches, parents and students is the key for student-athlete's safety.

If you think your child has suffered a concussion

Any athlete even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice immediately. No athlete may return to activity after an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear, without medical clearance. Close observation of the athlete should continue for several hours. The new CIF Bylaw 313 now requires implementation of long and well-established return to play concussion guidelines that have been recommended for several years:

“A student-athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be removed from competition at that time and for the remainder of the day.”

and

“A student-athlete who has been removed may not return to play until the athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussion and received written clearance to return to play from that health care provider”.

You should also inform your child's coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember it's better to miss one game than miss the whole season. And when in doubt, the athlete sits out.

For current and up-to-date information on concussions you can go to:
<http://www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports/>

Adapted from the CDC and the 3rd International Conference on Concussion in Sport
Document created 5/20/2010

CIF CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship (the “Six Pillars of Character”) This Code applies to all student athletes involved in interscholastic sports in California. I understand that, in order to participate in high school athletics, I must act in accord with the following:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

1. *Trustworthiness* – be worthy of trust in all I do.
 - Integrity – live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; do what’s right even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.
 - Honesty – live and compete honorably; don’t lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - Reliability – fulfill commitments; do what I say I will do; be on time to practices and games.
 - Loyalty – be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.

RESPECT

2. *Respect* – treat all people with respect at all the time and require the same of other student athletes.
3. *Class* – live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.
4. *Disrespectful Conduct* – don’t engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or racial nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
5. *Respect Officials* – treat contest officials with respect; don’t complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

RESPONSIBILITY

6. *Importance of Education* – be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level and remember that many universities will not recruit student athletes that do have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to respect their institution honorably.

7. *Role Modeling* – Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right and that I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model. Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the school administration.
8. *Self-Control* – exercise self-control, don’t fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.
9. *Healthy Lifestyle* – safeguard your health; don’t use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.
10. *Integrity of the Game* – protect the integrity of the game; don’t gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

FAIRNESS

11. *Be Fair* – live up to the high standards of fair play; be open minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

CARING

12. *Concern for Others* – demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure a player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to myself or others.
13. *Teammates* – help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

CITIZENSHIP

14. *Play by the Rules* – maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.
15. *Spirit of rules* – honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

_____ Student Initials	_____ Parent Initials	Athletic Eligibility Agreement Policy (Page 1 & 2)
_____ Student Initials	_____ Parent Initials	GUSD Drug Testing Policy (Page 3 & 4)
_____ Student Initials	_____ Parent Initials	Concussion Information (Page 5 & 6)
_____ Student Initials	_____ Parent Initials	CIF Code of Conduct (Page 7)

GENERAL AUTHORIZATION:

I understand fully that my performance as a participant and the reputation of my school are dependent, in part, on my conduct as an individual. I hereby agree to accept and abide by the standards, rules, and regulations set forth by the Gridley Unified School Board and the sponsors for the activity in which I participate.

I also authorize the Gridley Unified School District to conduct a test on a urine specimen or any other type of testing, which I provide, to test for drugs and/or alcohol use. I also authorize the release of information concerning the results of such a test to the Gridley Unified School District and to the parents and/or guardians of the student. I understand that I can withdraw consent for my student athlete to be tested, with the only consequence being they can no longer participate in sport at GHS.

This shall be deemed consent pursuant to the Family Education Right to Privacy Act for the release of the above information to the parties named above.

The student shall present either a copy of the prescription or a physician's written verification of this fact with the consent form.

Please list any prescribed medications the student athlete is currently taking:

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

**** RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO MS. McINTIRE (ROOM 510) ****