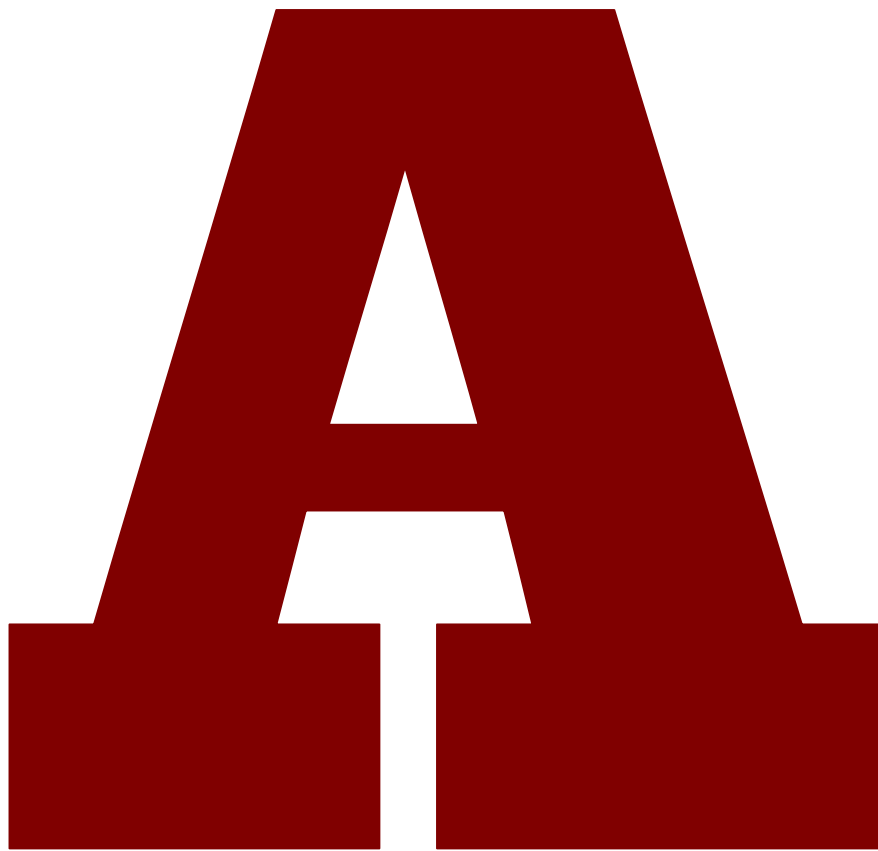


**PARENT AND
STUDENT-
ATHLETE
AUBURN
HANDBOOK**



Revised – Winter 2017

Dear Parent and Student/Athlete,

Congratulations on making the decision to participate in the Auburn Enlarged City School District Interscholastic Athletic Program. Your involvement in our sports program will give you the opportunity to meet and work with our diverse, talented student body and our dedicated coaching staff.

Our coaches care about our student-athletes and serve as positive role models for them. They encourage academic achievement and character development. They believe that a truly educated individual is well rounded, meaning that they are intellectually knowledgeable and physically educated individuals of character and integrity. We are very proud of the achievements of our student-athletes and coaches.

The goals and vision of the Auburn Enlarged City School District Interscholastic Athletic Program are outlined within this handbook. We hope that all students will participate in some phase of our program. These will be memorable school experiences that will last a lifetime. When your daughter/son chooses to participate in the Auburn Athletic program, we feel that they have committed themselves to these goals and certain responsibilities and obligations. This handbook will acquaint you with some specific policies that are necessary for a well-organized program of interscholastic athletics. Each team will have additional rules and guidelines of which the coach will make you aware.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Auburn Enlarged City School District Interscholastic Athletic Program and/or this booklet, please do not hesitate to call.

Good luck and Go Maroons!

Tamela Ray

Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics
255-8812.

Chapter 1

General Information

Athletic Teams currently sponsored by the Auburn School District:

Fall Sports	
SPORT	LEVELS OFFERED
Cheerleading	Varsity, JV
Field Hockey	Varsity, JV, Modified
Football	Varsity, JV, Modified
Boys Golf	Varsity
Boys Soccer	Varsity, JV, Modified
Girls Soccer	Varsity, JV, Modified
Girls Swim	Varsity
Girls Tennis	Varsity
Girls Volleyball	Varsity, JV
Cross Country	Varsity, Modified
Winter Sports	
Boys Basketball	Varsity, JV, Modified (Winter I)
Girls Basketball	Varsity, JV, Modified (Winter II)
Boys Bowling	Varsity
Girls Bowling	Varsity
Cheerleading	Varsity, JV
Ice Hockey	Varsity
Indoor Track	Varsity
Boys Swim	Varsity
Girls Volleyball	Modified (Winter I)
Wrestling	Varsity, JV, Modified (Winter II)
Spring Sports	
Baseball	Varsity, JV, Modified
Softball	Varsity, JV, Modified
Boys Lacrosse	Varsity, JV, Modified
Girls Lacrosse	Varsity, JV, Modified
Girls Golf	Varsity
Boys Tennis	Varsity
Track	Varsity, Modified

The sport levels are:

Modified Sports: interscholastic athletic teams for 7th and 8th grade students.

JV/Varsity Sports: interscholastic athletic teams for 9th – 12th grade students.

Winter I Season: ends before the December vacation

Winter II Season: starts after the December vacation

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT VISION

Education has the important responsibility of preparing young people to be well-rounded individuals who are capable and willing to take their place in our society as responsible citizens. Co-curricular activities, such as athletics, offer ideal venues in which to promote the development of our students into well-rounded individuals. The Auburn Athletic Department will strive to use the interscholastic athletic experience to enhance the mental, physical, moral, social and emotional development of our students. The staff of the Athletic Department will strive to provide students with experiences from which they can learn and grow. The staff of the Athletic Department acknowledges the importance of our role to supplement the home and other social agencies in developing habits and attitudes that contribute to an increased quality of life. The staff of the Athletic Department is appreciative that athletics provide an opportunity to teach valuable life lessons, and that those lessons can be learned in a team environment where the consequences are often less severe than in other life settings.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT GOALS

1. Student-athletes will increase their understanding of the ideals of ethical conduct, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship that make for winning and losing graciously.
2. Student-athletes will participate in the process of group decision-making, problem solving, and have opportunities to demonstrate leadership and initiative as they strive for the achievement of group goals.
3. Student-athletes will develop self-discipline, self-motivation and concepts such as commitment, excellence, loyalty, cooperation and other desirable traits.
4. Student-athletes will learn and refine the cognitive and psychomotor components of the interscholastic athletic activity in which they participate.
5. Student-athletes will understand and practice the principles of sound health, safety and physical fitness.
6. The athletic program will promote a positive image of the Auburn School District and Community, which will reflect the Department's goals.
7. The athletic program will provide competition that is appropriately based on skill and development rather than on students' chronological age or grade.
8. The athletic program will balance the fiscal and pragmatic realities of the District with the desire to maximize student participation and provide the largest possible variety of athletic opportunities.

GOAL ACHIVEMENT

The Athletic Department uses continuous observation as a practical method of assessment to evaluate achievement of its goals. Coaches spend a considerable portion of their time in practices and in games observing student athletes' behavior and growth. The athletic director and district

administrators attend games and provide feedback concerning athletes', coaches and spectators' conduct, sportsmanship and safety.

Behaviors recognized as positive assessments of District goals are noted below. These are examples only and are not intended as the only criteria or a checklist.

1. Student-athletes refrain from infractions that result in technical fouls, ejections, or similar reprimands.
2. Student-athletes contribute to setting goals for their performance (individually and team).
3. Student-athletes adhere to expectations for attendance, attire, and conduct.
4. Student-athletes learn the rules and performance skills necessary for their sport.
5. Student-athletes follow sound physical, mental, and self-care practices during the season.
6. District publications and programs promote respectful behavior and good sportsmanship.
7. Students participate at a level commensurate with their abilities and in compliance with NYSPHSAA.
8. The athletic program and its fiscal support reach the average for its league incrementally each year.

CUT PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES

It is an unfortunate fact that in certain situations athletes must be cut from some athletic teams. It would be ideal to keep all who try out, and guarantee everyone playing time, but in some sports that is impossible. In general, the decision to cut athletes is based on the following factors:

1. The sport is such that only limited number of athletes can be assured playing time; additionally, some sports have roster limitations.
2. The individual's potential for future growth.
3. Keeping athletes with limited skills may not be good for the athlete.
4. Limited number of practice space.
5. Limited amount of uniforms.

WHEN CUTS NEED TO BE MADE, COACHES WILL USE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

- A. Tell the team at or before the first practice:
 - the range of how many players will make the team,
 - how many try-out practices will be held before cuts are made,
 - and what the cutting criteria will be.
- B. Inform the team of the list of criteria that has been established by the individual coach and will be evaluated over the try-out period.

Criteria may include, but are not limited to, such things as:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1) skills | 5) agility |
| 2) speed | 6) practice attendance |
| 3) strength | 7) understanding of rules and concepts |
| 4) general condition | 8) attitude/coachability |

- C. Coaches weigh each category according to its importance in their sport and assign points to each criteria.
- D. Players are chosen objectively from these point totals.
- E. Coaches post the names of players who make the squad (not those that were cut.). Other methods such as handing each student a letter are acceptable as well. Please contact the AD if you have a question about a particular method of informing students.

When athletes are cut from a sport, they may join another sports team and practices from the first sport will be counted towards the second sport **when possible**.

SPORTSMANSHIP & SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

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 and student-athletes 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.

The Athletic Department recognizes the role of interscholastic athletics in defining ethical behavior and developing personal character of our students. Therefore we ask that all spectators become active participants by:

- Demonstrating a high degree of sportsmanship by modeling appropriate behavior and also by monitoring the behavior of our crowd.
- Showing team support by making only positive comments and by using appropriate language.
- Showing positive respect for the judgment of coaches, officials, and referees.
- Acknowledging that fields, courts, bench area and equipment are the player's domain during a contest. Spectators should remain within the designated areas.
- Monitoring the safety of children at all times.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN ATHLETICS

The Auburn City School District recognizes that parents can be positive and powerful role models for their children. Parents' support of their children in athletic experiences will help to assure that student-athletes have a fulfilling experience that contributes to their life-long personal growth.

In an effort to promote a positive environment for student-athletes, the Auburn Athletic Department recommends that parents:

- Support the concept of "student-athlete" and not compromise academics for athletics.
- Understand the rules and regulations that your student-athlete has committed to by becoming a team member.
- Hold your student-athlete accountable for their actions. Help guide them to make good choices, and help them learn from choices that could have been better.
- Be a knowledgeable spectator. Know the rules of the game and be a positive role model for sportsmanship. Encourage efforts, cheer successes, respect opponents and understand our defeats.
- Encourage your student-athlete to communicate with their coach.
- Address your questions, concerns and suggestions regarding the team or program with the coach. If further clarification or assistance regarding an issue is needed the parent can contact the athletic director.
- Be supportive and adhere to NYS laws prohibiting smoking in school buildings and on all school grounds.

THE ROLE OF AN AUBURN ATHLETE

Over the years Auburn has developed a great athletic tradition through the hard work of many people. Being a member of an Auburn athletic team is a privilege and honor that carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be fulfilled. Your actions reflect not only on those with whom you are now associated, but also on those who have contributed so much to our school in the past and those who are yet to follow you. Many of our athletes have established league, section and state records and others have gone on to collegiate fame. Auburn's rich athletic tradition sets a challenge for you to work hard and to make sure that your actions reflect the standards and expectations that are set up by the Athletic Department.

Never before has the pressure of peer groups been so strong. In today's society you will be asked to make sacrifices that will benefit yourself, your team and your school. 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. The experiences of athletic competition are the result of hard work, dedication and discipline and are rewarded with the accumulation of fond memories and personal

achievements. If you take this opportunity to make yourself a better individual, it will be a gratifying and educational experience.

One of the most important responsibilities of an Auburn Athlete 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. Another responsibility you assume as a team member is to your school. Auburn cannot maintain its position as an outstanding school unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in athletics to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of our school.

In addition to your responsibilities to yourself and your school, you also have a responsibility to your parents, to always do the best you can. When participating in athletics, we sometimes feel that we have failed if we have not won. By trying the best that you can and following all the rules set up by your squad, you can feel justifiably proud of yourself no matter what the win-loss record dictates. Younger students will look up to you and it is your responsibility to set a good example for them. They will imitate many things that you do just to be a member of your group. They need attention and guidance, so always take a few minutes to encourage them in whatever way possible.

MULTI-SPORT AND OFF-SEASON PARTICIPATION

The Auburn Athletic Department encourages student-athletes to participate in multiple athletic programs. Participation in multiple sports develops well-rounded athletes and allows all programs to maximize the athletic talents of our District's student-athletes. Coaches are encouraged to communicate with each other, their student-athletes, and the Athletic Director with regard to off-season training opportunities and any off-season participation policies. When possible off-season training opportunities should be scheduled to allow for maximum participation and minimum conflict for student-athletes. Student-athletes will be encouraged to participate in as many off-season training opportunities as possible. This reinforces the sense of commitment, dedication and work ethic to improve that the Auburn Athletic program is striving to instill in Auburn students. Student-athletes participating in off-season training are not guaranteed a place on a team roster by virtue of their participation, nor will they be excluded from a place on the team roster by their lack of participation. However, it should be noted that the additional opportunities for student-athletes to work at their sport skills are an excellent means of potential improvement.

PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult jobs. 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 child becomes 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:

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child, as well as all the players on the squad.
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements (i.e. rules, and special equipment).
5. Procedures should your child be injured during participation.

6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

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

As your children become involved in the Auburn Interscholastic Athletic Program, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments in their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with the coaches:

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

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

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time.
2. Team Strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student/athletes.

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

1. Person requesting conference state concern and specify desired outcome if possible
2. Other Party responds to concern/outcome.
3. Discuss the issues and attempt to understand each other's perspective.
4. Both parties summarize what they heard the other said during the conference.

Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest 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 a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide satisfactory resolution?

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

Chapter 2

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

*Guidelines for Participation in Co-Curricular
And Extra-Curricular Activities*

Dear Participant and Parents:

The Auburn School District values participation in co-curricular activities as a student privilege, not a right. Consistent with this philosophy, the Auburn School District sets forth in this packet its expectations for these participants.

All co-curricular and extra-curricular participants are representatives of the Auburn School District, whether they are members of the marching band, clubs, or athletic teams. As representatives of Auburn, students in co-curricular and extra-curricular programs will meet the highest academic and behavioral standards outlined in the attached. Clarification or questions about any of the provisions contained in this regulation should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools.

Please read the attached information carefully. Your signature will indicate your agreement to uphold the behavioral and academic standards of the Auburn School District, both as they are written and in the spirit in which they are intended.

Thank you and best wishes for a successful school year.

Superintendent of Schools

Attachment

AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT **PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES FOR CO-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR** **ACTIVITIES**

Section I: Academic Eligibility Statement

The number one priority of the Auburn Enlarged City School District is to educate the whole child, first by stimulating the child intellectually and then by providing a number of common experiences designed to develop the social, emotional, physical and ethical values necessary to be a productive member of society. Co-curricular programs help to provide such experiences and are, therefore, considered an integral part of the total educational program. Involvement in co-curricular activities can have a positive influence on the academic achievement of students. However, academics must always come first to accomplish this objective an eligibility standard has been established. The guidelines are as follows:

- A. On report card distribution dates, at the high school and Jr. High levels, and at 5-week report distribution dates at the Jr. High level, students will be determined to be eligible if they earn a 70% or higher overall average and have no grade of "Incomplete".
- B. Each time a student does not meet this standard, he or she will be put on academic probation until the next report distribution date. Students may participate in co-curricular activities while they are on probation. It is the student's responsibility to meet with his or her teacher(s) to raise his/her overall average at least to the acceptable level of 70% and to make up the work needed to change an "Incomplete" to a grade.
- C. At the end of the probationary period, the student who continues to maintain an average below 70% will be declared ineligible until the period in which they achieve an average of 70% or better. Students declared ineligible may not participate in, or try-out for, any co-curricular activity. EXAMPLE: A student on probation for the first marking period who does not raise his/her overall average to a 70% or above by the end of the second marking period, will be ineligible for the third marking period. If the student raises their overall average to a 70% or above by the end of the third marking period, the student would be eligible for the fourth marking period. If the student's overall average at the end of the fourth marking period falls below a 70%, the student would return to probation for the fifth marking period.
- D. A student's probation and eligibility status as of the 6th marking period will be carried over to the first marking period. The Summer School marking period average, not including the final exam grade, will be used to recalculate the 6th marking period averages for the purposes of determining first marking period eligibility in the fall.
- E. This regulation will include all students, whether they are in the manager or player role in athletics.
- F. This regulation will include all sports and co-curricular activities.
- G. An 8th grade student with an eligibility status of ineligible, or on probation, as of the 6th marking period at AJHS will enter 9th grade at AHS with an amended eligibility status of probationary in an effort to get them involved in AHS activities.

SECTION II: Behavioral Eligibility Statement

A. Attendance:

1. Students who serve an out-of-school suspension, on the day of a co-curricular activity or other school affair (ie: dance) scheduled after regular school hours, are not eligible for participation or attendance at such events. If a student is suspended Friday, or the day before a break, s/he may not participate in any school activities until the conclusion of their Suspension, on the next day school is in regular session.
2. Students who serve a full day of in-school-suspension may not participate in co-curricular events after school. However, a coach or activity supervisor, at his or her discretion, may require a student to attend, but not to participate.
3. In order for students to attend a school-sponsored function, it is necessary that students attend classes for a minimum of four bells.

AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT**PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES FOR CO-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

(Continued)

SECTION II: Behavioral Eligibility Statement**B. Trips during vacation and school-sponsored trips:**

Trips during vacation and school-sponsored trips are deemed to be legal absences for the purpose of co-curricular eligibility only. Therefore, a student who goes on a trip during vacation or on a school-sponsored trip will not be dropped from a team or activity. However, team or activity membership rules may determine the extent of participation when the student returns.

C. Equipment Loss

Any loss of, or damage to, equipment or materials must be paid for by the end of the season of activity. Failure to pay by the end of that season will result in the student not participating in any future activity until payment is made.

D. Vandalism and Stealing

Any co-curricular participant who is found guilty of stealing or vandalizing the property of another while attending or participating in a co-curricular activity or event shall be ineligible to participate in the activity and/or shall be dropped from the activity.

E. Code-of-Conduct Rules:

1. Every participant is expected to fully uphold all school discipline rules including the District policy on *School Conduct and Discipline*.
2. No participant in any school-sponsored activity will be allowed to smoke, use, possess, sell, give or receive a cigarette, cigar or pipe, use chewing or smokeless tobacco or be in possession of any product including e-cigarettes, vaping devices and/or products used for vaping and any other related items.
3. No participant in any school-sponsored activity will be allowed to drink alcoholic beverages, be under the influence of alcohol, or in possession of an alcoholic beverage.
4. No member of any school-sponsored activity will use, possess, sell, give or receive any drug or controlled substance, including marijuana, or any instruments for the use of such drugs, controlled substances or marijuana such as a pipe, syringe or other paraphernalia. Excepted is any drug taken in accordance with a current prescription signed by a physician which is to be taken by that particular student at the time in question.
5. The District will hold participants accountable for their social media posts. This will be subject to investigation. After investigation, violations of this co-curricular and extra-classroom Code of Conduct and/or the district's Code of Conduct may result in removal from sports and co-curricular activities.
6. The above code-of-conduct rules also extend to student conduct off school grounds, including student attendance at parties where alcohol and /or illegal drugs are present, for example.
7. Co-curricular participants who are found guilty of violating #2 through #5 of the above code of conduct rules will be suspended, at a minimum, from the athletic team for the remainder of the season in which the violation occurred. For activities that last the duration of a school year a student violating #2-#5 may be suspended for up to twelve weeks from that activity. Additional consequences will be considered for repeat offenders.
8. This regulation will include all students, whether they are in the manager or player role in athletics.
9. This regulation will include all sports and co-curricular activities.

Section III: Activity Membership Statements:

Supervisors of co-curricular activities may impose membership rules for the proper functioning of the group, consistent with the District's policy on *School Conduct and Discipline*, and with the academic and behavioral standards for co-curricular participants outlined here. These rules must be in writing and signed by the parent and co-curricular participant. Athletic team membership rules must be approved by the Athletic Director. Other co-curricular activity membership rules must be approved by the Principal. Coaches will submit signed copies of academic and behavioral guidelines for each student participant, to the Athletic Director, other co-curricular activity supervisors will submit the same to the Principal. The Athletic Director and Principal will verify that all activity participants have on file signed copies of the appropriate forms before students begin.

AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES FOR CO-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (Continued)

co-curricular and/or extra-curricular participation. Membership rules for an activity shall be firm, fair and consistent and designed to promote continuity, safety and success for participants in that particular activity.

Section IV: Athletic Section:

A. Physicals:

Each athlete must have a physical examination by physician prior to participation in any sport. An exam will be completed by the school physician at no charge or may be completed by a participant's physician at his or her own expense. A completed **Health Information Sheet (75-D) Form must be signed by a Parent/Guardian prior to a physical.** No equipment will be given or practice permitted unless the student has had a physical. Any athlete who sees a physician for injury or illness must have a signed release in order to participate.

B. Unsportsmanlike Conduct:

Athletes who have been disqualified by a game official from an athletic contest due to unsportsmanlike conduct will not be permitted to participate in the next league contest. This is a Section III Rule.

C. Changing Sports:

An athlete may change sports during a season with the consent of both coaches involved and the Athletic Director.

D. Rules: All Auburn School district rules and team, membership rules are subject to NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SECTION III rules and all ONONDAGA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE rules.

The following is a statement which must be signed by all students who participate in athletics and/or co-curricular activities, as well as their parent/guardian. This statement shall have attached to it The Participant Guidelines for Co-curricular Activities.

Section IV: Medical Insurance/Risk of Injury Section:

A. Medical Insurance:

The Auburn Enlarged City School District carries limited insurance to pay for medical expenses of students who are injured while participating in the School District's authorized and supervised interscholastic sports program. It is limited in the sense that it pays for medical expenses for only certain injuries and only in limited amounts and for certain injuries. Students and parents should also be aware that the School District's insurance is not only limited in coverage and amount, but that it is secondary to other insurances which may cover such medical expenses, including (without limitation) a family's personal medical or hospital insurances. In other words and by way of example, a family's personal insurance must first be used to its allowable limits before the School District's limited insurance would be available to pay any portion or all of the unpaid medical expenses. For further information regarding the School District's insurances, you are advised to contact the personnel office of the School District.

REGULATION

Activity/Sport: _____

Supervisor/Coach Name: _____

AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES FOR CO-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

(Continued)

Risk of Injury Statement for Participant in Athletics

- I am aware that competing or practicing in any athletic activity can be a dangerous activity involving risk of injury. I understand that the dangers and risks of competing and practicing in the activity include, but are not limited to death, neck and spinal injury which may result in complete or partial paralysis, brain damage, injury to virtually all bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons and other aspects of a muscular-skeletal system and injury or impairment of future abilities to earn a living, and to engage in and generally enjoy life.
- If I am a participant in baseball, hockey, softball, football, lacrosse, soccer, basketball or wrestling, I specifically acknowledge that it is a contact sport involving even greater risk of injury than other sports.
- Because of the possible dangers of participating in the activities, I recognize the importance of following the coaches' instructions regarding playing techniques, training and other team /membership rules and agree to obey such instructions.
- In consideration of the School District allowing me to engage in all team activities including but not limited to, try outs, practice or participation in athletics, I hereby assume all risks associated with participation.

Risk of Injury Statement for Participants in Co-Curricular Activities other than Sports:

There are times when there is a potential risk of injury in co-curricular activities other than athletics. I am aware of these possibilities, and hereby assume all risks associated with participation.

Risk of Injury Statement Signature:

Dated: _____, 20_____ _____
Student (Signature)

Student Academic and Behavioral Statement Signature:

Additionally, I have read the attached Academic and Behavioral **Guidelines for Participation in Co-Curricular Activities** and agree to abide by all of the program expectations set forth. (See also Activity Membership Rules).

Dated: _____, 20_____ _____
Student (Signature)

Parent/Guardian Risk of Injury Statement Signature:

The undersigned, parent or guardian of the individual who has signed the Risk of Injury Statement, hereby acknowledges receipt of the Risk of Injury Statement and acknowledges awareness of the various risks set forth in the statement and, considering such risks, gives permission for the above named student to participate in a co-curricular or athletic activity. If I withdraw my permission, I understand that the withdrawal must be in writing and given to the principal as well as to the coach or advisor of the particular activity.

Dated: _____, 20_____ _____
Parent/Guardian of Student (Signature)

Parent/Guardian Academic and Behavioral Statement Signature:

Additionally, I have read the attached Athletic Code of Conduct and agree to support all the rules and penalties set forth. (See also Activity Membership Rules).

Dated: _____, 20_____ _____
Parent/Guardian of Student (Signature)

White: AD/Principal **Yellow: Coach/Advisor** **Pink: Student/Parent**
Revised: 10/14/2003 (new policy #) 7420-Revised: 7/9/2009 (regulation)

Chapter 3

Policy Information for Parents

POLICIES

Transportation:

The Auburn School District is responsible for transporting students to and from athletic contests. Students will ride school transportation to an event unless special permission has been granted prior to the trip. School transportation will return students to the facility from which they departed. Students are encouraged to ride home with their team after contests. If, however, a student must ride home with a parent, the parent must provide the coach with a written statement accepting responsibility for their child's transportation. If a child must ride home with someone other than a parent, two notes are required. One from the parent granting permission for the student-athlete to ride with a specific person, and a second note from that specified person accepting responsibility for transporting the child. The coaches have Form 5730F if parent wishes to use a district form.

Student athletes will be representing Auburn when traveling to and from contests. Therefore, proper dress, decorum and behavior are expected at all times. Radios are at the discretion of the bus driver and if controversial, none will be permitted.

Parents must make the necessary arrangements to pick up their students in a timely fashion after practices, home games and after returning from away games. Please ask your child's coach if you are unsure about when a team might be returning from an away contest.

Protocol for Code of Conduct Violations:

1. Upon determination that a "situation" has developed in one of our activities, the supervisor will notify the athletic director immediately.
2. The athletic director will notify the Principal and Superintendent.
3. The Principal will use his/her resources to conduct a co-curricular investigation.
4. The Principal and Athletic Director will discuss the evidence and information that has been gathered and determine if any disciplinary action is warranted.
5. If necessary the Principal will conduct parent meetings.
6. If necessary disciplinary action will be taken and the Superintendent will be informed.

Awareness of Risks:

While the coaching staff and other responsible officials will do everything possible to protect student-athletes against injury, they will occur and on a very rare occasion may be serious and disabling. It must be understood that the risk of injury is inherent in all sports and the injuries received may be severe, including the risk of fractures, permanent paralysis or death.

Injuries and Medical Insurance:

Students should report all injuries to the coach immediately and to the school nurse the next school day. The coach is responsible for completing an accident report and submitting it to the school nurse as soon as possible. The coach and the student-athlete should both inform the parent of the injury. The parent should take the student-athlete for treatment as needed. Medical expenses resulting from any injury must first be submitted to your own insurance carrier. Remaining balances may or may not be covered by the school insurance carrier. Contact the school nurse for details and procedures.

Sport Physicals:

A student who participates in interscholastic athletic competition must have a current health examination according to the records of the Auburn School Nursing staff. School sport physicals are scheduled prior to the start of each sport season and are offered to students free of charge. In order to receive a physical students must take with them a 75-D Health History form, signed by a parent/guardian. Forms are on the athletic website or in the school nurse's office. Students receiving medical examinations from family physicians should have parents sign the 75-D form and Doctors complete the reverse side of that form. The doctor and parent signed form must be approved by the school nurse in order for the physical to be valid.

Schedules and Directions:

Schedules for all teams and directions to most events are available at the district website at www.district.auburn.cnyric.org, also has directions to opposing schools and a link to the athletic schedules.

Specialization:

It is the philosophy of the Auburn School District athletic program to encourage student participation in a number of sports, co-curricular activities, and clubs. Student specialization in one sport year round goes against the District philosophy of developing well-rounded individuals.

Vacation Practice Policy:

When athletes commit to a high school sport, they should assume that practices and/or contests may take place over school vacations. Since it is the policy of the CNYCL and Section 3 to schedule contests during some vacations Auburn must also do so. Auburn teams would be at an extreme disadvantage if they took the time off while others are playing. In addition, it would be unfair to ask other schools to reschedule Auburn contests at another time thus forcing them to play 3, 4, or even 5 games during a week in order to accommodate our athletes.

Any athletes, that miss practice and/or contests during vacations can expect that there could be some effect on their standing on the team or their playing time. Coaches will develop vacation policies specific to their sport that provide athletes with safe training and playing procedures and that reinforce the team concepts of commitment, dedication and responsibility.

Athletic Letter Qualifications:

The earning of Athletic Letters is not the right of each individual on a team, but rather an honor that must be earned by the individual athlete.

1. The coach will determine who will receive a letter.
2. The coach will set forth specific criteria outlining performance and/or participation as a means of achieving a letter.

Chapter 4

College Planning for Auburn Athletes

CHAPTER 4: COLLEGE PLANNING FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

PURPOSE:

This chapter is designed to assist you in the college selection process. It is an important decision when you select a college where you can be academically successful and also compete athletically. This chapter will outline the different levels of college athletes and outline some of the academic requirements involved with college athletes. Procedures to assist athletes are their families contact college coaches are also outlined.

Parents, guardians and students should contact their guidance counselor and coaches for additional information.

WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF PLAYING COLLEGE SPORTS?

The NCAA has estimated that the probability of competing in athletics at the college level is not great. For example, according to the NCAA, high school men's basketball has close to 500,000 players; 157,000 are seniors. There are approximately 4,500 freshman positions available. This means that approximately 3% of high school senior basketball players will play NCAA sponsored basketball.

Don't be put off by these figures. What hasn't been taken into account is that a large percentage of high school graduates will not attend college. These figures do not include NAIA, NCCAA, NJCAA colleges. Your chances of receiving athletic scholarship offers will vary depending on the sport you play. Another big factor is the application of Title IX for women athletes.

WHO CAN MAKE MY GOAL OF PLAYING COLLEGE SPORT AND GETTING AN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP HAPPEN?

YOU, YOU, YOU and only YOU. You can get assistance from your parents, coaches and recruiting services but ultimately you are the only person that can make your dream of playing a college sport come true. Make lists, ask questions, write letters, surf the web for information and ask your coaches and academic advisors for tips and advice. If you know of someone who has been through the recruiting process make it a point to talk to them and seek their advice. You must be relentless in the pursuit of your goal. Don't count on anyone else to help you accomplish your goal, except your parents who truly will move heaven and earth if they could to help you get that athletic scholarship.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

The most competitive level of college athletic participation is in Division I schools of the NCAA. Colleges that compete in Division I usually offer athletic scholarships. The number of scholarships allowed is determined by the NCAA and will vary from sport to sport. Much more emphasis is placed on sports at the Division I level.

Division II colleges may also offer athletic scholarships. However, the level of competition and the number of scholarships granted are usually a step below those of the Division I schools.

Division III schools do not give athletic scholarships but may have a very competitive program. For example, Ithaca College is a Division III program that enjoys an excellent football tradition, while

Nazareth's Men Lacrosse program is a Division III program that has also met with tremendous success.

It is possible for a college to compete in more than one division. For example, St. John's University competes in Division I Men's Basketball and Division III Football.

The amount of time devoted to sports varies widely from school to school and sport to sport. Generally Division I athletes, especially scholarship recipients, spend much more time on their sport than their Division II or Division III counterparts. In many cases the off-season time requirement is just as demanding as during the regular season. At the Division II level the time commitment can also be very demanding. An athletic scholarship requires earning it and keeping it. By contrast, Division III colleges normally do not place the same amount of emphasis on sports programs. The amount of time devoted to a sport at this level is generally less during the season and considerably less in the off season. Many academically competitive Division III colleges place a much stronger emphasis on academic programs than on athletic success.

In addition to the athletic differences, it is important for the student-athlete to understand major differences among the three divisions in terms of academics, time commitments to the sport and financial aid. The choice of a college should be considered first on the basis of academic merit. Ideally, of course, the student-athlete will be looking for a school that offers a first-rate education and an athletic program in which the student-athlete can compete.

COLLEGE ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

For Division I and II student-athletes there is a central clearinghouse that will certify all student-athletes' eligibility. If student-athletes intend to participate in Division I or II athletics as a freshman, they must register and be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse.

The Auburn High School guidance counselors have all necessary registration materials. It is recommended that student-athletes register with the NCAA Clearinghouse in June or their junior year. It is the **student's responsibility** to initiate this process with their Guidance Counselor. Once the student initiates the process the necessary information will be sent out by the Guidance Office as soon as the Junior year grades are placed on the official transcript. This time line allows for any adjustments that may be necessary prior to the Senior Year. When the student-athlete receives the preliminary certification report from the NCAA Clearinghouse, that report should be reviewed with their Guidance Counselor. It is imperative that the student-athlete accept the responsibility of taking the pre-certification report to their Guidance Counselor for review.

The NCAA has specific eligibility requirements. Student-athletes and their parents must familiarize themselves with these requirements as the students enter their high school career. This information is contained in the NCAA Guide for college-Bound Student-Athlete. The guidance office at Auburn High School will have NCAA information available for all students. However, if the parent or student-athlete wants further information about the NCAA or NAIA rules and regulations, write or call the following organizations:

The National Collegiate Athletic Association
6201 College Boulevard
Overland Park, Kansas 66211-2422
(913) 339-1906

NCAA Clearinghouse
www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

NCAA Hotline (800) 638-3731

[Http://www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics
6120 South Yale Avenue
Suite No. 1450
Tulsa, OK 74136
(918) 494-8828

TYPES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance can come in many forms, some of which are outlined here. In order to receive Financial Aid the student must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Please see your school counselor and/or the College Scholarship Service (CSS) application.

What kind of schools offer athletic scholarships: NCAA Division 1, NCAA Division 2, NAIA, NJCAA Division 1 and NJCAA Division 2 can offer athletic scholarships. Also you should be aware that individual colleges and conferences have their own athletic scholarship rules and policies.

Direct Grants or Scholarships: These can be from the school or Federal and/or State Agencies; they do not have to be repaid.

Loans: These can be from Federal, State, Bank or other agencies. They must be repaid.

Work Study Programs: These are arrangements through which a student-athlete can pay a portion of their educational expenses while at school.

A financial aid package can include a combination of types of financial assistance. When considering financial aid packages attempt to determine whether the package will look the same each year of a student-athletes college career. When possible it is advisable to secure arrangements in writing.

Can I play college sports without an athletic scholarship?: YES-YES-YES. NCAA Division 111, NCCAA Division 111, Ivy League, and NJCAA Division 111 junior colleges offer excellent opportunities to play sports at the college level and obtain a quality education without the benefits of an athletic scholarship. Athletes who excel at the junior college level often transfer with a scholarship to other colleges. If your heart is absolutely set on a particular school that does not seem interested in your athletic talents then consider “walking on.”

PROCEDURES FOR POTENTIAL COLLEGE ATHLETES

When should I start the ball rolling on playing college sports: NOW!!! Time can be your friend or foe. Make time an asset and use it to your advantage. Start your college research right now regardless of whether you plan to play college sports or not. Research colleges and how they rank academically and socially. Find colleges that can offer you the academic, social and sports programs you are interested in. Last but not least learn about financing a college education. **START NOW.**

*ASK YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR A COPY OF THE CURRENT “NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete” Booklet and familiarize yourself with the information it contains.

9th Grade

- Take a strong academic course lead and make school counselor aware of your possible aspirations to compete in collegiate athletics
- Begin to record your athletic accomplishments and participate in camp experiences for exposure, improved skills, to experience independent living and to compare your skills with those of peers. Keep your district coaches involved and informed in this process.

10th and 11th Grades

- Determine colleges in which you are interested and get contact information for college coaches (See your school counselor for resources to assist your)
- Complete the college Interest List
- Develop a letter of introduction to college coach.
- Develop your extra-curricular activity sheet
- Discuss with your school counselor when to Register and take ACT and SAT exams.
- Discuss NCAA Clearinghouse requirements with your school counselor and how your course selection may impact college athletic opportunities.
- Keep your District coaches involved and informed during this process
- When you begin conversations with specific college coaches ask them if they want a videotape and, if so, specifically what they would like it to include. Different coaches want different things such as game film, conditioning or drills.
- Complete and return requested information to college coaches.
- Visiting colleges is a good way to gather information. Talk to upperclassmen, see the areas of campus and facilities that would pertain to you if you attended.
- Prepare a list of questions for the college coach and other college officials.
- Make the college decision that fits you financially, academically and athletically.

If the student-athlete is not a highly sought after student-athlete and is somewhat disappointed in both acceptances and financial offers, they should realize that very few are fortunate to have everything fall together and receive a full financial scholarship. Student-athletes may not be going to their first choice or may not receive the aid they feel they deserve. Nevertheless, they should make the most of what is offered. They should be positive and confident that the college selected is the best and everything possible has been done to prepare for the college experience.

SAMPLE LETTER OF INTRODUCTION AND INTEREST

Student Name
Student Address
Date

Name of Coach
Athletic Department
University/College
Town, State, Zip Code

Dear Coach _____:

May I take a moment of your time to introduce myself? My name is _____ and I am a senior at Auburn High School in Auburn, New York.

I have been thinking a great deal about colleges and I have talked a lot with my counselor in trying to decide what colleges would be appropriate for me academically and athletically. I am very interested in attending your college and would like to receive more information about your school and your athletic program.

I have been in the starting lineup of the varsity soccer and varsity basketball teams since my junior year and have started on the varsity baseball team since my sophomore year. I was voted All-League as a pitcher and first baseman in my junior year and was selected to the Cayuga County Connie-Mack All Star baseball team since 1983. This past summer I was named to the varsity basketball summer league All-Star team. As much as I enjoy soccer and basketball, I would like to concentrate on baseball in college. I have enclosed my extracurricular activity sheet and a copy of our schedule for the upcoming baseball season. Please feel free to contact my coach, *name* for more details.

I would appreciate any information you could send me about your baseball program, as well as financial aid and scholarship information.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Student Name

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY SHEET – SAMPLE

GPA/rank in Class
Phone # (315) 123-4567

Name of student
Home address
City, State, Zip

Academic Awards

	Grade
Outstanding Mathematics Student Award	11
National Honor Society	12
Honor Roll	9,10,11

Athletic Activities

Softball – First Base, Right Field	
Junior Varsity	8,9
Varsity	10,11,12
Honorable Mention All County	11
Second Team All League	12

Athletic Statistics

Height	Weight
Left or right handed	
Position	Years Played

Volunteer Work

Academic Tutor	11,12
Canned Food Drive	10,11,12

School Activities

Class Treasurer	9
Class Vice-President	11
Student Council	12
Member SADD	10,11,12
Spanish Club	9,10
Key Club	11,12

Job Experience

Wendy's Restaurant	11
Pizza Hut Restaurant	11,12

Athletic Camps Attended

All Star Baseball Camp – Albany, NY	9,10,11,12
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