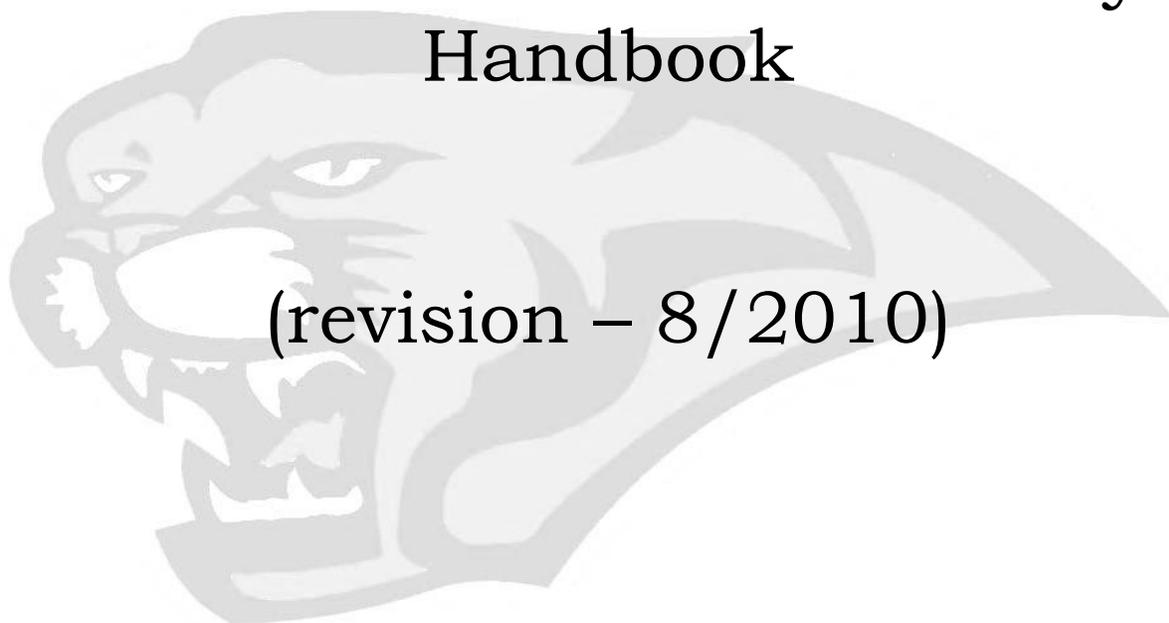


# Dunkirk Marauder

## Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook

(revision – 8/2010)



## **Goals of the Dunkirk City School District Interscholastic Sports Program**

Athletics have the potential to play a significant role in the personal development of a student's life. Dunkirk City School District is committed to teaching lifelong values, skills, and lessons such as:

- Sportsmanship
- Role modeling/mentoring
- Teamwork and cooperation
- Loyalty, dedication, and commitment
- Self control and discipline
- Responsibility and accountability
- Trustworthiness and fair play
- Attitude toward success and failure
- Respect for self and others
- Personal excellence
- Goal setting
- Good decision-making and communication skills
- Skill development
- Application of rules and strategies
- Physical fitness and healthy behavior
- Pride in school
- Time management/balance

### **Reserve Clauses:**

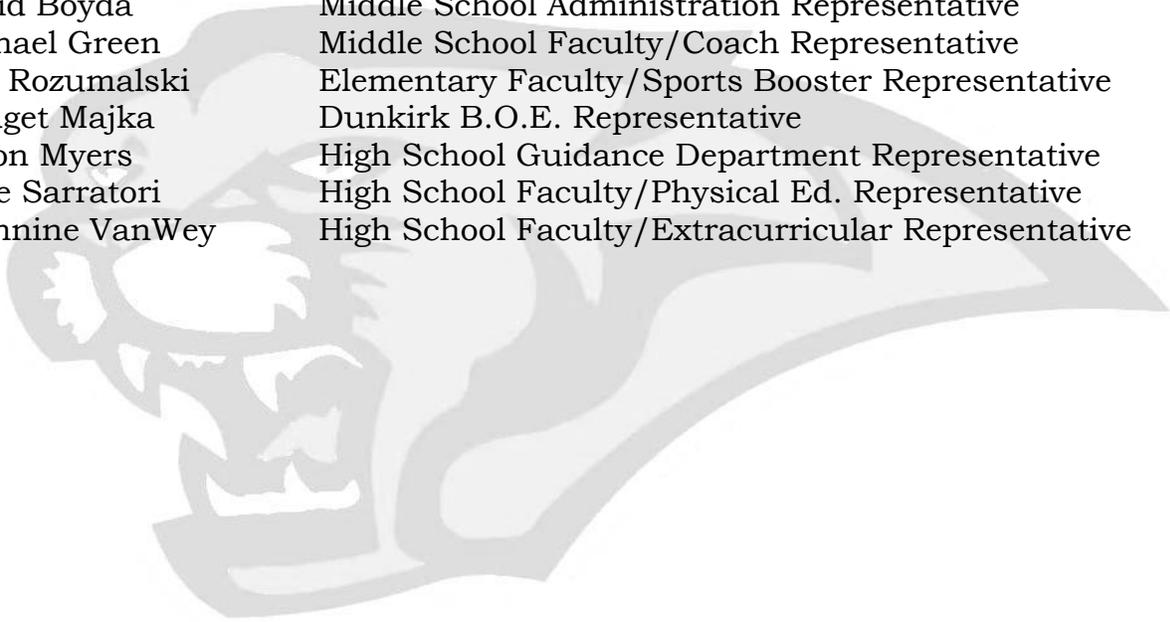
Any situation not covered by this handbook will be governed by the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. handbook and/or the Section VI handbook, constitution, and/or by-laws.

Dunkirk City School District Building Administrators reserve the right to rule on any other infraction not covered by the Dunkirk Marauder Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook that is related to athletic participation and/or that affects the educational process.

**A special thank you goes to the following individuals who put in numerous hours in revising this document**

**Dunkirk Athletic Handbook Policy  
Committee Members**

Alan J. Gens	Athletic Director/Administration - Chairperson
Carol Bleck	High School Faculty/Student Council Representative
Jody Bomasuto	Community Representative
David Boyda	Middle School Administration Representative
Michael Green	Middle School Faculty/Coach Representative
Deb Rozumalski	Elementary Faculty/Sports Booster Representative
Bridget Majka	Dunkirk B.O.E. Representative
Jason Myers	High School Guidance Department Representative
Mike Sarratori	High School Faculty/Physical Ed. Representative
Jeannine VanWey	High School Faculty/Extracurricular Representative



## **Five “C’s” of Interscholastic Athletics**

Beyond the basic elements of skill, team play and competitive spirit, one of the most basic goals is the development of “Character through Athletics”. Statistics from the NCAA demonstrate that less than 2% of high school athletes go on to play on a sport team at college on any level (*D-I, D-II, D-III, NAIA, and/or Junior College*) Therefore, athletes as well as parents need to understand that high school athletics provide a unique opportunity for the development of physical conditioning, athletic skill, team bonding as well as the opportunity to represent the Dunkirk City School District. Just as important, participation as a student-athlete provides the chance to develop and display character traits essential for success in life. To that end, coaches and administrators challenge every athlete to strive for the following:

### **Competence** – *The necessary level of knowledge and skill to sufficiently train and compete*

- To develop the skills necessary to participate competently in the game.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the rules and conventions of the game.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the strategies of the game.
- To demonstrate a level of physical conditioning and fitness sufficient to participate competently.
- To demonstrate knowledge of healthy behaviors including nutritional issues.
- To understand the necessity of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs in order to achieve the positive benefits of interscholastic athletics.

### **Character** – *Equips individuals with the beliefs, attitudes and behaviors that demonstrate strength, decision making power, and essential qualities that embrace the positive values of their family, the sports team, the interscholastic athletic program, Dunkirk City School District and the Community.*

- To be dependable in fulfilling obligations and commitments.
- To accept responsibility for consequences of actions and not to make excuses or blame others.
- To strive to excel.
- To be committed.
- To persevere, give 100% effort and not give up in the face of adversity.
- To demonstrate truthfulness.
- To play by the rules of the game and not cheat.
- To control anger and frustration and refrain from displays of temper and bad language.
- To accept losing and winning graciously; to congratulate opponents, not sulk, or display other negative behaviors.

### **Civility** – *To demonstrate behavior that exemplifies appropriate respect and concern for others.*

- To practice good manners on and off the field.
- To refrain from “trash talk” and other put-downs of opponents and teammates.
- To treat all persons respectfully regardless of individual differences and to show respect for legitimate authority (e.g. Coaches, Officials, Captains).
- To be fair and treat others appropriately.
- To listen to and try to understand others.
- To be compassionate and sensitive to others.
- To actively support teammates and all other district programs.

### **Citizenship** – *Social responsibility as part of a team, school and community.*

- To be faithful to the ideals of the game including sportsmanship.
- To keep commitments to the team.
- To show team spirit, encourage others and contribute to good morale.
- To put the good of the team ahead of personal gain.
- To work well with teammates to achieve team goals.
- To accept responsibility to set a good example for teammates, younger athletes, fans and school community.

**Courtesy** – *To develop an honorable reputation as individuals, teams, and the athletic program and school as well as to exhibit humility in victory and respect in defeat.*

- The rules of the game are to be regarded as mutual agreement, the spirit or letter of which no honorable person would break to win.
- No unethical or unsportsmanlike advantages are to be sought over others.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior, unfair actions, and/or means of intimidation are not to be used.
- Visiting teams are to be honored guests and should be treated with respect.
- Remember a student spectator represents his/her school as does the player.
- The practice of “booing” is regarded as discourteous and unsportsmanlike.
- Any spectator who displays poor sportsmanship may be requested not to attend future contests
- Decisions of officials are to be abided by, even if they seem unfair.
- Officials and opponents are to be addressed with respect. In games when opponents conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner, or officials are “less than effective” all negative references should be avoided.
- Achievements and good points in others should be recognized, appreciated and suitable recognition acknowledged.



Dear Parents/Guardians and Student-Athletes:

Welcome to the Dunkirk Marauder Interscholastic Athletic Program. This handbook has been prepared to be used as a reference by our student-athletes and their parents/guardians in an effort to define responsibilities as they pertain to the rules and regulations, as well as the guidelines for participation in our interscholastic athletics program.

Upon entering secondary school, students are exposed to many new opportunities and challenges. An important part of the educational experience at this level is the co-curricular programs available to all students, in particular, the interscholastic athletic program. Nationwide studies have shown that students involved in extracurricular activities such as sports, achieve better grades, manage their time more effectively, have less discipline problems and stay in school.

I am pleased that you have shown interest in this phase of our school program. It is my belief that participation in athletics is a privilege and an honor that provides many opportunities for developing life-long skills and friendships that are not always available in the classroom. Our goal at Dunkirk is to provide a "first-class" experience that promotes team and individual growth in a safe and healthy environment.

Participation in our athletic program is a privilege granted to students who maintain scholarship and citizenship in school and community. There is a great deal of responsibility and commitment attached to participation in interscholastic athletics on the part of the student-athlete and his/her family. This handbook will acquaint you with the specific policies/rules and obligations that are necessary for a well-organized program of interscholastic athletics.

The Dunkirk City School District Interscholastic Athletic program is governed by the regulations of the New York State Commissioner of Education's basic code for extraclass athletic activities. In addition, Dunkirk Senior High School is a member of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), Section VI and competes in Division I of the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Athletic Association (CCAA).

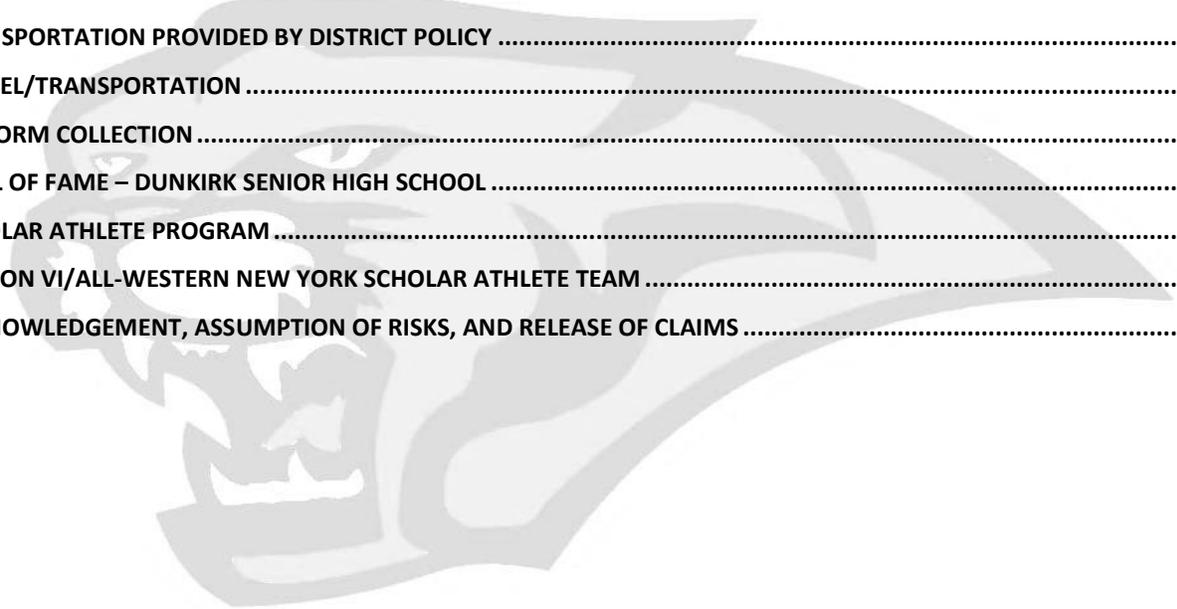
Once again, welcome to the Dunkirk sports family and please strive to make Marauder Pride an integral part of your experience. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Dunkirk Marauder Interscholastic Athletic program. I look forward to working with you to ensure that you take advantage of the tremendous opportunities participation in athletics provide. GO MARAUDERS!

Sincerely,

Alan J. Gens, RAA  
Director of Athletics  
716-366-9300 x-2068  
[agens@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:agens@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL .....	9
APPEAL PROCEDURE/PROCESS .....	9
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION – REPRESENTATIVE OF DUNKIRK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT .....	9
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION – ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS .....	9
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION – ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY.....	10
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION – VIOLATIONS.....	11
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION – REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS/PROCEDURES .....	11
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION– SELF-REFERRAL .....	13
ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY – VARSITY .....	13
ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY – JUNIOR VARSITY.....	13
ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY – MODIFIED “B” .....	14
CHANGING SPORTS.....	14
COACHING – AED/CPR & F.A.S.K. TRAINING .....	14
COACHING – HIRING POLICY.....	14
COACHING – CREDENTIALS & COURSE VERIFICATIONS .....	15
COACHING – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES .....	16
COACHING - COMMUNICATION WITH THE COACH .....	17
COLLEGE ATHLETICS.....	17
DUAL SPORT ATHLETE .....	17
DUTY TO WARN .....	17
EMERGENCY CARDS (BLUE CARDS) .....	18
EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS .....	18
EXTRA HELP POLICY .....	18
FAMILY VACATION/HOLIDAY VACATION/RECESS POLICY .....	18
HARASSMENT/HAZING/BULLYING .....	19
HEALTH HISTORY FORM/SPORTS PHYSICALS .....	19
INSURANCE COVERAGE – ATHLETIC INJURIES .....	20
INTERNET/SOCIAL NETWORKING .....	20
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC POLICY HANDBOOK AGREEMENT STATEMENTS .....	20
JEWELRY .....	21
JUNIOR VARSITY AND VARSITY LETTERS.....	21
MIXED COMPETITION (COMBINED MALE/FEMALE TEAMS).....	21
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION INFORMATION .....	21
N.C.A.A. CLEARINGHOUSE .....	22
N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. CODE OF ETHICS .....	22
N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. ELIGIBILITY RULES (SUMMARY) .....	22
OUTSIDE PARTICIPATION.....	23

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT .....	23
PRACTICE & GAME ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS .....	23
PRE-SEASON MEETING ATTENDANCE .....	24
RELEASE OF STUDENT DATA .....	24
RELEASING A STUDENT/ATHLETE FROM AN ATHLETIC SQUAD .....	24
RESERVE CLAUSES.....	25
RISK FACTOR RELATED TO PLAYING SPORTS.....	25
SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS .....	25
SELECTION/CLASSIFICATION PROGRAM (7 <sup>TH</sup> & 8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS) .....	25
SPORTSMANSHIP – PHILOSOPHY & GUIDE .....	26
STEALING OR VANDALISM .....	28
STUDENT/ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS .....	28
TRAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS .....	28
TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED BY DISTRICT POLICY .....	28
TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION .....	29
UNIFORM COLLECTION .....	29
WALL OF FAME – DUNKIRK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL .....	29
SCHOLAR ATHLETE PROGRAM .....	31
SECTION VI/ALL-WESTERN NEW YORK SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAM .....	32
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS .....	33



## **Absence from School**

Excused absences are not limited to the following and all excused absences are at the discretion of the administration:

- Sickness or injury
- Emergency appointments (doctor, dentist, court, etc.)
- Religious obligations
- Academic reasons
- Death in the family
- Court dates
- Doctor or dentist appointment
- Remedial health treatment
- Impassable roads or weather
- Special examinations, tests, or overlapping seasons
- Family vacations/gatherings where the athlete must attend at the parent's request
- Other school commitments, such as band or a field trip
- College visitations or appointments
- Transfers from another district, meeting N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. rules

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

## **Appeal Procedure/Process**

This procedure shall apply to all sections of the Dunkirk Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook. Any appeal regarding an enforcement of the policy must be made by the close of the following school day. All suspensions and dismissals will be enforced as previously indicated unless changed by the action of the appeal committee.

- Step #1** - A student athlete may request a hearing by a committee made up of a coach (other than the coach of the sport involved), the Director of Athletics and the High School Principal. Parents of the suspended student athlete shall be invited to attend this hearing. The involved coach will submit a written statement concerning the matter.
- Step #2** - In cases where the committee's decision in Step #1 is not acceptable to the athlete, the decision may be appealed to the Superintendent of Schools. Implementation of this step must be presented to the Superintendent of School in writing within three (3) days of the decision at Step #1. The Superintendent shall review the case on its merit and his decision shall be final.

## **Athletic Participation – Representative of Dunkirk City School District**

It is expected that all students who participate in any co-curricular sports teams or sport activity that is organized by the Dunkirk City School District will conduct themselves in an exemplary manner, which will bring credit to the individual, the school and the district.

The Dunkirk City School District Interscholastic Athletic Program provides a unique opportunity to educate and influence young people by promoting their mental, emotional and physical development in an environment that rejects the use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. The Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook was developed to guide, encourage and support student-athletes who participate in this dynamic educational experience.

Student-athletes represent this district (or Section VI when involved in post-season play), the school and their team during home contests as well as when a guest at another school and are expected to abide by all behavioral rules/expectations as if in school. When on a trip, students are responsible for their behavior (including meetings, play assignments and curfews) as if in school from the time the team departs school until the group returns (24 hours a day).

## **Athletic Participation – Attendance Expectations**

The school and the coaching staff feel it is vital for students to have excellent school attendance. Therefore, a student will not be allowed to participate in that day's practice or game/meet/match if he/she:

- A. Is absent all day from school. (With the exception of verified full day medical appointments, court appointments, funerals, or situations previously agreed upon, consistent with the attendance policy.)
- B. Comes to school after 11:00 a.m. the day of a game.
- C. Leaves school during the day. (With the exception of verified medical appointments or permission of an administrator.)

D. Leaves school due to illness during the school day.

Student-athletes who are tardy to school the day after a game/meet/match (sign-in after the start of 1<sup>st</sup> period) will not be allowed to participate in their next scheduled game/meet/match. Coaches are encouraged to be involved and stop the participation of athletes at practice and games if tardies become excessive which may lead to removal from the team.

## **Athletic Participation – Academic Eligibility**

The Athletic Department recognizes that the primary responsibility of the student-athlete is educational. Therefore, the Athletic Department supports the concept that the student-athlete should work to their potential in the classroom and be committed to achieving maximum academic success. While scholastic achievement is determined on an individual basis, the administration and the Athletic Department reserve the right to determine his/her eligibility to participate in athletic events.

The **Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Committee** will have the authority to remove students from the ineligibility if it is determined by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting that there is adequate cause for such action. For example, students of low ability who are working to capacity, or students who have experienced recent and serious personal difficulty could fall into this category.

If any staff member feels that certain students should be excluded from the ineligibility list because of emotional problems and/or lack of ability, the **Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Committee**, will consider this recommendation. These reasons should be presented in writing to the chairman who will present the problem to the committee.

A roster of students-athletes participating in each sport will be presented to the classroom teachers at the beginning of the season by the respective coach of the sport. Coaches will regularly monitor the academic progress of their student-athletes **on a weekly basis** in order to identify those who need to seek extra help or other intervention (see extra help policy below). This will be done after the second week of the practice and once per week thereafter, the coach will email the entire roster of student participants to the entire faculty of the building (High School, Middle School and/or both) that the athletes are in.

Teachers will email back any concerns or problems with any student-athlete on the roster. The coach will review all email responses and will review these with the student in question. Any significant issues will be discussed between the coach and Athletic Director. The coach will continue emailing the roster on a weekly basis to the building faculty. Two or more unsatisfactory ratings will be discussed with the Athletic Director, student and parent(s) and could lead to reduced playing time. Appropriate academic progress on a **weekly basis** will be based on the following categories.

- Classroom behavior
- Academic effort
- Attendance
- Classroom participation
- Discipline referrals

Additional eligibility will be checked at every 5-week marking period to assess classroom progress.

### **A. STUDENTS FAILING 1 CLASS**

If the student-athlete is failing one subject, he/she must take measures to raise the grade to standard (minimum passing of 65%). If the student fails to receive extra help, he/she will be deemed ineligible. It is understood that failing one subject does not make an athlete ineligible as long as they are receiving extra help. If a student-athlete is failing only one class, they must get extra help weekly to remain eligible to compete. In addition, teachers should take the opportunity to keep parents apprised of student failure and efforts to improve.

### **B. STUDENTS FAILING 2 OR MORE CLASSES**

If a student-athlete receives two or more failing grades (at a formal eligibility check), he/she will be placed on a two-week academic ineligible (inactive) list and will have **two weeks** to reduce the number of failing courses to one or less. (weeks 6 & 7, weeks 11 & 12, weeks 16 & 17, weeks 21 & 22, weeks 26 & 27, weeks 31 & 32, and weeks 36 & 37). During this two-week period, the student-athlete will be able to practice but not participate in any games/meets/matches.

At the end of the two-week period, the ineligible student-athlete would return to the active list unless negative reports are received from the weekly email reports.

### C. STUDENTS WITH AN IEP OR 504 PLAN

Students with disabilities, pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, shall be afforded an equal opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics. All of the eligibility requirements shall apply to students with disabilities in a manner equal to their non-disabled peers. To the extent required under law, the district is not required to offer any accommodations that would fundamentally alter the nature of an interscholastic athletic activity or pose an undue financial burden. Requests for accommodations shall be considered on a case-by-case basis (i.e. - a student who is adequately meeting their IEP goals may be determined to be eligible to participate in interschool athletics, which will be reviewed by district administrators).

It is the responsibility of all faculty advisors to enforce the ineligibility list and to prohibit the participation of students whose names appear on the list in all school extra-curricular activities.

### Athletic Participation – Violations

A student-athlete shall not consume, possess, buy and/or sell tobacco products (including chewing tobacco and snuff); and beverage containing alcohol; and/or illegal drugs.

***If a student-athlete attends an underage gathering of students where alcohol or drugs are being dispensed, the student-athlete must LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. Failure to comply with this expectation will result in a violation of the athletic code.*** If a student-athlete is given an appearance ticket or summons by a law enforcement official at any off campus gathering, that athlete will be suspended for one week from the date the ticket was issued.

A student-athlete shall not consume, possess, buy or sell controlled substances. It is a violation for a student athlete to be in possession of a controlled substance unless it is specifically prescribed by a doctor for that individual. Confirmed violations during the school year will result in a suspension from school (in accordance with school district policy) and ***will result in additional disciplinary action as required by the Dunkirk Interscholastic Athlete Policy Handbook and/or Student Code of Conduct.***

***Any student-athlete who is arrested or receives an appearance ticket will face the same consequences as a student-athlete who consumes, possesses, buys and/or sells tobacco products, beverages containing alcohol, and/or illegal drugs.***

Any student-athlete involved in other offenses or violations of the Building Code of Conduct (i.e., fighting, forgery, insubordination, graffiti, etc.) **Minimum Penalty** - Any assignment to In-School Suspension will result in the student-athlete **being able to practice but not participate** in any game/meet/match scheduled for that day. An assignment to Out-of-school suspension will result in the student-athlete **not being able to practice or participate** in any game/meet/match in that day's athletic activity.

### Athletic Participation – Reporting of Violations/Procedures

During the period of an alleged violation and the subsequent investigation, the athlete will continue to participate as a member of the team, at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

Witness credibility in this process is highly valued. Reports of alleged violations coming from the individuals listed below and having personally witnessed the violation will be investigated. The witness must submit to the Athletic Director a signed report outlining the alleged violations within five calendar days of the incident in question.

- a. Any district employee or school board member
- b. Any adult acting as a chaperone or assisting with a school activity at the request of a district employee
- c. Any law enforcement officer\*, or agency\*, or
- d. A parent/legal guardian of the student involved

\*The school will take action within 3 days of the receipt of such information.

Upon report of an alleged violation of the rules, the Athletic Director shall immediately provide verbal notice, followed by written notice, to the student and his/her parents/guardians that an investigation of the alleged incident is taking place. The reasons for the investigation and the possibility of suspension from the sport will be included in the notice.

The student and his/her parents will meet with the Athletic Director and other staff, as appropriate, within two (2) school days following the initial notification of the alleged violation. Those attending the meeting will be given the opportunity to question the information upon which the alleged violation is based, and to submit additional

information or explanations. Once the Athletic Director and other staff, as appropriate, make a final determination in the matter, verbal and written notice will be given promptly to both student and parents/guardians.

If a student or other person not mentioned above who witnessed the incident brings accusations against a student, the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook will address the situation in the following manner:

- a. These reports will be considered by the Athletic Director and coach.
- b. They will determine if the alleged violation has validity.
- c. The Athletic Director and coach will confront the student-athlete on the alleged violation. If the student athlete agrees with the alleged violation, the Athletic Handbook Policy will apply. If the student-athlete states that the alleged violation is false, the Athletic Director will determine if the accusation has enough credibility to be brought before the "Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Committee."

The Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Committee will consist of five individuals: the Athletic Director or designee, an "out of season" coach, two faculty members, and the Student Council President. The purpose of this committee is to investigate the alleged violation (interviews, statements, testimony, etc). All parties are entitled to be present and address the committee. The individual accused has the right to present witnesses, testimony, etc. The committee will then vote on the matter. At least four members of the committee must find the student-athlete guilty to apply the suspension. The individual votes of each member will be kept confidential.

Cooperation during investigation- The student-athlete shall be truthful, cooperative, and forthcoming with information. If the student-athlete does not cooperate, the athletic director has within his/her authority to impose a greater level of consequence if it is determined that the student-athlete has lied, been deceptive or untruthful, prior to, or after the determination of guilt and/or consequences. A student-athlete who is uncooperative during an investigation may be suspended from play.

#### **ENFORCEMENT – Pertaining to alcohol, tobacco, drug and arrests/appearance ticket infractions**

During a suspension, the athlete will continue to practice with the team and will attend games in civilian clothes (at the discretion of the Athletic Director and respective head coach). ***Consequences for violating the no alcohol, tobacco, drugs and arrests/appearance ticket infraction policy are as follows:***

1. **First offense** – Suspension from competition will break down in the following manner and carry over to the next sports season (20% of season or maximum of 2 weeks whichever is less):

<b><u>Scheduled Contests</u></b>	<b><u>Games Suspended</u></b>
19 and above	4
11-18	3
10 or less	2

2. **Second offense in the same school year** – Suspension for the remainder of that season in which the athlete is currently participating and ½ of the next sports season in which he/she participates, which may go into a new school year.
3. **Third offense in the same school year** – Suspension from **all** athletic teams for one calendar year beginning with the date of the infraction. During this suspension, the student will be recommended to a program of Education and Awareness to include a minimum of three counseling and support sessions by the school psychologist or his or her designee. A written report generated by the school psychologist (or designee) will be forwarded to the Athletic Director assessing the student-athlete's progress and a determination of need for further counseling or rehabilitation.

#### **REDUCTION OF SUSPENSION**

Students may request a one game reduction in first offense suspension time once in their athletic career at Dunkirk City School District. A school/community service project, initiated and organized wholly by the suspended student will be considered by a committee made up of the coach, athletic director, and guidance counselor/school psychologist. If the proposed project is approved by the committee, the committee will receive progress reports by the student and meet to determine the impact of the student's effort. The total penalty cannot be reduced under this provision by more than one game of the penalty imposed. If the committee determines that the student-athlete is not truthful in any part of the process, this provision will not be available for them. (NOTE: The committee must take into account the grade level of the student-athlete, the timing of the next contest, and the end of the season as they consider each proposal.)

## **Athletic Participation– Self-Referral**

If a student-athlete seeks assistance, the coach and athletic director will assist the student-athlete in obtaining the professional help they need. Self-referral shall be viewed as a non-punitive offense. Confidentiality will be maintained unless the situation is life threatening. Self-referral cannot be used by the student-athlete to avoid the penalties of the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook.

## **Athletic Program Philosophy – Varsity**

Varsity competition is the culmination of each sport's program. Usually, seniors and juniors make up the majority of the roster. At the varsity coach's discretion, sophomores and freshmen may be included on the team providing that evidence of advanced levels of physical development; athletic skill and appropriate socio-emotional development are demonstrated.

It is possible but very rare for a middle school level student to be included on a varsity roster. The New York State Department of Education process for moving a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student up to a high school team is called Selection/Classification. This process has been developed to identify "exceptional athletes" and provide qualified athletes with an opportunity to play at a level commensurate with their ability. (The standard has been established to consider only those athletes who will become a starter on the Junior Varsity level or above). The individual must clearly be an impact player on the team while supporting other team members to play at a higher level reaching their full potential.

Squad size at the varsity level is limited. The number of participants on any given team is a function of those needed to conduct an effective and meaningful practice and to play the contest. It is vital that each team member has a role and is informed of, as well as understands its importance. The number of roster positions is relative to the students' acceptance of their individual roles in pursuit of the team's goals. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time at the varsity level is never guaranteed.

A sound attitude and advance level of skill are prerequisites for a position on a varsity team, as is the realization that a varsity sport requires a six-day-a-week commitment. This commitment is often extended into vacation periods for all sport seasons. Depending on the sport, contests and practice are scheduled during vacation, on Sunday, and in some cases on holidays. The dedication and commitment needed to conduct a successful varsity program must be taken seriously by all student-athletes and coaches' efforts need to be supported by parents.

The varsity coach is the leader of that sports' program and determines the system of instruction and strategy for that program. The communication among the middle school teams, freshman, junior varsity and varsity programs is the responsibility of the varsity coach. ***Preparing to win, striving for victory in each contest and working to reach the group and each individual's maximum potential are worthy goals of a varsity level team.***

## **Athletic Program Philosophy – Junior Varsity**

The junior varsity level is intended for those who display the potential of continued development into productive varsity level performers. Although team membership varies according to the structure of each program, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students occupy the majority of roster positions. In certain situations, 11<sup>th</sup> graders are included on a junior varsity roster. Middle school students may participate at this level following district guidelines. The New York State Department of Education process for moving a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student up to a high school team is called Selection/Classification. This process has been developed to identify "exceptional athletes" and provide qualified athletes with an opportunity to play at a level commensurate with their ability.

***At this level, athletes are expected to have visibly committed themselves to the program, team and continued self-development. To this end, increased emphasis is placed on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills, elements and strategies of team play, in addition to socio-emotional development. Junior varsity programs work towards achieving a balance between continued team and player development and striving for victory.***

The realization that practice sessions are important is a premise that is vital to a successful junior varsity team and player. For all team members, meaningful contest participation will exist over the course of a season; however, a specified amount of playing time is never guaranteed. Participants at this level are preparing themselves for the six-day-a-week commitment that is expected at the varsity level. While contests and practices are rarely held on holidays and Sundays, practice sessions are scheduled during school vacation and commitment is expected at the junior varsity level.

## **Athletic Program Philosophy – Modified “B”**

This program is available to all students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Sport activities offered are determined by the existence of leagues, student interest and the relationship to the high school program. ***At this level, the focus is on learning athletic skills and game rules, fundamentals of team play, socio-emotional growth, physiologically appropriate demands on the adolescent body and healthy competition.*** At the middle school level, it is our goal to provide a well-planned and well-balanced program of interscholastic athletics for as many students as possible.

Ultimately, the number of teams and size of the squad in any sport will be determined by student interest and the availability of 1) Financial resources 2) qualified coaches 3) suitable indoor or outdoor facilities 4) a safe environment

In order for the desired development of the adolescent athlete and team to occur, practice sessions are vital. The New York State Public High School Athletic Association publishes regulations by which practice sessions are governed. In order for the desired development of the adolescent athlete and team to occur, practice sessions are vital. Students will be asked to give a six-day-a-week commitment, with practices and contests occasionally scheduled for Saturday and during school vacations.

Vacation/recess practices are not regularly scheduled at the middle school. However, on rare occasions practices are scheduled to insure that students are adequately prepared to participate. These practices are optional and scheduling of vacation/recess practices will be an administrative decision that will be reviewed on an annual basis. Opportunities for meaningful contest participation within the game format (for most sports: 5 period contest format), will exist over the course of a season for student-athletes who meet their school and team responsibilities. Coaches will determine playing time based on a variety of circumstances (abilities, opponents, game situations, practice performances, etc.).

It is possible, but very rare for a middle school level student to be included on a high school (Freshman, JV or Varsity) roster. Criteria that must be met in order to play at an advanced level include parental approval, medical approval, appropriate developmental rating, passing athletic performance test scores, the coach's skill evaluation and advanced degree of socio-emotional maturity as outlined by the State Education Department Selection/Classification Policy and the Dunkirk City School District's Selection/Classification Policy.

## **Changing Sports**

A student-athlete may change from one sport to participate in another once the teams have been selected with permission of the parent, coach and athletic director. If he/she has been cut from one team, it is legitimate to try-out for another. In the event an athlete leaves a team, he/she must meet with the coach or they will not be permitted to try out for another sport.

Once selected for a team, an athlete is expected to complete the season. As a general rule, an individual who drops out once selections have been made may not try out for another team mid-season. At the start of the season, if the coaches of two teams involved make an appeal on behalf of a student-athlete, to the Athletic Director, and are both in agreement that a change would be beneficial, the appeal may be considered.

**A student dismissed from a team for disciplinary reasons may not try out for another team that season.**

## **Coaching – AED/CPR & F.A.S.K. Training**

All coaches, advisors and supervisors appointed to any extracurricular activity must have the following training and certifications:

- F.A.S.K. (First Aid Skills and Knowledge or its equivalent) - coaches
- CPR – (Coaches and advisors)
- AED – (Coaches, advisors and game supervisors)

## **Coaching – Hiring Policy**

In accordance with Commissioner's Regulations, the appointment of coaches for interscholastic athletics teams must meet certain criteria. Specifically, certified physical education teachers may coach any sport, and teachers with coaching qualifications and experience certified in areas other than physical education may coach any sport provided they complete certain first aid and course requirements as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulations.

Also, the Board of Education may employ as temporary coaches of interschool sport teams uncertified persons, including volunteers, with coaching qualifications and experience satisfactory to the Board, *but only when certified physical education teachers or teachers certified in other areas with coaching qualifications and experience are not*

available. Uncertified persons, including volunteers, must *first* obtain a temporary coaching license, valid for one year, issued pursuant to the conditions as specified in Commissioner's Regulations.

The temporary coaching license may be renewed once upon the completion of or enrollment in an approved course in philosophy, principles and organization of athletics; and candidates for any subsequent renewal of a temporary coaching license shall have completed or demonstrate evidence of satisfactory progress toward the completion of an approved education program for coaches pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will ensure that the appointment of athletic coaches is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations; and a job description will be provided to all candidates for athletic coaching positions in the District.

## **Coaching – Credentials & Course Verifications**

All coaches within the Dunkirk City School District Athletic Department have current first aid and CPR/AED certification, as well as experience at violence abuse and child abuse prevention workshops. Additionally all newly hired coaches have been fingerprinted.

### **SUMMARY OF NYS COACHING REGULATIONS**

#### **Persons Who May Coach in New York State Secondary Schools and the Requirements for Each**

1. **Physical Education Teachers** - Sports they may coach: Any sport in any school.

##### **Requirements:**

- New York State provisional or permanent certificate to teach physical education.
- First Aid current prior to start of season.\*

2. **Classroom Teachers** - Sports they may coach: Those starting coaching prior to September 1, 1974 may coach any sport in any school in which they are currently teaching. Those starting coaching after September 1, 1974 must meet the requirements below.

##### **Requirements: After September 1, 1974.**

- New York State permanent or provisional teaching certificate.
- First Aid current prior to start of season.\*
- Complete an approved course on Philosophy, Principles and Organization of Athletes in Education before the start of the third season in the same sport.
- For strenuous/contact sports\*\*, complete approved courses on Health Science Applied to Coaching and Coaching Techniques (specific sport) before the start of the fourth season in the same sport (note: this can be extended to the start of the sixth season with State Education Department approval).
- All courses are to be completed within three years of the initial appointment unless an extension has been approved by the State Education Department.

3. **Non-Teacher Certified Persons** - Sports they may coach: Any sport in any school for which they qualify.

##### **Requirements:**

- No certified teachers are available with appropriate experience and qualifications.
- First Aid current prior to start of season.\*
- Current Temporary Coaching License from the Division of Teacher Certification (re-issued each year).
- Complete or be enrolled in an approved course on Philosophy, Principles and Organization of Athletics in Education before the start of the second season in the same sport.
- For **strenuous/contact sports\*\***, complete or be enrolled in approved courses on Health Science Applied to Coaching and Coaching Techniques (sport specific) before the start of the third season in the same sport (note: no provisions for extensions).

All coaches must receive training on exposure control. Coaches applying for a new Coaching License must also complete the two hour Child Abuse Identification and Reporting course within his/her first year of coaching.

- First Aid Skills and Knowledge (16 hr SED course) or the Red Cross Responding to Emergencies (24 hr course).

\*\* **Strenuous/Contact Activities include:** football, soccer, speedball, track and field(indoor & outdoor), cross country, gymnastics, wrestling, basketball, swimming, ice hockey, badminton, fencing, crew, skiing, handball, baseball, softball, lacrosse, field hockey, team handball, volleyball and tennis.

**Non-Strenuous/Non-Contact Activities include:** bowling, golf, archery, riflery, shuffleboard, and table tennis.

## **Coaching – Duties and Responsibilities**

Coaches must continually emphasize the standards of training and conduct, both in and outside of school, while encouraging successful academic progress in the classroom. Coaches are requested to make the same commitment as we request of our student-athletes during their respective sports' season.

Coaches are expected to be knowledgeable in their sports, and to keep up-dates with current trends. They are directly responsible for teaching basic sport specific fundamentals and strategies, while applying proper training techniques. In addition to the instruction of skill building, coaches should strive to improve the self-esteem of all athletes, teach them self-discipline, while emphasizing proper sportsmanship and fair play.

### **Pre-Season**

- Attend coaches meeting prior to start of season
- Make sure all coaching certifications are updated and on file in the Athletic Directors Office.
- Hold pre-season meeting for athletes to go over schedules for physicals and practice sessions.
- Turn in to Athletic Director
  - Practice schedules
  - Goals and objectives for the season
  - Practice schedule for the first two weeks of practice
  - Responsibility sheet for all assistants, JV and Modified coaches under Varsity coaches supervision.
  - Special Maintenance work orders for fields, gymnasium, and equipment.
  - Event/ game management requests- security/ timer/ announcer.
- Make sure all equipment is ready for the start of the season

### **During the Season**

- Make sure all students have updated physicals, health history and pink medical card handed in.
- Hand in to school nurse and athletic office- all rosters (try-out list and final cut list)
- Review all eligibility rules with athletes
- Have a **Mandatory Parent Meeting** prior to the first week of practice. (try to schedule meeting to accommodate maximum parent/guardian attendance)
- For teams that have to limit the number of students on their team, a check list should be created to explain to students the procedures for “cutting”. Attitude, skills, and physical fitness components should be listed as your criteria for selection of individual athletes.
- Prepare daily practice schedules.
- Take daily attendance and follow guidelines for the number of individual and team practices required by the NYSPHSAA.
- **Prepare daily practice schedules following the 2½ hour time limit. These will be turned into the Athletic Director at the end of the season.**
- Return to the Athletic Director an accurate and updated numerical roster once uniforms are handed out.
- Supervise students from the time they report until the time they leave your practice/activity.
- Make sure the buildings are secure and athletes have left facility before you leave.
- Student-athletes desiring to ride home with their parent/guardian must follow the approved Transportation – District Policy listed under the “T” section of this handbook.
- After games report all scores to Athletic Director on the appropriate Game/Meet/Match report and all media (electronic and printed).
- In case of an injury, make sure an accident report is filed in a timely manner.
- Promote sportsmanship at all levels of the program.
- Cooperate and work with all coaches to promote school athletics
- Cooperate and work with all coaches on our staff to promote Dunkirk High School and Modified athletics.
- Return all forms when requested.
- **All fund raising activities must be cleared through the Athletic Director.**

### **End of the Season**

- Hand in all paper work - complete lists of team members who completed the season, list of awards and team accomplishments.
- Complete equipment inventory and uniform inventory and sign-off that everything has been returned and accounted for.

- Fill out pay stipend form and ***turn in all keys that were issued to them.***

**NOTE: Failure to complete the above will result in delay of coaching stipend payment.**

### **Meetings:**

- The pre-season coaches meeting w/Athletic Director.
- The pre-season sport specific coaches meeting
- The pre-season parent meeting (prior to tryouts)
- The post season meeting w/Athletic Director

### **Coaching - Communication with the Coach**

Coaches will welcome discussions including, but not limited to the following:

- The mental and/or physical treatment of your child
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior
- Any issues involving playing time, team strategy, and play calling. When issues arise it is expected that you be polite and respectful when discussing your concerns.
- Communication needs to be centered on your child and the conversation needs to be a private matter between the parent and coach.

### **Coaching - Procedure to Discuss a Concern with a Coach**

- The athlete should first speak with the coach to resolve the situation.
- If a resolution is not reached or if the conversation is better suited to be between the parent and the coach, a parent/guardian should contact the coach to set up an appointment with him/her.
- If you need assistance in contacting the coach, call the Athletic Director at 366-9300 x-2068 to help arrange a meeting.
- Please do not attempt to meet with a coach before or after a practice or a contest. Meetings at those times seldom result in a resolution.
- At this point, if there are still concerns after the student-athlete and/or parents have met with coach, contact the Athletic Director.

### **College Athletics**

The primary focus of the Dunkirk City School District Interscholastic Athletic program is to teach life-long values, skills, and lessons, not to produce scholarship athletes. A small minority of athletes go on to play at the collegiate level, and even a smaller amount of athletes receive athletic scholarships. It is important for parents and athletes to communicate with the coach if there is potential for the athlete to play at the next level. The Athletic Director and coaches will be able to give the athlete an honest evaluation of the appropriate level of play that may be suitable for the athlete. The Athletic Director, Guidance Counselor and/or coach can also guide the parents and athlete through the recruiting process (NCAA Clearinghouse, college visitations, etc.). **However, it is the responsibility of the student/athlete and parents/guardians to register for the NCAA Clearinghouse.**

### **Dual Sport Athlete**

Any student may compete on two sports teams during the same interscholastic season as long as:

- Parents of student-athlete agree to it.
- Both coaches and/or advisors involved agree to it.
- Students must meet minimum practice requirements for both sports (per NYSPHSAA requirements) and/or extracurricular activity.
- The student is able to keep up academically.

If during the interscholastic season and/or extra-curricular activity period the student academically is falling behind, they will have to make a choice of which sport they will continue in.

### **Duty to Warn**

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

## **Emergency Cards (Blue Cards)**

Emergency cards (blue cards) are to be submitted to/be on file with the health office (school nurse) prior to the first day of practice. These cards are available in the high school and middle school health offices during the school year, and the high school and middle school main offices during the summer.

## **Equipment/Uniforms**

At the beginning of each season the coach will provide athletes with school issued uniforms and equipment. The student-athlete will be responsible for maintaining proper care of equipment. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to return to the coach all clothing and equipment issued to them during the season. Failure to do so will result in the student-athlete paying for the missing articles. Student-athletes not paying for the missing or damaged articles will forfeit their right to participate in the next sport season or be eligible for any certificate or letter.

To be in compliance with all of the rules and regulations, any piece of uniform or equipment that is purchased by the student-athlete must be approved by both the Athletic Director and coach prior to it being used.

## **Extra Help Policy**

Coaches will check student-athlete grades weekly. Student-athletes who are failing a class are required to get extra help weekly. Student athlete will go for extra help for each course failed per marking period until passing. Any extra help received will be verified using the "Academic Eligibility Update Form." Examples of extra help are: seeing a teacher before or after school, Safari tutors during or after school, School Island, private tutor). When parents and students obtain qualified private tutors for extra help, both the private source and the teacher should sign the update form (teacher's signature indicates knowledge of the extra help obtained).

## **Family Vacation/Holiday Vacation/Recess Policy**

Being chosen to represent the Dunkirk City School District as a member of an interscholastic team is an honor and privilege and requires great commitment and responsibility. Varsity, junior varsity and modified athletes are expected to participate in all try-outs, practices, scrimmages and interscholastic contest during vacation / recess periods. A student-athlete MAY NOT be chosen for a team without a tryout when "cuts" or player positioning on teams has taken place. This includes try-outs and practices, which occur prior to the beginning of school in September; over Thanksgiving break; winter holiday recess; President's week and spring recess. When a student-athlete is injured he/she is still expected to attend practices until ready to participate (When ready, a try-out of the same time period and with a similar assessment will be conducted). Student-athletes may petition the athletic director for relief in these matters if extenuating circumstances exist such as medical situations, religious observance, court appearances or other legal reasons. A scheduled vacation is NOT an extenuating circumstance.

**Family Vacations:** Parents (with their children who are student-athletes) may choose to take their family vacation during a sport season. It must be understood that the time missed by the student-athlete can affect team chemistry, personal conditioning, performance level of the individual and the overall success of the team. Each and every individual on the team has a role, not just in the game, but in the practice climate as well, regardless of how much playing time the athlete is experiencing. Commitment during the vacation periods involves self-sacrifice, not only on the part of the coach and athlete, but the family as well. **Attendance is mandatory during vacation periods.** Contact the coach prior to the season in order to fulfill team commitments and expectations.

**Athletic Vacation Policy:** In order to ensure that students recognize and understand their responsibility as a member of the varsity team, parents and students are reminded that their participation requires attendance at all practices and games during non-school and vacation periods. Therefore, student-athletes must be prepared to participate in athletic practices or games that are scheduled during the following recesses: Thanksgiving Break (end of November), Winter Break (end of December), Mid-winter (mid February) and Spring (April). As a school district and members of the Section VI of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (schools that play within Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Counties), we are committed to preparing for and honoring the contest schedule during these non-school and vacation periods. In addition to these periods, the fall sports season will commence mid to late August. Consequently, all varsity athletes and their families are reminded to plan vacations accordingly. It is recognized that there may be situations of an emergency nature that may arise and that honest communication with the appropriate coach is necessary.

## **Harassment/Hazing/Bullying**

In the Dunkirk City School District, harassment, hazing or bullying (behavior designed to intimidate another individual) in any form during school, or outside the school day is unacceptable and prohibited. It shall be considered a violation of the student-athlete "Code of Conduct" as well as dangerous, compromising an athlete's well-being and counter-productive to a team's positive growth.

Hazing shall be defined as any intentional action; situation created; group conduct or method of intimidation to/by a group (or individual) that is designed to deny (or results in denying) a person her/his rights within the school society or as a member of the team.

This shall also include any action that seriously impacts or compromises an athlete's physical or psychological safety (demeaning by nature), by inflicting mental anguish, physical discomfort/pain severe embarrassment, harassment, hurtful pranks, psychological pressure, intimidation, ridicules or endangering another person, whether in public or private.

This definition shall also include any action or coercion that typically pressures an individual to agree to be involved in a humiliating action/task(s) that suggests the athlete will be more fully accepted into a group/team irrespective of team status or playing time.

It is understood that hazing of any kind is not allowed in our school or in athletics. It is further understood that student-athletes have a duty to report any acts of hazing he/she sees or knows of to a coach or administrator, and participation in or failure to report any hazing will result in a disciplinary review and possible suspension and dismissal from the athletic program.

The Dunkirk City School District Interscholastic Athletic Program teaches respect for all athletes at all times.

## **Health History Form/Sports Physicals**

**WARNING: Participation in interscholastic athletics does involve some risks. Physical injury can occur in any type of interscholastic sports activity. By volunteering to participate in a school sponsored interscholastic athletic activity, a student and his/her parents/guardians acknowledge the potential risk for physical injury to occur.**

Student-athletes must be medically cleared **BEFORE** beginning practice each season. The following information summarizes requirements for medical certification.

Each student-athlete must have an up-dated health history form and pass a physical exam approved by the school district physician prior to participation in practice sessions or participation in any interscholastic sport. Sports physicals are scheduled at various times during the school year. The student is responsible for reporting for the physical examination at the scheduled time. All paperwork is required to be filled out prior to the exam, if not the school physician will not perform a physical exam.

Students having their personal doctor perform the physical examination should submit a school physician examination form completed and signed by their family physician. These forms are available in the health office and must be approved by the school physician after the personal physician's approval and prior to participation.

Physical exams, whether completed by your family physician or school physician, may be scheduled at any time during the school year. The results of the examination shall be valid for qualifying a student's participation for a period of 12 months. The examination is valid through the last day of the month in which the examination was conducted rather than 365 days from the last examination. If the 12-month period for the physical examination expires at the start or during a sport season, participants may conclude the season, as long as a health history update was completed prior to the sport season.

**The athlete is to report all injuries, no matter how minor, to the coach. Coaches are required to report all injuries within 24 hours of the incident and complete an incident report to be filed with the athletic director and school nurse.**

Student-athletes who are injured during a sport season will be asked to be recertified, if the injury causes them to miss one or more day(s) of practice or competition due to the injury.

If a student-athlete is absent from attendance in school or at practice sessions due to illness for five or more consecutive days, he/she must have the approval of the school physician and a medical release from the attending physician, before participating in a practice, scrimmage or a game. This release must be filed with our school nurse and approved by the school physician.

If a student-athlete goes to an emergency room for care, he/she must obtain a written release statement from the attending physician before leaving the hospital.

## **Insurance Coverage – Athletic Injuries**

**Medical expenses resulting from any athletic injury must first be submitted to the parents/guardians insurance carrier. Any remaining unpaid balance may then be submitted to the school district's insurance carrier for processing. Claim forms can be obtained from the school insurance office. The school district's insurance provides only supplemental coverage according to a schedule of benefits.**

## **Internet/Social Networking**

Student-athletes will be held accountable for their actions displayed through electronic communication, including but not limited to the following (i.e.: MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, texting, email, etc.)

## **Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements**

- **Absence from School**

I/we understand if my son/daughter is absent from school for 5 or more days consecutively due to illness/injury, he/she must have a medical certification to return to play as the original medical certificate is void. I/we also understand that for my son or daughter to be eligible to play on the day of a game, he/she must be in school prior to 11:00am and must not have been sent home ill. I also understand the day after an athletic contest he/she must be in attendance at the start of the school day unless a valid excused absence is presented and approved by appropriate building administration.

- **Duty to Warn**

I/we as the parent/guardian of the above named student/athlete, we hereby state that we understand that participation in interscholastic athletics involves rigorous physical activity and risks of physical injury, and we assume these risks. We understand the inherent risks involved in participation may lead to injury (as referred to within the athletic code – but not all inclusive) or even death. I hereby consent for emergency transportation and treatment in the event of illness and/or injury. I further certify that all information provided on the participants Health History Form/Update is correct and has no medical conditions restricting his/her participation.

- **Jewelry**

I understand that my son/daughter is prohibited from wearing any type of jewelry during practices and/or games.

- **NCAA Clearinghouse**

I have read the information provided regarding the NCAA Clearinghouse. I understand it is my responsibility to register my son/daughter to be eligible to receive an NCAA Division I/II scholarship.

- **Release of Data**

I/we hereby grant permission to the coaching staff, guidance department and athletic department to release sports/coursework related data relevant to our son/daughter's team and/or individual accomplishments. The data that may be released (this is not an all inclusive list) could include sports specific statistics, jersey numbers, height, weight, grade level, coursework, grades and at times photographs and/or video of our son/daughter participating. I understand photographs/video may appear in/on yearbooks, media guides, local newspapers, local television stations and the Dunkirk City School District website.

- **School Suspensions**

**In-School Suspension** - I understand that if my son/daughter receives in-school suspension (I.S.S.) from school he/she will not be able to participate in any interscholastic competition game/meet/match until his/her suspension is successfully completed. He/she may still practice during the in-school suspension period as physical conditioning requirements of competition must be maintained.

**Out-of-School Suspension** - I understand that if my son/daughter is suspended from school he/she will not be able to participate in any interscholastic competition or participate in practice until his/her suspension is successfully completed. I further understand that additional consequences may be added per the Dunkirk City School District Student Code of Conduct.

- **Transportation Provided by District**

I give my consent for my son/daughter to represent this school in interscholastic athletic activities and to accompany any school team of which he/she is a member on any of its local or out of town trips. I understand that my son/daughter must go and return on school provided transportation for away games

if provided and if there is an extraordinary circumstance, a written request explaining the situation must be presented as per the "Transportation Provided by District Policy" in the Dunkirk Marauder Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook.

- **Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook– Parent/Guardian**

I have read the policies and regulations and understand the purpose of the Dunkirk City School District Athletic Code and the consequences for inappropriate behavior. I hereby give my consent for my son/daughter to participate in the above stated sport. I agree to all terms and conditions mentioned in these regulations.

I also understand that I will be financially responsible for any of my son/daughter's missing equipment/uniforms and/or supplies, which are issued to him/her by the Dunkirk City School District. I also understand that no modification of protective equipment or uniform will be made/allowed. Replacement of missing/modified equipment, uniforms and/or supplies will be at current replacement cost to the Dunkirk City School District. My son/daughter will not be allowed to participate in further

- **Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook – Student/Athlete**

I have read and understand the Dunkirk City School District Athletic Code for student-athletes and agree to follow the rules and regulations as well as other rules set forth by the coach. Failure to follow these rules may result in my suspension or dismissal from the team. I consent to, with the right of appeal, any disciplinary action as stipulated for the violation of any of these regulations.

## **Jewelry**

The N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. has a rule concerning the wearing of jewelry during athletic competition, at Dunkirk, this also includes practice. It states: Any piece of jewelry that is visible, at the start of or during a contest, is a violation of the NYSPHSAA Jewelry Rule. No jewelry shall be worn in any sport (other than those listed below). Religious medals may be taped to the body and under the uniform. Medical medals must be taped to the body so they are visible. Soft, pliable barrettes are permissible. **Note:** The sports of bowling, golf and riflery are exempt from this rule. **This rule now applies to any and all body piercing objects, including tongue studs.**

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

## **Junior Varsity and Varsity Letters**

Any athlete participating for the first time in a Junior Varsity sport will receive a certificate of participation and a J.V. sport pin. Upon earning their first Varsity letter, the athlete will receive their Varsity 'D' and sport specific pin. For each additional Varsity letter earned the athlete will receive the appropriate sport specific pin. By earning a varsity letter this also qualifies the student-athlete to apply for membership in the Varsity "D" Club (which is an extracurricular club that all Varsity athletes are eligible to join which promotes the many attributes of being a Varsity athlete @ Dunkirk Senior High School). Athletes participating in subsequent years will earn the appropriate sport pin for each Varsity letter they earn.

***The awarding of a Varsity or Junior Varsity letter is determined upon the recommendation of the specific sport coach. The Director of Athletics reserves the right to disallow an athlete from earning either a J.V. or Varsity letter if athletic handbook policies are violated.***

## **Mixed Competition (combined male/female teams)**

The Dunkirk City School District Athletic Department follows the New York State regulations and procedures for instances of mixed competition within the interscholastic athletic program.

## **National Collegiate Athletic Association Information**

Freshman-Eligibility Standard (revised for 2005)

All Student-athletes wishing to try-out/play at the College Level (Division I or Division II) must register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

The Dunkirk Senior High School Guidance Department has the forms and the most up-to-date information on qualification as well as participation regulations. All NCAA rules, regulations and forms can be obtained on line at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

**Available are copies of:**

A Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete and Their Parents  
Handbook for the College Bound Athlete  
NCCA Guide for the Two-Year College Student-Athlete  
NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete  
Making Sure You Are Eligible to participate in College Sports

It is the student-athlete's responsibility to know the requirements and meet the standards for participation.

Any questions should be directed to their guidance counselor.

Non-Standard testing conditions can be requested through your guidance counselor.

*Important - NCAA Information for Athletes and Parents*

Not all Dunkirk Senior High School courses are approved for use in determining NCAA initial eligibility. Each year prior to choosing courses for the high school program, students should check with their guidance counselor.

It is the student and parents responsibility to register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

**N.C.A.A. Clearinghouse**

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

**N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Code of Ethics**

It is the duty of all concerned with interscholastic athletics:

- 1) **To emphasize** the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
- 2) **To eliminate** all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
- 3) **To stress** the values derived from playing the game fairly.
- 4) **To show** cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
- 5) **To establish** a happy relationship between visitors and hosts.
- 6) **To respect** the integrity and judgment of the sports officials.
- 7) **To achieve** a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and standards of eligibility.
- 8) **To encourage** leadership, use of incentive, and good judgment by the players on the team.
- 9) **To recognize** that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual players.
- 10) **To remember** that an athletic contest is only a game.... not a matter of life and death for player, coach, school, official, fan, community, state or nation.

**N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. Eligibility Rules (Summary)**

*A student is eligible to participate:*

- If they are a high school student in regular attendance (80% of the school time) in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 and taking (3) three subjects plus physical education.
- If the age of 19 years is reached on or after July 1, the student may continue to participate during that school year in all sports.
- If their parents and doctor approve.
- If they have not played more than four consecutive sports seasons after first entering grade 9.
- A student in grades 9-12, who transfers, with a corresponding change in residence of his/her parents, shall become eligible after starting regular attendance in the second school.
- A student who participates in any unapproved all-star contest shall be ineligible to compete in interschool athletics in all sports for a period of one year from the date of such participation.
- If they have not played or practiced with a college team.
- If they are an amateur and have never used their athletic skill for gain, (received a payment of any form) and if they have never competed under an assumed name.
- If they are familiar with the rules of the game and the standards of sportsmanship.
- If the student-athlete has the appropriate amount of practices prior to a scrimmage/game.
- Student-athletes must compete in a minimum amount of contests to be eligible for post-season play.
- Student-athletes that represent Dunkirk City Senior High School can only compete in N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. sanctioned interscholastic contests and they are allowed to participate in a maximum amount of contests.
- A student in grade 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade is eligible for Modified competition.

- One is ineligible when the sixteenth birthday is attained; however, if a student attains the sixteenth birthday during a sport season he/she may complete that season.

## Outside Participation

The NYSPHSAA allows outside participation (AAU, Travel, Club, etc.). OHS athletes must understand that commitment to the school team comes first, and outside participation should not be detrimental to an individual or to a Dunkirk High School team. There will be many circumstances where a student should not participate in an outside activity due to the possible effect on the team. Always check with your coach and/or the athletic director.

## Physical Education Participation Requirement

Athletics is an outgrowth of the Physical Education Program. Those students demonstrating outstanding skills, attitude and effort are those encouraged to participate in athletics. The wide range of activities in physical education gives the students an excellent background in physical fitness, lifetime sports and team sports. Because of the importance of physical education, all athletes are required to take Physical Education.

If the student-athlete does not come prepared for (defined below) and/or does not participate in Physical Education (gym and/or pool classroom), he/she will not be able to participate in either practice or a game on that same day.

**Prepared means the following: Is being dressed in the appropriate attire for class which is a shirt, shorts or sweatpants, socks and sneakers. These clothes CAN NOT be the same clothes the student wore to school. In the pool setting the appropriate attire is a swim suit or attire that has been approved by the Physical Education teacher.**

Athletes who are illegally absent from or do not participate in physical education classes will not be permitted to attend practices or games/meets/matches on the day of the absence.

Any athlete failing physical education will be automatically suspended from participation until the failing grade is corrected to a passing grade. The NYSPHSAA regulations state that a student must be enrolled in physical education to participate in athletics.

## Practice & Game Attendance Requirements

It is important that athletes report for the first day of practice during any season of the year. Some Dunkirk Marauder teams make cuts. From year to year the teams having to make cuts will differ, therefore assume that every team will be going through this process. The try-out process lasts for approximately three days. Therefore missing any of these days will create a situation where an otherwise qualified athlete may not make the team.

Individual coaches establish attendance requirements for team membership and communicate this to athletes and parents within the first three days of practice. Generally, athletes are expected to attend all practices and contests unless there are circumstances beyond the athlete's control (i.e. illness, injury, death in the immediate family). Absences for other reasons such as conflicts with a job; another sport or musical; or other events chosen by an athlete must be preapproved by the coach. Coaches will review these reasons with the athlete and his/her parents.

All excused absences require a note from the parent to the coach. It must be understood that any time missed may affect the team chemistry and/or personal conditioning, which may result in adjusted playing time. Coaches understand that excused absences do arise, but it is to be noted that the coach can't control what happens or doesn't happen in a player's absence. Excused absences are not limited to the following and all excused absences are at the discretion of the administration. (reference page #4 – Absence from School)

The N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. and Section VI on a yearly basis determine the starting practice date and required minimum number of practice prior to participation for each respective sport. **No exceptions can be given.**

Each athlete is required to attend all practices and/or contests unless excused by the coach. An athlete who is injured or ill but still able to attend school is also required to attend practice even though they will not be actively participating. Any student-athlete failing to abide by this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Disciplinary action could range from a warning, to suspension, to dismissal from the team. Remember, once you have been placed on a team roster, you are making a commitment to that team for the full season. Any student-athlete who considers quitting a team is encouraged to first talk with the respective coach and communicates his/her concerns and/or reasons for wanting to leave the team.

## Pre-Season Meeting Attendance

One of the most important ingredients for a successful sport season is effective, open, and appropriate communication between the coach, parents and players. In order to ensure this communication takes place, the Athletic Director will schedule a preseason meeting. Topics at the meeting will include athletic department policies, individual team expectations, rules, and many other topics. This meeting should be attended by the athlete, and at least one parent/guardian.

## Release of Student Data

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

## Releasing a Student/Athlete from an Athletic Squad

Sometimes it's a tough decision as to whether it is beneficial to keep a student/athlete on the roster who is beginning to become a disruption to team chemistry due to not receiving a great deal of playing time. In these situations the coach and Athletic Director will set up a private meeting for the student/athlete and the parents to discuss all the athletes' options. At this time, the coach should be prepared to fully discuss the athlete's behaviors and projected role on the team in the future.

The philosophy on the Junior Varsity and Modified levels is to retain as many athletes as possible for developmental reasons in building a program.

All students in grades 7-12 who are registered and attend school in one of the district schools may try-out for a team. The potential team member may "try-out" for a team at or above their grade level by stating their intentions to the varsity coach, as well as "other" appropriate coaches prior to the beginning of the team selection process. Team selection will be based on criteria specific to each sport. At the conclusion of the evaluation period, participants will be informed of their status. Student-athletes may request a meeting to discuss the process of their placement with the Head Coach. **Athletes are positioned based on their skills displayed during the try-out sessions, and team needs as well as with a concern for the individual success of the athlete.** Movement from level to level, prior to the start or during the season is always possible based on performance.

Students in grade 7-12 who register at one of the schools in the district during a season (depending on when during the season) become eligible for a "try-out" when a clearance has been obtained from the school nurse. The try-out opportunity shall (with permission of the District Director of Athletics in consultation with the coach) be of the same length, intensity and similar conditions as the original try-out. Only athletes who are of equal talent shall earn a position on the team. The selection process and placement are the responsibility of the coach(es).

Concerns over the process should be brought directly to the attention of the Director of Athletes (366-9300 x-2068 or x-2083). Assignment decisions are not subject to review unless based on questions related to the process.

At the Varsity level it may be necessary to make cuts due to the need for workable numbers as well as requiring higher skill and ability levels needed to compete at the Varsity level.

1. At the initial tryout session the Head coach should do the following:
  - a. Make athletes aware that cuts will be made.
  - b. Explain all areas that will be focused upon during tryouts and what criteria will be used to judge talents. (i.e. – agility, speed, hustle, general attitude, academic performance, etc.)  
These were examples and are not an all inclusive list – each individual coach will have their own criteria for making the team.
  - c. Make it perfectly clear to the athlete that they are trying out for this years' team and this does not guarantee them a spot on next years' team.
2. Make sure athletes are given ample time and trials for the actual tryout period. Do not make quick decisions during the cut procedure.a.b.
3. At the last practice before the cuts are made make sure to thank all of the athletes for trying out. Also explain how the athletes will know who made the team (i.e. – posted list, private meetings, etc.)
4. Make sure you use sport specific rationale for cutting an athlete.
5. Offer any athlete who is cut from a team an opportunity to discuss with the particular coach their reasons for being cut.
6. Leave the student/athlete who was cut with something positive and a future goal to work towards.
7. At the parents meeting before the season starts reiterate to them that their son and/or daughter will be selected for this years' team only. There are no guarantees for next year.
8. Cutting Senior student/athletes:
  - a. Special care should be taken when dealing with Senior athletes. Especially Senior athletes who have been in our programs for several years. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- i. Review the list of all Senior athletes with the Athletic director.
  - ii. If the Senior athlete obviously shows no improvement nor have they fulfilled their off season goals, it is up to the coach to use his/her discretion in cutting the athlete.
  - iii. Sometimes it's a tough decision as to whether it is beneficial to keep a Senior who may not receive a great deal of playing time. In these situations the coach and Athletic director will set up a private meeting for the Senior athlete and the parents to discuss all the athletes' options. At this time the coach should be prepared to fully discuss the athletes projected role on the team.
- b. In some situations the choice as to whether or not stay on the team could be left to the athlete.

## **Reserve Clauses**

Any situation not covered by this handbook will be governed by the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. handbook and/or the Section VI handbook, constitution, and/or by-laws.

Building administrators reserve the right to rule on any other infraction not covered by the Dunkirk Marauder Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook that is related to athletic participation or that affects the educational process.

## **Risk Factor Related to Playing Sports**

By the very nature of athletic activity, participants are at risk of physical injury. No matter how careful the athlete and the coach are, no matter how many precautions are taken, the risk cannot be eliminated. It can be reduced but never eliminated. The risk of injury includes minor injuries such as broken bones, dislocations and muscle strains. The risk also includes catastrophic injuries such as permanent paralysis or even death. It is important everyone understand these risks. Athletes should follow all safety directions from their coaches because rules and regulations have been established to reduce the risk of injury during participation.

Athletes must communicate immediately with coaches regarding INJURIES and health issues.

## **School Suspensions**

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

## **Selection/Classification Program (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students)**

In 1937 the Board of Regents first established the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education governing interscholastic athletics. Only age and grade criteria were cited as factors in team participation. Over the years, it became apparent that new criteria had to be formulated to give a more accurate measurement for eligibility, and to highlight the inherent differences in the various individual and team sports.

In the early 1970's, J. Kenneth Hafner, Director of Safety and Research for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, developed the Selection Classification Program after years of experimentation and research. This program tested the regulations which govern eligibility – age, grade, seasons, and semesters of participation. It included screening procedures based on the degree of strenuousness and contact involved in each sport. The data resulting from Mr. Hafner's work demonstrated that this procedure resulted in fairer and safer participation. Medical authorities participated in the development of the screening standards, including members of the School Health and Sport Committee of the Medical Society of New York State and other sports medicine specialists.

In 1980 the Board of Regents amended the regulations to include the Selection Classification procedures as part of the interschool eligibility rules. The pertinent section – Section 135.4 © (7) (ii) (a) (4) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education reads as follows:

Normally a student is eligible for senior high athletic competition in a sport during each of four (4) consecutive seasons commencing with the youngster's entry into the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) grade. If a student satisfies the requirements he/she would be eligible for five (5) consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into the eighth grade or six (6) consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into the seventh grade. During the 1991 – 1992 school year, further data was collected to revise and update the physical fitness requirements of the program. The new standards were established by testing student athletes at participating school districts throughout the State. The new standards are referred to as Athletic Performance Standards and are included in the Selection/Classification Procedures and Standards Manual (available from SED at 518-474-5922).

The Selection/Classification Program is a process for screening students to determine their readiness to compete in interscholastic athletic competition by evaluating their physical maturity, fitness and sport specific skill. The intent of this program is to provide for younger students to safely participate at an appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age and grade.

Normally a student is eligible for Senior high school athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons commencing with the student's entry into ninth grade. However, by satisfying the requirements of the S.C.P., a student may receive extended eligibility to permit:

- Participation during five consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into eighth grade
- Participation during six consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into seventh grade

The Selection/Classification Program is designed for mature, exceptionally skilled students to advance to an upper level. It is aimed at the few select students who can benefit from such placement because of their level of readiness. Students do not mature at the same rate and there can be a tremendous range of developmental differences between students of the same age. This program has been designed to assess a student's physical maturation, physical fitness and skill, so the student may be placed at a level of competition which should result in increased opportunity, a fairer competitive environment, reduced injury and greater personal satisfaction.

The Selection/Classification Program is not to be used to fill positions on teams, provide additional experience, provide a place for junior high students when no modified program is offered, or to reward a student. It is aimed at the few select students who can benefit from such placement because of their level of readiness. It will also be fairer to students on modified teams, if such a team exists.

The Dunkirk City School District Board of Education has approved a resolution allowing seventh and eighth grade students to be eligible to participate in the selection classification process.

There is no selection classification for cheerleading, as the NYSPHSAA does not recognize cheerleading as a sport.

Students interested in attempting to selectively classify, after being identified as being a mature and an exceptionally skilled student who could advance to an upper level that is suited to their development and ability, must submit an application to the Director of Athletics by the timeframe indicated earlier in this booklet. Blank applications are available in the middle school nurses' office or from the Director of Athletics.

#### **Selection/Classification Procedures:**

- The Athletic Director receives a recommendation for a particular student-athlete to be considered for the selection classification program. The recommendation must come from a coach or physical education teacher within the district. An athlete who is recommended to participate in the selection/classification process is typically discovered during physical education, modified sports, open gyms, or off-season play.
- The coach will then contact the parents/guardians of the student-athlete to explain the program in detail.
- The student-athlete then receives a parent permission form to be signed and returned to the Athletic Director.
- Once the Athletic Director receives the parent permission form, a physical education teacher will administer the battery of physical tests that are required by the program.
- If the athlete successfully completes the fitness tests, the school nurse will be contacted to set a date for the student-athlete to meet with the school doctor. The examination by the doctor will help determine the maturity level of the student-athlete.

### **Sportsmanship – Philosophy & Guide**

The Dunkirk City School District Interscholastic Athletic program is committed to promoting the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play at all sports activities. Good sportsmanship is defined as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The concept of "sportsmanship" must be taught, modeled, expected and reinforced in the classroom and in all competitive activities. Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action.

In the area of athletic competition, a "class" student-athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics and learns fast that losing is part of the game and that you should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well played game after the contest whether in defeat or victory. Game officials will always be treated with respect and a sense of understanding the critical role they play.

In the belief that good sportsmanship is essential for all Dunkirk City School District student-athletes, students and spectators, the following guides for conduct are suggested as a means of continuing and strengthening the ties that exist between competing schools. **Cheering for our players is appropriate while yelling at opponents is not appropriate.** Please remember that this is not a college level contest where the crowd is considered a part

of the contest. Do not act as a distraction at a contest as this causes a negative impact on our players, and our school.

Sportsmanship is an integral and vital ingredient of any interscholastic athletic program. The National Federation of High School Athletics, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Section VI, Cattaraugus/Chautauqua County Athletic Association and have targeted the area of sportsmanship for a major emphasis.

We are further committed to the belief that schools participating in interscholastic athletic activities should be held responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches, staff members and spectators. Conduct, which is detrimental to the educational value of athletic activities, could result in appropriate disciplinary action by the school. The Dunkirk City School District has instituted the following policy to ensure the development of and the understanding of the importance of proper sportsmanship and fair play.

### **PARENT-GUARDIAN-SPECTATOR CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS**

#### **It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian/spectator to:**

1. Keep cheering positive. No profanity or degrading language/gestures
2. Avoid actions which offend visiting teams or individual players.
3. Show appreciation of good play by both teams.
4. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Treat all visiting teams and spectators as guests and show respect.
6. Accept the judgment of contest officials and coaches.
7. Encourage all spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
8. Avoid the use, abuse and resulting negative influence of drugs, including alcohol and tobacco.

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS**

#### **It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to:**

1. Demonstrate self-control and respect for others at all times, be they officials, spectators or other athletes.
2. Remember that participation in athletics is a privilege that is not to be abused by unsportsmanlike conduct.
3. Deal with opponents with respect. Shake hands after the competition and congratulate them on their performance.
4. Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials.
5. Remember that improper behavior while in uniform, in school or in our community, reflects poorly upon yourself, your family, your school and your community.
6. Understand and abide by the rules and regulations of the game.
7. Accept victory with grace/modesty and accept defeat with dignity/class.
8. Remember that the use, abuse and resulting negative influence of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and performance enhancing supplements is detrimental to the game and its participants.

### **COACHES CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS**

#### **It is the responsibility of the coach to:**

1. Promote good sportsmanship by setting a positive example while coaching.
2. Respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials.
3. Approach competition as a healthy and constructive exercise, not as a life or death struggle that requires victory at any price.
4. Recognize that the participants in individual or team sports are young men and women with human frailties and limitations, who are capable of making mistakes.
5. Refrain from the use of crude or abusive language with players, opponents, officials or spectators.
6. Instruct the players in the elements of good sportsmanship, and remove players from competition who demonstrate unsportsmanlike behavior.
7. Avoid behavior that will incite players, opponents or spectators.
8. Avoid and eliminate negative comments to radio, TV and newspaper reporters.
9. Remember that the use, abuse and resulting negative influence of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and performance enhancing supplements is detrimental to the game and its participants.

**Any Dunkirk student-athlete and/or coach who is ejected/disqualified from a contest will be automatically suspended for a minimum of one game (depending on circumstance(s) the consequences could be more). The game(s) is to be the next regularly scheduled contest(s) and may be carried over to the next season. Ejection/disqualification incident reports must be submitted to the Athletic Director, the Section VI office and the League Sportsmanship Chairperson. If necessary, a conference between the player, coach, parent or spectator and the athletic director will take place before the individual(s) is eligible to return.**

**Any parent/guardian or spectator who is asked to leave by game supervision, administration and/or law enforcement personnel from a contest will be automatically suspended for a minimum of one game (depending on circumstance(s) the consequences could be more). The game(s) is to be the next regularly scheduled contest(s) and may be carried over to the next season. Ejection/disqualification incident reports must be submitted to the Athletic Director, the Section VI office and the League Sportsmanship Chairperson. If necessary, a conference between the player, coach, parent or spectator and the athletic director will take place before the individual(s) is eligible to return.**

## **Stealing or Vandalism**

Stealing or vandalism is a violation of the law, Dunkirk City School District Policy, and the Dunkirk City School District Athletic Policy. Inappropriate actions will be referred to the Athletic Director and Building Principal for disciplinary consequences that include suspension of athletic privileges, complete restitution of goods stolen or vandalized, a meeting with the student-athlete's respective school counselor and parents, and other consequences. If stealing or vandalism occurs at a school or place where the student is representing the Dunkirk City School District as part of an interscholastic team, the parent and student will visit the school or place and make full restitution. All of the above must be completed before the student-athlete is reinstated.

## **Student/Athlete Eligibility Requirements**

A student shall be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons of such sport **commencing with the student's entry into the ninth grade** and prior to graduation (or 5 years for an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, or 6 years for a 7<sup>th</sup> grader – per selection/classification procedure). A pupil reaching the age of 19 on or before July 1 shall be able to participate throughout their senior year.

A bona fide student is one who is taking at least four subjects including Physical Education. Further definitions/guidelines are contained in the most current editions of the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. handbook and Section VI policies.

All athletic teams require a minimum number of practices as established by the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A.

## **Training Rules and Regulations**

Each coach may establish training rules and team guidelines that can be above and beyond this document. **Such training rules must be approved by the Athletic Director prior to the season.** These rules and guidelines will be clearly explained by the respective coach prior to the beginning of each sports season during their pre-season team meeting with players and parents/guardians in attendance.

The student-athlete by signing the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement agrees to these conditions and realizes that failure to comply with team rules and guidelines may result in limited participation or suspension from the team.

## **Transportation Provided by District Policy**

Members of interscholastic teams are expected to be part of the team, traveling to and from scheduled events with the team and under the supervision of the coach - only team members may ride the bus. Coaches will supervise and assume responsibility for these students while traveling with the team.

**If district transportation is provided, team members WILL NOT drive individual vehicles, have parents/guardians or others transport them, without prior approval written from the Director of Athletics. Permission will be granted only for extenuating circumstances.**

**After the event, athletes may ride home with their parents/guardians by following these procedures:**

- 1. Written request from and signed by parent/guardians is submitted to the Director of Athletics at least 24hrs. prior to the scheduled game/meet/match.**
- 2. The Director of Athletics will verify and approve request by affixing his/her signature and date on request then returning to the student-athlete.**

- 3. Athlete will present his/her coach the verified request in order to be released to parent/guardian.**
- 4. The coach must personally meet the parents/guardians at the time of the request**
- 5. The individual named in the signed permission notice must be the same individual signing the parental consent form to transport a student in private vehicle.**

For any event, buses will pick-up/drop-off students only at the Senior High School building (unless otherwise directed by the Athletic Director).

## **Travel/Transportation**

Please refer to the Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement Statements

## **Uniform Collection**

It is the athlete's responsibility to return his/her uniform to the coach. Any athlete leaving a team during the season must turn in his/her uniform at that time. Non-compliance with repeated requests (by coaches) to return uniform parts will be treated as insubordination with the appropriate consequences. Any student not returning district supplied uniform/equipment will not be allowed to tryout for the next sports' season.

The cost to replace single uniforms (which must be purchased new, even if the lost one is used) may be as much as double the cost of uniforms when the District purchases them in a bulk order.

Fees paid for lost/stolen uniforms are used to replace the missing uniform. Checks should be made out to the Dunkirk City School District and submitted to the Dunkirk City School district business office.

Any student wishing to purchase their uniform (as a keepsake) will be given the name, telephone number, etc. of the vendor to purchase it from. It is then the student's responsibility to complete this transaction. The District cannot participate in such a purchase.

## **Wall of Fame – Dunkirk Senior High School**

### **Criteria to be nominated for academic/athletic achievement: (ie. – student)**

A nominee must:

1. Be a Dunkirk Senior High School graduate who graduated no less than five years prior to the nomination.
2. Have distinguished him/herself in academics, interscholastic athletics/sportsmanship and citizenship at Dunkirk Senior High School and have been successful beyond their high school career.

### **Criteria to be nominated as an interscholastic athletic contributor:**

A nominee must have:

1. Worked for the Dunkirk City School District and been involved in athletics for a minimum of five years or
2. Made a significant contribution for the advancement of the interscholastic athletic program or
3. Demonstrated extraordinary dedication to, and support of, the interscholastic athletic program.

### **Nomination process:**

Nominations may be submitted by community members, District staff or self-nomination.

Nominations must include the nominee's resume of Dunkirk Senior High School interscholastic accomplishments/contributions.

A nominator will be granted anonymity upon request, but his/her name must appear on the nomination.

A maximum of three nominations per nominator will be considered.

### **Selection committee and process:**

The Director of Athletics (chair) and a maximum of five Wall of Fame committee members convene to select new members.

Wall of Fame committee members will be selected annually by the Athletic Director. A person nominating another; being nominated; or who has a family member nominated, is ineligible to serve on the selection committee.

A maximum of five (5) new Hall of Fame members are selected annually with no more than one being a contributor.

Nominees not selected will remain active for a period of two years.



## **Scholar Athlete Program**

The NYSPHSAA, Inc. believes that the athletic participation of students enhances their academic performances. To support this belief, the Scholar/Athlete Team Award Program was begun in 1991. Varsity teams who earn a 90.0% or higher average during their sport season qualify for the NYSPHSAA award.

### *COMPUTING THE SCHOLAR/ATHLETE TEAM AWARD*

The varsity sports with the required minimum number of team members listed below are eligible for NYSPHSAA, Inc. Scholar/Athlete Team Awards:

<b><u>Sport</u></b>	<b><u>Number required</u></b>	<b><u>Sport</u></b>	<b><u>Number required</u></b>
Baseball/Softball	11	Field hockey	12
Lacrosse	11	Tennis	9
Basketball	7	Football	12
Bowling	7	Golf	7
Cross country	7	Volleyball	8
Soccer	12	Wrestling	10
Swimming	11	Track	12

Additional varsity team members beyond the required number will be recognized provided their sport season report card averages are 90.000% or greater.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- This is a VARSITY team award. Junior Varsity, Freshman, and Modified teams are NOT eligible.
- The minimum TEAM grade average to apply is 90%. Weighted grades are not used in computing grade average.
- State Champion Scholar/Athlete teams will be declared in those sports having 4 or more programs in 6 or more sections based on the highest team composite grade average provided 10 or more teams qualify in that sport. Declarations are made in conjunction with a sport's NYSPHSAA designated championship tournament season.

**Section VI/All-Western New York Scholar Athlete Team**

**CRITERIA:**

- Overall grade point average of 90 or above for six semesters (fall/winter sports), seven semesters (spring sports)
- Starter or important reserve
- Seniors only

**REQUIRED ITEMS FOR NOMINATIONS:**

- Cover letter including the nominee’s qualifications (i.e.: academic and athletic accomplishments, community service, school activities)
- Transcript (copy)
- Parental release for transcript
- Completed nomination form
- **DEADLINES:** All-WNY Scholar Athlete forms must be **RECEIVED at Section VI NO LATER THAN:**

Fall Sports----- **November 15**  
 Winter Sports----- **March 1**  
 Spring Sports----- **May 15**

<b>TEAMS</b>	
Baseball/Softball	Indoor Track – Boys’ & Girls’
Basketball – Boys’ & Girls’	Lacrosse – Boys’ & Girls’
Bowling – Boys’ & Girls’	Rifle
Crew – Boys’ & Girls’	Soccer – Boys’ & Girls’
Cross Country – Boys’ & Girls’	Swimming & Diving – Boys’ & Girls’
Field Hockey	Tennis – Boys’ & Girls’
Football	Track & Field – Boys’ & Girls’
Golf – Boys’ & Girls’	Volleyball – Boys’ & Girls’
Gymnastics – Boys’ & Girls’	Wrestling
Ice Hockey	

**Note:** Repeat winners will be listed but not pictured in the Buffalo News. Only one sweatshirt will be awarded per athlete.

# Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risks, and Release of Claims

**NAME OF PARTICIPANT:** \_\_\_\_\_

There are significant elements of risk in any adventure, sports or activity associated with the indoor or outdoor use of games and activities incidental thereto (referred to as "activity"). Although we have taken reasonable steps to provide you with the appropriate equipment and/or skilled staff, this activity is not without risk. Certain risks cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the activity. For your safety, and that of the other participants, we think it is important for you to know in advance what is to be expected and to be informed of the inherent risks. I further understand and agree to comply with the following rules:

I understand the program offered through Dunkirk City School District (Dunkirk C.S.D.) will take place in a dynamic environment and may include, but not limited to, the following potential hazardous activities, initiative activities, games and events, high/low ropes courses, bouldering and rock climbing.

I acknowledge that the following describes some **BUT NOT ALL** of those risks of personal injury, accidents and/or illness including sprains, torn muscles and/or ligaments, fractured or broken bones, eye damage, cuts, wounds, scrapes, abrasions and /or contusions, dehydration, oxygen shortage (anoxia), and/or exposure, head, neck, and/or spine injuries, allergic reaction, shock, paralysis or death. I/we understand the description of these risks is not complete and the unknown or unanticipated may occur in these activities. I/we elect to participate in spite of the risks.

My/our participant in these activities is purely voluntary. No one is forcing me/us to participate. I/we verify that I/we are physically fit, not under the influence of alcohol or drugs at this time, and sufficiently qualified and trained capable to participate in these activities. I/we elect to participate in spite of the risks. In consideration of services or property provided. I for myself/my employees, and/or minor children for which I am parent, legal guardian, group leader, or otherwise responsible, any heirs, personal representative or assigns, agree that Dunkirk C.S.D., its principles, directors, officers, agents, employees and volunteers, their insurers and each and every land owner, property owner, municipal and/or governmental agency upon those property and activity is conducted and their insurers, if any, shall have no liability for its sole negligence.

I also understand that this release relates to all claims and liability resulting from unforeseen hazards. I/we hereby authorize any medical treatment deemed necessary in the event if any injury while participating in the activity.

I have read this entire "acknowledgement and assumption of risk and release of claims" and fully understand the contents. My signature indicates that I have satisfied my questions and concerns.

**I understand that this release is a contract. I expressly state that I have read, understand and am familiar with all its provisions and that I sign it of my own free will; \_\_\_\_\_(Participant Initial)**

## **TO BE READ AND SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN OF A MINOR**

I hereby state that I am the parent or guardian of the minor whose signature appears above. I am familiar with this consent and agree to the term and provisions set forth in this release.

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The safety and well being of each participant is of paramount importance to the professional staff and employees of Dunkirk C.S.D. All reasonable care and precautions are taken to ensure an enjoyable and enriching experience. The following "acknowledgment and assumption of risk and release of claims" is both a requirement of insurance coverage and an important reminder to you as a parent/guardian or participant to be sure that you or your child is properly prepared.**

# Sports Currently Offered Dunkirk City School District

## **Fall Boys:**

Varsity Cross Country  
Modified Football  
J.V. Football  
Varsity Football  
Junior Varsity Soccer  
Varsity Soccer

## **Winter Boys:**

Modified 'B' Basketball  
J.V. Basketball  
Varsity Basketball  
Varsity Swimming  
Varsity Wrestling  
Varsity Indoor Track

## **Spring Boys:**

J.V. Baseball  
Varsity Baseball  
Varsity Tennis  
Modified Track  
Varsity Track  
Varsity Golf  
Modified Baseball

## **Fall Girls:**

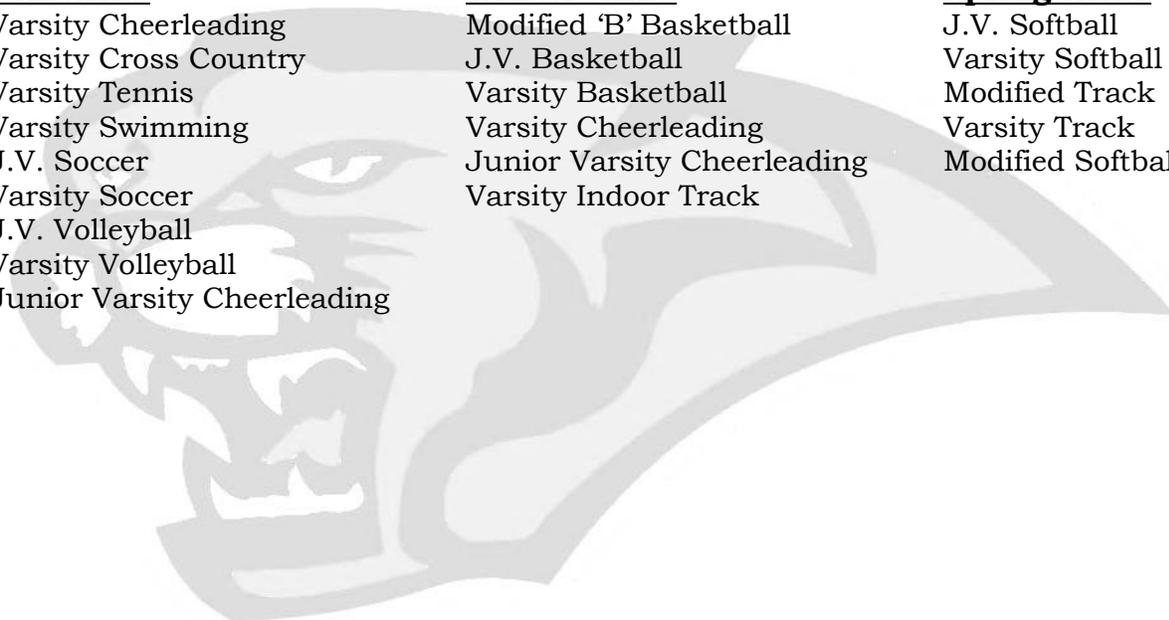
Varsity Cheerleading  
Varsity Cross Country  
Varsity Tennis  
Varsity Swimming  
J.V. Soccer  
Varsity Soccer  
J.V. Volleyball  
Varsity Volleyball  
Junior Varsity Cheerleading

## **Winter Girls:**

Modified 'B' Basketball  
J.V. Basketball  
Varsity Basketball  
Varsity Cheerleading  
Junior Varsity Cheerleading  
Varsity Indoor Track

## **Spring Girls:**

J.V. Softball  
Varsity Softball  
Modified Track  
Varsity Track  
Modified Softball



## **Dunkirk Senior High School – Site Locations**

75 W. Sixth Street  
Dunkirk, New York 14048  
A.D. Office – 716-366-9300 x-2067

### **Sport Contest Site Locations**

#### **Fall Sport Locations**

- Cheerleading High School
- Varsity Cross Country High School
- JV & Varsity Football High School
- Modified Football High School
- Boys' JV & Varsity Soccer High School/Holy Trinity
- Girls' JV & Varsity Soccer High School/Holy Trinity
- Girls' Swimming High School
- Girls' Tennis High School
- Girls' JV & Varsity Volleyball High School

#### **Winter Sport Locations**

- Boys' JV & Varsity Basketball High School
- Girls' JV & Varsity Basketball High School
- Boys' & Girls' Mod Basketball High School
- Bowling Lucky Lanes
- Cheerleading High School
- Boys' Swimming High School
- Wrestling High School

#### **Spring Sport Locations**

- JV & Varsity Baseball High School
- JV & Varsity Softball High School
- Boys' Tennis High School
- Modified & Varsity Track High School
- Modified Softball Promenschenkel Stadium
- Modified Baseball High School

## **Coaches/Staff Directory (as of 3/1/10)**

### **Director of Athletics**

Alan J. Gens

[agens@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:agens@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Baseball**

Varsity – Frank Jagoda

[fjagoda@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:fjagoda@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

J.V. – Mario Muscarella

[mmuscarella@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:mmuscarella@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Modified – Michael Burnett

[mburnett@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:mburnett@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Basketball – Boys'**

Varsity – Jerome Moss

J.V. – Michael Burnett

[mburnett@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:mburnett@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

J.V. – Steve Wright

[swright@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:swright@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Modified – Frank Jagoda

[fjagoda@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:fjagoda@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Modified – Tim Majka

[tmajka@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:tmajka@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Basketball – Girls'**

Varsity – William Osinski

[wosinski@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:wosinski@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

J.V. – Sarah Bogardus

[sbogardus@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:sbogardus@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Modified – Mary Schneider

[mschneider@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:mschneider@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Modified – Gretchen Weidner

[gweidner@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:gweidner@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Bowling – Boys'**

Varsity – Marion Mistretta

### **Bowling – Girls'**

Varsity – Donna Kubera

[dkubera@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:dkubera@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Cheerleading**

Varsity – Julie Troche

[jtroche@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:jtroche@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Cross Country – Boys'**

Varsity – Kurt Warmbrodt

[kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Cross Country – Girls'**

Varsity – Kurt Warmbrodt

[kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Football**

Varsity – Tim Majka

[tmajka@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:tmajka@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Asst. Coach – Mario Muscarella

[mmuscarella@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:mmuscarella@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Asst. Coach – Jim Quinn

[jquinn@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:jquinn@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

Asst. Coach – Ryan Hall

Asst. Coach – Kevin VandeVelde

Asst. Coach – Steve Wright

[swright@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:swright@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

### **Golf – Boys'**

Varsity – Robert McDonald

### **Golf – Girls'**

Varsity – Robert McDonald

### **Soccer – Boys'**

Varsity – Jim Enser

J.V. – Brian Crawford

[bcrawford@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:bcrawford@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Soccer – Girls'**

Varsity – Phil Cook  
J.V. – A.J. Burnside

[pcook@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:pcook@dunkirk.wnyric.org)  
[aburnside@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:aburnside@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Softball**

Varsity – Mike Green  
J.V. – Katie Heinrich  
Modified – Valerie Csont

[mgreen@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:mgreen@dunkirk.wnyric.org)  
[kheinrich@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:kheinrich@dunkirk.wnyric.org)  
[vcsonat@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:vcsonat@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Swimming – Boys'**

Varsity – Phil Cook

[pcook@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:pcook@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Swimming – Girls'**

Varsity – Donna Kubera

[dkubera@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:dkubera@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Tennis – Boys'**

Varsity – Greg Catalano

[gcatalano@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:gcatalano@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Tennis – Girls'**

Varsity – Greg Catalano

[gcatalano@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:gcatalano@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Track (Indoor) – Boys'**

Varsity – Kurt Warmbrodt

[kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Track (Indoor) – Girls'**

Varsity – Aaron Pietro

[apietro@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:apietro@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Track (Outdoor) – Boys'**

Varsity – Kurt Warmbrodt  
Asst. – Steve Wright

[kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:kwarmbrodt@dunkirk.wnyric.org)  
[swright@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:swright@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Track (Outdoor) - Girls'**

Varsity – A.J. Burnside  
Asst. – Jim Bunge

[aburnside@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:aburnside@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Track (Outdoor) – Boys' & Girls**

Modified – Jim Enser

**Volleyball – Girls'**

Varsity – William Osinski  
J.V. – Valerie Csont

[wosinski@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:wosinski@dunkirk.wnyric.org)  
[vcsonat@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:vcsonat@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

**Wrestling**

Varsity – Joseph McMurdy

[jmcmurdy@dunkirk.wnyric.org](mailto:jmcmurdy@dunkirk.wnyric.org)

## **Important Sports Season Calendar Dates – 2010-11**

### **2010 Fall Starting Dates for Practice Sessions:**

- Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010
  - Boys' Varsity & J.V. Football
  - Girls' Varsity & J.V. Volleyball
- Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010
  - Boys' & Girls' Varsity Cross Country
  - Boys' Varsity & J.V. Soccer
  - Girls' Varsity & J.V. Soccer
  - Girls' Varsity Swimming & Diving
  - Girls' Varsity Tennis
- Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010
  - Boys' Modified Football

### **2010-11 Winter Sports Starting Dates for Practice Sessions:**

- Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010
  - Girls' Modified Basketball
- Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010
  - Boys' Varsity & J.V. Basketball
  - Girls' Varsity & J.V. Basketball
  - Boys' Varsity Bowling
  - Girls' Varsity Bowling
  - Boys' Varsity Swimming & Diving
  - Boys' Varsity Indoor Track
  - Girls' Varsity Indoor Track
  - Boys' Varsity Wrestling

### **2011 Spring Sports Starting Dates for Practice Sessions:**

- Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011
  - Boys' Varsity & J.V. Baseball
  - Girls' Varsity & J.V. Softball
  - Boys' Varsity Golf
  - Girls' Varsity Golf
  - Boys' Varsity Tennis
  - Boys' Varsity Track & Field
  - Girls' Varsity Track & Field
- Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011
  - Boys' Modified Baseball
  - Girls' Modified Softball
  - Boys' Modified Track & Field
  - Girls' Modified Track & Field

### **School Physical Dates for Athletics**

- Fall 2010 Sports – May 2010
- Winter 2010-11 Sports – October 2010
- Spring 2011 Sports – February 2011

**Selection Classification Application Deadline Dates:**

- Fall 2010 Sports Season – May 2010
- Winter 2010-11 Sports Season – October 2010
- Spring 2011 Sports Season – February 2011

**Selection Classification Fitness Testing Dates:**

- Fall 2010 Sports – May/June 2010
- Winter 2010-11 Sports – October 2010
- Spring 2011 Sports – February 2011

**Unpaid Assistant Coaching Application Deadlines:**

- Fall 2010 Sports – May 2010
- Winter 2010-11 Sports – October 2010
- Spring 2011 Sports – February 2011



# Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook Agreement

Parents/guardians and student/athletes are asked to review, sign, and date the following document. This form must be returned to the appropriate coach prior to being allowed to participate in the first practice session

Student/Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Your Last Name)

Student/Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Your First Name)

## 1. Absence From School

"I/we understand if my son/daughter is absent from school for 5 or more days consecutively due to illness/injury, he/she must have a medical certification to return to play as the original medical certificate is void. I/we also understand that for my son or daughter to be eligible to play on the day of a game, he/she must be in school prior to 11:00am and must not have been sent home ill. I also understand the day after an athletic contest he/she must be in attendance at the start of the school day unless a valid excused absence is presented and approved by appropriate building administration."

## 2. Duty to Warn

"I/we as the parent/guardian of the above named student/athlete, we hereby state that we understand that participation in interscholastic athletics involves rigorous physical activity and risks of physical injury, and we assume these risks. We understand the inherent risks involved in participation may lead to injury (as referred to within the athletic code – but not all inclusive) or even death. I hereby consent for emergency transportation and treatment in the event of illness and/or injury. I further certify that all information provided on the participants Health History Form/Update is correct and has no medical conditions restricting his/her participation."

## 3. Jewelry

"I understand that my son or daughter is prohibited from wearing any jewelry during practice or games."

## 4. NCAA Clearinghouse

"I have read the information provided regarding the NCAA Clearinghouse. I understand it is my responsibility to register my son/daughter to be eligible to receive an NCAA Division I/ II scholarship."

## 5. Release of Data

"I/we hereby grant permission to the coaching staff, guidance department and athletic department to release sports/coursework related data relevant to our son/daughter's team and/or individual accomplishments. The data that may be released (this is not an all inclusive list) could include sports specific statistics, jersey numbers, height, weight, grade level, coursework, grades and at times photographs and/or video of our son/daughter participating. I understand photographs/video may appear in/on yearbooks, media guides, local newspapers, local television stations and the Dunkirk City School District website."

## 6. School Suspensions

**In-School Suspension** - "I understand that if my son/daughter receives in-school suspension (I.S.S.) from school he/she will not be able to participate in any interscholastic competition game/meet/match until his/her suspension is successfully completed. He/she may still practice during the in-school suspension period as physical conditioning requirements of competition must be maintained."

**Out-of-School Suspension** - "I understand that if my son/daughter is suspended from school he/she will not be able to participate in any interscholastic competition or participate in practice until his/her suspension is successfully completed. I further understand that additional consequences may be added per the Dunkirk City School District Student Code of Conduct."

## **7. Travel**

"I give my consent for my son/daughter to represent this school in interscholastic athletic activities and to accompany any school team of which he/she is a member on any of its local or out-of-town trips. I understand that my son/daughter must go and return on school provided transportation for away games if provided and if there is an extraordinary circumstance, a written request explaining the situation must be presented as per the "Transportation Provided by District Policy" in the Dunkirk Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook.

## **8. Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook – Student/Athlete**

I have read and understand the Dunkirk City School District Athletic Code for student-athletes and agree to follow the rules and regulations as well as other rules set forth by the coach. Failure to follow these rules may result in my suspension or dismissal from the team. I consent to, with the right of appeal, any disciplinary action as stipulated for the violation of any of these regulations.

## **9. Interscholastic Athletic Policy Handbook – Parent/Guardian**

I have read the policies and regulations and understand the purpose of the Dunkirk City School District Athletic Code and the consequences for inappropriate behavior. I hereby give my consent for my son/daughter to participate in the above stated sport. I agree to all terms and conditions mentioned in these regulations.

I also understand that I will be financially responsible for any of my son/daughter's missing equipment/uniforms and/or supplies, which are issued to him/her by the Dunkirk City School District. I also understand that no modification of protective equipment or uniform will be made/allowed. Replacement of missing/modified equipment, uniforms and/or supplies will be at current replacement cost to the Dunkirk City School District. My son/daughter will not be allowed to participate in further interscholastic practice or competition until any outstanding financial obligation is satisfied.

**Athlete's Name: (Print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Athlete's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please Print Name)**

**Parent/Guard. Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please Sign Name)**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cellphone #:** \_\_\_\_\_