



HUNT MIDDLE SCHOOL
ATHLETIC POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES
2016-2017

Foreword from the Principal

Dear Parent of an HMS Athlete,

Welcome to the Hunt Middle School Athletic Program. We are thrilled you have chosen to entrust your athlete to us. For many parents this is your first experience with organized sports for others of you, you are seasoned veterans. Please allow me a few moments to share two expectations in relation to our athletic programs.

Let me first express what you may expect from your HMS Coaches. We always hope to be competitive in every contest but that is not our penultimate goal. Our goals are to cultivate your athlete, care for your athlete and provide a safe environment for your athlete. In order to attain those goals we will teach all athletes fair play, the importance of team over self, and the value of hard work. Further, we will treat athletes with dignity and hold them to high standards of personal decorum.

My second topic would be our expectations from parents. It can be difficult to balance the roles of being the parent of an athlete. As a fellow parent and former coach, I understand that we invest heavily in our children. The temptation to coach our children from the stands or tersely express our opinions on the coaches' or referees' decisions can be strong. Please resist that urge. Extend our coaches the opportunity to instruct your athlete. Please refrain from criticizing other student athletes, referees or coaches. Inconsiderate words spoken in haste can leave lasting pain for children and adults. Conduct yourselves in the bleachers and stands in way that brings credit to our community. Please know that though this is never a course we want to take, inappropriate conduct from fans or parents can lead to removal and even loss of privileges to attend events. Please do not air your dissatisfaction with coaches on the court or field during or immediately after a game or contest. Instead schedule a time to meet with the coach to share concerns. The best way to support your athlete is to dispense praise win or lose, to ensure that they are punctual and present at practice, to encourage hard work, and to reinforce respect for coaches, fellow athletes and officials.

Participation in athletics revolutionized my life. With confidence instilled by coaches that cared for me and demanded the best from me, I felt I could attain any goal. It is my hope that, that will be true for your athlete as well. I look forward to seeing all of you as our dedicated Huskies compete with honor and integrity.

Sincerely,

Danny Barrentine
Principal
Hunt Middle School

GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Each Hunt coach recognizes the extra time and effort required of the student-athlete. As coaches, we expect students participating in athletics at Hunt Middle School to possess conduct that is exemplary. Athletics is a privilege. Consequently, when high expectations and standards are violated, the privilege may be removed. All athletes will be expected to conduct themselves with pride and dignity. The students will be required to comply with all of the policies and procedures outlined below while at school and all school sponsored events. Students will be expected to conduct themselves in manner benefitting an HMS/FISD student athlete away from school and school events as well.

SPORTS

Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Tennis and Soccer are sports that will be offered at Hunt Middle School. Team selections will be based on the coaches' assessments. Fundamentals, attitude and behavior, in and out of the classroom, will all be taken into consideration for making a team at Hunt.

PHYSICALS

All students participating in athletics **must** have a physical signed by a doctor, on the UIL physical form, before they begin any tryouts or practices. All incoming 7th and 8th graders must have a yearly updated physical form on file before tryouts or practices begin.

ATHLETIC PERIODS

1st Period – 8th Grade Boys Athletics
2nd Period – 7th Grade Boys Athletics

7th Period – 7th Grade Girls Athletics
8th Period – 8th Grade Girls Athletics

PRACTICE TIMES

Boy's Sports – All sports will take place before school beginning at 7:00 a.m.

Girl's Sports – All sports will be held after school until approximately 5:30 p.m.

With the possible exception of cross country this may be girls before school and boys after school.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES

Attending practices is essential in developing both individual skills and successful teamwork, thus it is mandatory. If an athlete misses a practice, the absence must be communicated to the coach in advance. A phone call or email would be an acceptable means to communicate the absence. The sports skill-based conditioning part of the workout will be made up for both excused and unexcused absence. All assigned skill based workouts must be completed prior to the next contest or the athlete will not be allowed to play in the contest. Students who are tardy to practice may be required to complete additional skill work. If an athlete is unable to work out for more than 2 days in a row, a doctor's note will be required for continued missed workouts.

GAME DAY ATTENDANCE

Athletes must be in attendance for a half day of school to be able to participate on a game night. Extenuating circumstances may be an exception to this policy if students are in attendance for a minimum of a half day and the absence is documented by a doctor's note, or approved by the Athletic Coordinator prior to the absence.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Athletes that are not in compliance of HMS Personal Appearance expectations may not participate in athletic contests.

1. DRESS: Game Day Dress—Athletes may be required to dress as a team on game days. We will look and behave respectfully and appropriately. **All** students are expected to meet school dress code every day; however, we do hold our athletes to a higher standard. Therefore, continued issues with inappropriate dress could result in consequences at the coach's discretion.

2. Hair: In accordance with school policy, hair shall be clean, well groomed, and out of the eyes and shall be styled in a way that is not distracting and/or designed to be conspicuous. The athlete's hair should be neatly trimmed to meet his/her coach's satisfaction. Hair should not be an unnatural color. **Bleaching and dying of hair a different color is unacceptable.** Facial hair such as mustaches, beards, goatees, and extremely long sideburns are not allowed.

3. Body Art/Piercing: The athletic department realizes that sometimes athletes will have tattoos and body piercing. However, tattoos should not be visible when representing FISD as an athlete. The same holds true for earrings, belly button rings, and the like. Examples of events deemed inappropriate include: practice, games, banquets, and at tournaments. Tattoos should simply have tape or a band-aid over them, while the body jewelry can simply be taken off.

24 HOUR RULE

If an athlete quits the in-season sport, he/she will be given an initial 24-hour grace period to reconsider their decision. If he/she quits again, they will not be allowed to participate until the following sport.

OTHER SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

We want to always encourage our student athletes to participate in as many sports and activities as they would like but encourage him or her to keep in mind the following parameters: in-season sports take precedence over all other activities and events. We will do our best to accommodate conflicts with other schedules but by enrolling in our athletic program you have chosen that **Hunt Athletic Teams are your primary commitment. Hunt games and practices cannot be missed for outside practices or games without consequence.**

ATHLETE'S SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Athletes are subject to all HMS and FISD Code of Conduct expectations during practice, travel and contests. Athletes may receive both school discipline and athletic discipline for violations of behavioral expectations. Behavior unbecoming an HMS/FISD athlete, on or off FISD property, may lead to immediate accelerated consequences including dismissal from athletics.

ATHLETE'S CONDUCT

Athletes will show respect for all coaches, teachers, officials, teammates, opponents, opponents' facilities, fans, visitors, and school officials. Hunt athletes should strive for, and be taught, acceptable and proper conduct at all school functions, and in the community, as they are representatives of their school and athletic program. Profanity will also not be tolerated in the athletic program. Any unsportsmanlike behavior on or off the court, such as fighting, mouthing, taunting, etc. will be addressed by the coach of that sport and may result in disciplinary action by administration.

Coaches have the right to discipline athletes in their individual sport, but will exercise sound judgment in evaluating each situation. Consequences may range from conditioning to suspension from the program. Keeping in mind the welfare of the team, as well as the welfare of the individual, coaches will discipline in a consistent manner. If removal from the program happens for disciplinary reasons, this removal is for the remainder of the school year. Any 7th grader removed from the athletic program for disciplinary reasons may be allowed re-entry into athletics their 8th grade year, but will be placed on a discipline contract for the entire following year.

Athletic Consequences in conjunction with school discipline:

One Day Placement=1/2 game suspension

Two or more Day Placement= Full game suspension.

Second ISS Placement/First OSS Placement=Full game suspension and behavioral contract.

Third ISS Placement/Second OSS Placement=Removal from Athletics for the year.

DAEP/JJAEP- Immediate Removal from athletics for the year.

PROBATIONARY CONTRACT AND/OR ATHLETIC REMOVAL

Conduct unbecoming an HMS/FISD athlete may result in an athlete being placed on an Athletic Probationary Contract. Failure to adhere to the terms of the Probationary Contract may lead to removal from HMS athletics. Some disciplines events are so serious that immediate removal from athletics may be merited. Any athlete dismissed from the program in the previous school year may be readmitted to athletics. However, that athlete will be placed on athletic probation for the entire semester of reentry.

LOCKER ROOM, EQUIPMENT, AND THEFT

Equipment, which is school property, will be issued to each player and a record will be kept. Athletes are issued an athletic locker with their own combination. It is the athlete's responsibility to take care of their equipment. The athlete will pay for any lost or stolen equipment. The athlete will not wear or use school equipment for personal use. All equipment will remain at school unless instructed by a coach to take home. Athletes may not wear equipment home, wear another athlete's equipment, leave equipment out or have a messy locker room. Any violation will result in disciplinary action. **Stealing will not be tolerated!** Any athlete caught stealing will be placed on an Athletic Probationary Contract and may be removed from the program for the remainder of the school year. Cell phones, music devices, etc. are brought to school at your own risk and should be locked up. These devices are subject to school disciplinary actions if being used when they should not be or in a manner that is not acceptable.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Alcohol, tobacco, and drugs will not be tolerated at anytime in our program. Consequences will be dealt with through our Code of Conduct policies and the FISD athletic policy and could result in a suspension from the program.

TRANSPORTATION

We will provide transportation to and from the games for all athletes. Each student athlete must ride the bus to the game. We want to always encourage team unity, which includes riding on the bus home with teammates. Parents can pick their kids up at school after the game. Written (email or note), 24 hours in advance is required for a student to be allowed to ride with another parent. All athletes must be signed out before they are allowed to leave the game or contest. Athletes must be picked up within a reasonable time (**15 minutes**) upon completion of **practice and games**. If students continue to have problems being picked up, we will document and issue 2 warnings. On the third offense, the athlete may be removed from the program.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND BYOD

Use of any electronic communication devices in any part of locker rooms is prohibited at all times. Athletes are prohibited from taking pictures or videoing in any part of locker rooms. Athletes found violating those will be disciplined. HMS athletes should be aware that inappropriate posts or communication on social media can lead to disciplinary action.

OFF-SEASON

Any student athlete not participating in the current sport will be placed in an off-season program. This program will involve conditioning and weight training as well as drills to prepare the athlete for the next sport. The program will take place only during the school athletic period.

PARTICIPATION

We encourage all of our student athletes to participate in all the sports offered at Hunt. With this being said, every athlete must try-out for at least one sport. The coaching staff will have to make roster cuts in Volleyball, Basketball, Track, and Soccer. Athletes who do not participate in any sports in 7th grade will be required to have a recommendation from the athletic coordinator to be in athletics in 8th grade.

ELIGIBILITY

Athletes are held to a higher standard in the classroom. To be eligible to participate in athletic contests, a student must pass all classes with a minimum of 70% each 6 week grading period.

TUTORIALS

We understand that academics do come first and any athlete who needs to attend tutorials will be encouraged to attend; if failing they will be required to attend tutorials in that subject area. Teachers will have tutorials before and after school, so the athletes should try to attend the tutorials that will not conflict with their practice. For boys this would be in the afternoons and for girls this would be in the mornings

GRADING

Athletes must be on time and suited out for work out. Attendance at practice and games is mandatory even if injured. Student athletes must participate to the fullest of their abilities in all practices and games. Athletes must follow all athletic policies as agreed to in our Athlete's Promise. Participation, attitude, work ethic, and compliance with athletics will constitute 100% of the six weeks grade.

PARENT CONCERNS

Parent concerns should be handled in the following order:

ATHLETE → COACH OF SPORT
ATHLETE AND PARENT → COACH OF SPORT
ATHLETE AND PARENT → ATHLETIC COORDINATOR
ATHLETE AND PARENT → ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL → PRINCIPAL

These policies and regulations are important to a successful athletic program. However, the key to a successful program comes from communication between the coaches and parents, the coaches and athletes, and the athletes and parents. We encourage the parents to share in their son/daughter's athletic experience and help make it a positive and rewarding one. If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with your child.

Hunt Middle School Coaching Staff

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| Boys Coaches: Michael Stallons- Coordinator George Brown Andrew Casares Danny Coleman Jason Jackson Eric Minyard | Girls Coaches: Lauren Boyd- Coordinator Mary English Matthew Parkman Megan Schwefel Courtney Bosworth |
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ATHLETE'S PROMISE TO HUNT ATHLETICS

It is my desire to be a contributing part of the Hunt Athletic Program and to help make it the very best possible. As an athlete participating in the Athletic program at Hunt Middle School, I do hereby promise to read, understand, support, and abide by the HUNT MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. I understand that failing to abide by the policies and procedures can lead to discipline and even removal from HMS Athletics. I further understand that some behavior infractions may lead to disciplinary consequences from HMS administration and HMS athletics.

Athlete Printed Name

Athlete's Signature

Date

PARENT'S PROMISE TO HUNT ATHLETICS

As a parent/guardian of a Hunt Athlete, I have read and understand the HUNT MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. I understand that should my child fail to abide the policies and procedures they may be disciplined and even removed from HMS Athletics. I further understand that some student behavior infractions may lead to disciplinary consequences from HMS administration and HMS athletics.

Parent Printed Name

Parent's Signature

Date

Emergency Contact Information:

Primary Contact:

Name: _____

Number: _____

Secondary Contact:

Name: _____

Number: _____