

Newport School District

2018-19

Handbook

For

Student Athletes

Parents & Coaches



Revised: July 2018

PARENT HANDBOOK

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Contact Information:

Mr. Ryan Neuhard – Superintendent
717-567-3806
rneuhard@newportsd.org

Mr. Scott McGrady – High School Principal
567-3806
smcgrady@newportsd.org

Mr. Shawn Lesh – Athletic Director
567-2519
slesh@newportsd.org

Sports Programs Offered by Season

Fall	Winter	Spring
Football	Wrestling	Baseball
Field Hockey	Boys Basketball	Softball
Soccer (*Greenwood/Susquenita)	Girls Basketball	Track & Field (*Greenwood)
Cheerleading	Cheerleading	Jr High Field Hockey
Jr High Soccer (*Greenwood)	Jr High Wrestling	
Golf	Jr. High Boys BB	
Jr High Girls BB		

*Denotes a cooperative agreement with Greenwood & Susquenita
(hosted by Greenwood School District & Susquenita School District)

Handbook for Parents of Athletes

Being a parent is often challenging. This effort and responsibility is frequently complicated by being a parent of an athlete. This handbook, with its guidelines and suggestions, will give you some insights into this responsibility.

Newport School District Vision Statement:

Vision Statement:

Enter to Learn

We will provide a school culture that promotes positive attitudes and a safe environment so that students will enter our doors ready to learn.

Go Forth to Serve

We will prepare our students to leave our schools with an attitude of service and commitment to society.

Continue to Learn

We will instill in all of our students a lifelong love of learning and respect for knowledge.

Newport School District Philosophy for Athletics

The Newport School District supports the philosophy that a quality interscholastic athletic program is vital to the positive social, physical, and educational development of students. The interscholastic athletic program enhances and supports the academic mission of the school system. We are committed to promoting the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play at all athletic contests. We support high standards of good citizenship and propriety, along with regard for the rights of others.

Being a member of the interscholastic program is a privilege to be earned and maintained throughout the season. Each time participants step into a school, onto the practice field, onto a team bus, and anytime they participate in a game they are expected to represent themselves, family, team and Newport High School in a responsible, sportsmanlike manner.

It is our responsibility to provide challenging opportunities for our student-athletes to compete successfully at the league, district, and state levels.

In addition to embracing and committing to the Newport School District Philosophy we will also encourage and promote:

- The belief that athletes should participate in multiple sports and not specialize in any one specific sport.
- The concept of the broadest-based participation possible by offering all of the teams, which we can, and extending the opportunity to participate to as many students as possible.
- The premise that all teams are considered vital for our student-athletes and each is a valued part of our athletic program. No one sport is considered more important than any other is.
- The approach that all teams are treated as fairly as possible.

Athletic Chain of Command

At Newport School District, the following chain of command is in effect:

Board of School Directors
Superintendent
Principal
Athletic Director
Head Coach
Assistant/JV Coaches
Players

If there are any questions or concerns involving some aspect of our athletic program, the athlete should first contact the appropriate coach. If there is no resolution, he or she would then go to the head coach, etc.

Expressing Concerns

When expressing an occasional concern with a coach, please refer to and use the following guidelines:

1. Never approach a coach immediately before or after a contest. This is not the proper time or place for a discussion concerning your child or the team.
2. Call the following day and make an appointment that is convenient for both you and the coach to meet.
3. Raise your concern in a calm and civil manner. Yelling, being rude or using foul language is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
4. Once you have stated your question or concern, listen to the explanation. Often a parent may be blinded by emotion and this overrides logic and reason. Listening receptively may really help you understand any explanation that is given.

Relationships

There are many relationships that are involved in being the parent of an athlete.

The Parent-Coach Relationship:

Unfortunately, through televised games and the more recent proliferation of cable TV, many adults feel that they understand or perhaps know more than many coaches. Everyone becomes an expert. While this newfound expertise might heighten your appreciation of a sport, as a parent, however, you are not the coach.

Parents can have a pronounced effect on this very important and delicate relationship. While you may not agree with all decisions of a coach, how and when you express your feelings can have a decided effect upon your child.

In your role as a parent, you obviously love and are concerned about your child's welfare. You want the best for him or her. But an athlete can have only one coach. Allowing the coach to instruct and guide the team is crucial in many respects.

We ask you to support the coaching & instruction to maximize your son and/or daughter's progress in their particular sport.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not approach the coach immediately at the conclusion of a contest. At this time, coaches have other responsibilities and it may be an emotional time. Call and make an appointment for a later time and approach this meeting in a calm, courteous and logical manner.

Some coaches, at the conclusion of a contest, may have a brief meeting with his/her players. Please allow the coach to conduct these meetings, as they are essential to the learning process involved in athletics.

The Parent-Player:

Being positive and supportive is important, but adding pressure and unrealistic expectations can be extremely harmful. Allow your son or daughter to enjoy and grow from this valuable experience. In numerous national studies, it has been determined that most athletes participate for enjoyment or fun. Excessive pressure or expectations can alter this most fundamental reason for playing.

Relationship with Officials:

There is an age-old refrain often used by irate fans, "How much are you paying the officials?" The home school does not get the officials. All officials are assigned by the chapter assignors of the particular sport and neither team has control of which officials are assigned.

Officials agree to and follow a code of ethics. They really do not care or have a vested interest in which team emerges as the victor. It is also important to understand that they are a very necessary part of a game. A contest cannot be played without them.

You may not agree with all of their calls, but please do not harass and taunt them. It is also important to remember that they are in charge of the contest and have complete authority to have unruly spectator removed. In many sports, a team will see the same official several times during a season. Coaches, athletic administrators and schools work hard to establish a rapport and good working relationship, which can easily be damaged by spectators.

Spectator-Cheerleader:

Cheerleaders try to infuse spirit into the fans/spectators and to lead them in selected cheers. Fans who leave the stands to direct cheers may often cause or lead to confrontations with the opponents. Following the cheerleaders' directions, therefore, is absolutely necessary at all athletic contests.

The emotion and atmosphere at athletic contests can be very exciting and the cheerleaders need to be allowed to direct and control this aspect of the event.

Sportsmanship

Since athletics should be educational in nature, it is important that all parents demonstrate good sportsmanship and serve as role models for our athletes and students. Sportsmanship is an overt display of respect for the rules of sport and for all others- players, coaches, officials, and fans (*National Federation News*, March 1995, p. 10). It also involves a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior, and integrity. This means:

1. There can be no vulgar or inappropriate language from our fans or spectators.
2. Taunting or trash talking of our opponents and their cheerleaders cannot be tolerated.
3. Spectators cannot leave the bleachers or enter onto the court or field during a contest.
4. Fans should be supportive and positive. Cheering should be done for our team and not against our opponent.
5. We should not impede or interfere with our opponent's cheerleaders from leading their cheers.

Failure to comply with "Sportsmanship" and/or demonstrating unethical behavior may result in possible ejection from the co-curricular activity and school premises.

Sportsmanship Expectations are included on page 14.

Sportsmanship for the Athlete

- An athlete who is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct or fighting will not be allowed to participate in the next contest...as per PIAA rules.
- A substitute who leaves the team box and enters the playing area during a fight will be ejected.
- The **SECOND** time an athlete is disqualified in the same sport or any other sport during the school year, the penalty shall be doubled.
- The **THIRD** time an athlete is disqualified in the same sport or any other sport during the school year shall result in immediate dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season. Interscholastic participation by such individuals in subsequent sports seasons and school years, may be jeopardized and will be judged on a case-by-case basis.
- An ejection or disqualification prevents a player from attending the next regularly scheduled contest. This includes riding the bus, the locker room, the sidelines, or the bench.
- Any player who physically assaults an official, coach, player or spectator shall be immediately dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season. The Police will be notified.

SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS

Acceptable Behavior

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches, and officials.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive school cheers in a positive manner
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at the end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out and congratulate opposing participant or coach.
- Applause at the end of a contest for performances of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for injured player, regardless of which team.
- Encourage only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Banging or stomping on bleachers.
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells chants, songs, or gestures.
- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming the loss of a game on an official, coaches, or participants.
- Taunting or name-calling to distract opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.

Failure to comply with "Sportsmanship" and/or demonstrating unacceptable behavior may result in possible ejection from the co-curricular activity and school premises.

Responsibilities of an Athlete

Coaches expect an athlete to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The team's goals, welfare and success must come before any individual.
2. An athlete needs to consistently attend practice sessions. This also includes weekend and holiday periods.
3. Players must be receptive to coaching.
4. Team members are responsible for all issued uniforms and equipment.
5. As a member of a team, an athlete must agree to and follow the team rules. Athletes need to remember that they are ambassadors and represent not only themselves, but also the coaching staff and the school.
6. If injured, an athlete must report all injuries the coach and/or Trainer (ATC).

Responsibilities of a Coach

In the Newport School District, a coach has the responsibility for the following:

1. The selection of the squad. See page # 11
2. The determination of the style of play, including offensive and defensive philosophy.
3. The teaching and instruction at practice sessions.
4. The determination of who starts and how long an athlete plays in a contest.
5. The decision of who plays in what position.
6. The establishing of team rules.
7. The selection of team captains.
8. The determination of who receives a letter.
9. The communication with athletes and parents with respect to when practice sessions will be held, and when the sessions will start and finish.

P.I.A.A Regulations

Newport High School is a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association. Many of the rules and regulations that we follow are established by the P.I.A.A. Appendix B, P.I.A.A. Information for Athletes and Parents describes the major regulations as they affect Newport students. More detailed information can be found on the P.I.A.A. website, www.piaa.org.

Eligibility Requirements for Athletes

(Policy 123.1)

To be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition, a student must be passing a minimum of five (5) full-credit courses (or the equivalent) for the quarterly reports, and/or not failing more than one class during the weekly eligibility report periods. Eligibility is checked each Friday morning during the season. Students who do not meet the requirements become ineligible from the following Sunday through the following Saturday. At the end of a grading period, students who fail to meet the requirements become ineligible for fifteen (15) school days beginning the day that report cards are issued. A complete board policy is available on our website @ School Board Policy #123.1.

NCAA Eligibility

Student Athletes wishing to continue their playing career beyond high school, need to work with the guidance department to ensure eligibility. We offer several classes here at Newport High School that are **NOT** accepted in the NCAA Eligibility Center. N-Cap Classes, Business Math, Large and Small Animal Science courses are examples of classes that the NCAA does not recognize. Please consult the guidance counselor beginning in 9th grade to ensure eligibility each year, and when the time comes, to submit your transcripts.

Participation on an Athletic Team

It is important to understand that participation on an athletic team at Newport School District is a privilege and not a right. Being on and maintaining one's membership on the team means accepting all the responsibilities of an athlete. However, unlike recreation or intramural teams, equal or guaranteed playing time does not exist. In an effort to win, a coach will use players best suited to the conditions or demands of the contest at that time.

Squad Selection

While our ultimate goal is to promote the greatest athletic participation possible at Newport School District, it may be necessary in some sports to cut a squad. This may occur due to limitations of our facilities, regulations specific to some sports, travel restrictions, and other factors.

Every coach has the responsibility and authority for selecting his or her team. The criteria for selecting the team are developed by the coach. A copy of the written criteria is then distributed to our athletes prior to the tryout and to our parents at our pre-season meetings.

It is also important to remember that there are no guarantees. Players from the previous year's JV team, for example, do not automatically make either the JV or varsity squad the following year. Having been a member of a team during the previous or even being a senior does not ensure that an athlete will make the squad.

Parents should expect the every candidate is treated fairly and given every consideration. Coaches are sensitive to feelings of disappointment, will handle the task as positively as possible, and available to answer athletes' questions.

While we understand that being cut is disappointing for many athletes and even for their parents, we unfortunately cannot keep everyone. Anyone cut from a team is welcome to try out again next season or to try another sport. When parents and athletes understand and support the coach's decision, this difficult process becomes a less painful experience for all.

Procedure for Athletes Changing Teams

Whether by being cut, by quitting, or by being dismissed, an athlete's membership on a team can be altered. While we at Newport High School want to promote participation, we also want to safeguard fairness and an ethical approach with regard to all coaches and teams. In order to achieve all of the above objectives, the following guidelines will be used:

1. Any player cut from a squad during tryouts is free to immediately try out for or join another team.
2. Any player quitting a team must get the approval of the original coach before joining another team. All obligations such as returning uniforms and equipment must also be completed prior to joining a second team.

3. Any player dismissed from a squad must get the approval of the original coach and from the athletic director before joining another team.
4. The athletic director will mediate all problems when an athlete changes teams and will have the final decision.
5. No coach should attempt to recruit athletes from another Newport team for his/her program. This would include any player who had been a member of a squad during the previous season. This prohibition of recruiting should and would extend through the off-season.
6. During the off-season (Summer months), an athlete can participate in weight-training, conditioning and similar activities with other teams without undue pressure from the coach to change teams.

The Purpose of a JV Team

JV teams exist to provide those athletes unable to participate on the varsity squad an opportunity to develop skills and gain experience. While the athlete's age, size, or skill level may be the limiting factor in not making the varsity team, participation on a JV team may enhance the athlete's potential to make the varsity squad in the future.

A caution, however, must also be given. Being a member of a JV team does not guarantee that an athlete will automatically move up the following year to the varsity squad. The athletes best suited for varsity competition will make the squad each year.

Striving to win is important in athletics; however, compiling a great record or winning a championship should not be the primary objective of a JV team. The development of athletes should be the ultimate purpose of a JV squad, while at the same time acknowledging the value of winning, learning, and enjoying being a member of a team.

Practice Sessions and Games

Practice sessions are normally closed to spectators and there is a very sound reason for this. These sessions are the equivalent of a teacher's classroom and there is real, quality instruction taking place. Interruptions and interference to an athlete's concentration and focus in practice can not be allowed any more than a disruption would be tolerated in an academic setting. Education in any setting cannot be compromised.

At Newport School District, practice sessions:

1. May last a maximum of three hours or regulated by PIAA, specific to each sport.
2. May start and end at different times due to the schedule of the coach or of our facilities. Check with the coach for the specific times.
3. Will not be held when school is dismissed early due to inclement weather.
4. Will not be held when school is not in session due to inclement weather.
5. May be held on Saturdays and over holiday periods.

Spectators at games, however, are very much encouraged. Positive and nurturing support of teams and athletes can be very helpful to performance in athletic contests.

Hazing

In athletic settings, some may view hazing as a harmless rite of initiation or an important activity for team bonding. However, it is actually a form of harassment and represents a Newport School District Disciplinary Code offense. A more complete explanation of harassment can be found in the Newport School District Student Handbook.

Hazing, therefore, cannot and will not be condoned or permitted in the athletic program at Newport School District. This means on the fields or courts, in the locker rooms, on the bus, or at any other activity in which athletes represent the Newport School District.

VARSITY LETTER POLICY FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

To receive an athletic award an athlete must successfully complete the season. The criteria for awarding a letter will be an evaluation by the coach or coaches concerning the amount of game and meet time played by the athlete along with the following criteria:

1. Attitude of athlete.
2. Attendance of athlete.
3. Self-discipline of athlete.
4. Character of athlete.
5. Skill development of athlete.
6. Leadership qualities of athlete.
7. Loyalty qualities of athlete.

***Guidelines for Evaluating Game Time:

- a. Baseball/Softball - 40% of total innings.
- b. Basketball - 40% of total quarters.
- c. Field Hockey - 40% of total game time
- d. Football - 50% of total quarters.
- e. Wrestling - participate in 40% of the matches.
- f. Managers and Cheerleaders' letters will be awarded on the recommendation of the coach.
- g. The awards for seniors, who do not meet the above criteria, will be based on the recommendation of the coach.

A letter, certificate, and pin will be awarded the first time an athlete meets the requirements. In succeeding years when a letter is earned, certificates and pins will be issued in lieu of a letter. An athlete must finish the season in good standing to earn an athletic award.

If an athlete participates in a program for grades 10, 11, and 12, even if he/she doesn't participate in the required number of quarters, etc., it is recommended that he/she receive a letter in their senior year.

END OF YEAR/SEASON AWARDS

Each sport season athletes will be honored by their coaches with varsity letters, participation certificates, and end of season awards. The NABC will host a *Sports Reception* at the conclusion of each of the three sports seasons...Fall, Winter and Spring. All MVP winners will be honored at the end of year All Sports Reception.

The *All Sports Reception* will recognize the following: (see school website for additional information)

M.V.P. for each sport
“Mayors Awards” for both Male & Female Outstanding Athlete
John Pucetus Awards (both Male and Females)
Dustin McAlpine Scholarship Award
Big Dave Memorial Scholarship Award
Brenda McClure Award (Field Hockey)
NABC Scholarship Award
Senior Plaques

Risks of Athletic Participation

In spite of protective equipment, and the supervision and sound instruction by our coaches, there are some risks associated when someone participates in athletics. Injuries in some of our activities can and do occur. In extremely rare cases, death could also result. All athletes and parents need to be aware and understand this possibility. At Newport School District, we will do all that we can to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our athletes.

Health Information Rights

In compliance with the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Newport School District assures parents and athletes that it has taken steps to ensure confidentiality of all Private Health Information (PHI). District personnel and coaching staffs have been instructed on this matter, and must adhere to the guidelines as prescribed by law. At no time will Newport School District employees discuss or disclose PHI without the express written permission of the student athlete’s parents. **You will be asked to sign a blanket waiver to permit discussion of minor injuries not requiring medical attention each School year. Permission to discuss injuries requiring medical attention will be requested for each case.** If you feel that someone has violated you or your athlete’s Private Health Information (PHI) rights, then you have the right to a due process review with the Athletic Director, the High School Principal, or the District PHI Officer.

Travel to Games

At Newport High School all team members must travel as a group to and from all athletic contests. A team member may be released to the custody of a parent at the conclusion of an away contest with a note approved, in advance, by the Coach, Athletic Director , or Principal.

The following procedures should be used: (In Season Only)

1. A note from the parent seeking permission to transport the athlete home after a contest must be received by the coach. The note is required at least 24 hours prior to the date of the contest.
2. The parental note should specifically explain the reason for not traveling home with the team. This explanation may be needed in order for the principal to make an informed decision consistent with previous requests.
3. Prior to leaving the contest, the parent must speak with the coach, sign the transportation release form, and confirm to the coach that he/she, and not another student or friend, is driving.

Newport School District does provide transportation to and from Greenwood for all cooperative sports (Soccer, Track & Field). Student Athletes will be dismissed at 2:40 pm and depart from Newport at 2:50 pm to travel to Greenwood. We may not depart any earlier, as this is a request from Greenwood Administration so we do not interfere with their transportation of their students. Students should arrive back at Newport each night (after practice only) around 5:15 pm.

Newport Athletic Booster Club

Newport Athletic Booster Club exists to support all teams and the entire athletic program. Individual teams do not have booster or parent clubs that may result in competition for support and resources. Our booster club has three primary goals: to raise funds to assist the athletic programs, to increase school spirit and to encourage and promote good sportsmanship.

The Athletic Booster Club is not a vehicle to remove coaches, advance vested interests or to alter Athletic Department policy. It is a service and support organization that works in harmony with Newport School District and its athletic program.

All parents and fans are encouraged to join this worthwhile organization and to become an active member. The Booster Club holds monthly meetings. The meetings are at 6:30 PM on the first Wednesday of the month in the High School library.

Schedules on the Internet

Newport High School posts schedules at www.schedulestar.com . A list of the day's events can be accessed, as can season schedules for a particular sport. Postponements and cancellations will be uploaded to the site as they happen.

Internet Sites

The following are other Internet sites that are pertinent to high school athletics. If you find other sites that you feel are appropriate for this handbook, please contact the athletic department at 567-2519.

- Tri Valley League Website – <http://www.trivalleyleague.com> - This site updates information about our league, including team records and statistics.
- District III PIAA Website – <http://www.district3.piaa.org> - This site contains information concerning District III. It is good for playoff schedules, etc.
- PIAA Website - <http://www.piaa.org/> - This is a very valuable site to review regulations and information regarding the PIAA.
- National Federation of State High Schools Website - <http://www.nfhs.org>
- Newport School District – <http://www.newportsd.org>
- All Newport Co-Curricular Activities including Athletic Schedules for practice, scrimmages, and games - <http://www.schedulestar.com>
- Twitter for Tri Valley League: TVAA@TVAA Sports
- Directions to sports contests: www.newportsd.org (under athletics page)

STATEMENT OF RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE

No athlete shall be penalized for missing practice or games due to the observance of religious days.

This does not include going to camps and retreats.

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT CO-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

Newport School District believes that the district's goals and objectives are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular curricular program of the schools.

For purposes of this Code, **Co-curricular activities** shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Newport Board of School Directors and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day.

A team coach or activity advisor may establish and publish, with the approval and consent of the principal and/or director of athletics, reasonable rules that complement those rules/policies that have been instituted by the District. Copies of the handbooks and policies referred to in this section are available in the main office of the high school.

School Behavior and Citizenship

Students are expected to conform to the general code of behavior for the High School/Middle School. Violations of that code which result in a suspension (in-school or out-of-school) will affect a student-athlete's participation. When a student has been suspended out-of-school, the student may not visit any District campus for the duration of the suspension, nor may the student participate in any extracurricular activities, including athletic practices or competitions. Students who are suspended may not travel or be on the sideline with the team. Students may resume participation on the day that they resume regular, school attendance.

When a student is suspended in-school, participation in extracurricular activities is also restricted. The student may not participate in any extracurricular activities, including athletic practices or competitions. Students may resume participation on the day following the completion of the in-school suspension.

Additionally, a coach may set a more restrictive rule if missing practice due to any suspension which influences the student-athletes' preparation for competition.

Sportsmanship (NSD Policy #247)

As PIAA-member schools, we are committed to the goal that sportsmanship be recognized as an important part of interscholastic athletics. Sportsmanship is generally defined as the overt display of respect for the rules of the sport, as well as for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at any event. Newport athletes, when part of any team activity, are expected to behave in a way which demonstrates fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. Any actions or comments which are intended to taunt, bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule or demean others in the athletic arena will not be tolerated.

Athletes exhibiting such behavior will be addressed by the coach and may be consequence by (1) a reduction in participation, (2) suspension, or (3), dismissal from the team or activity

Hazing

Hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the intention of team initiation or membership; for our purposes, this refers to any sports team recognized by the Board of School Directors. Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student participates willingly.

The Newport School District does not condone any form of initiation (i.e., hazing) as part of any school-sponsored interscholastic sports-team activity. The District has adopted a policy prohibiting the involvement of students, volunteers and employees in any hazing activity; no student-athlete, coach, volunteer or District employee shall plan, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity.

Training Rules

Athletes perform best when they follow intelligent training rules. These rules include prohibitions in the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The Newport School District has board-approved policies regarding the use of these substances by all students on School District property and at Newport-sponsored activities at all sites with the objective of providing drug, alcohol and tobacco free environments.

Furthermore, the athletic department prohibits the use of these substances by any athlete for the length of his/her team's sport season at any time, either on or off a school campus. Violations by District athletes of these policies or rules will be addressed according to District policies and athletic department procedures.

Coaches shall develop specific training rules to govern the athletes involved in a particular sport. These team training rules are to complement school board policy and athletic procedures.

Drugs and Alcohol (NSD Policy #227)

The objective of the school district's drug and alcohol policy is to eliminate the improper use of drugs, behavior-altering substances and performance-enhancing substances in our schools, on school property, on school conveyances and at school-sponsored events. In keeping with the district objective, the athletic department believes interscholastic athletics can play a vital role in promoting and maintaining a drug-free environment. Students violating the policy will first be dealt with according to School District policies. In addition, for all incidents in which the student is excluded from extra curricular activity by the discipline section of the policy, the following athletic procedures will be in effect:

The sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, anabolic steroids, or their look-a-likes:

First Offense – Suspension of Extra-curricular privileges for a period of one (1) year from the date of the offense.

Second Offense – Permanent suspension of extra-curricular privileges from the date of the offense.

The possession or use of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or their look-a-likes:

First Offense - Upon returning from the suspension, the student-athlete will be required to complete as many days practice as the duration of the suspension before being allowed to compete in a contest or challenge for a position.

Second Offense - The student-athlete will be dismissed from the team.

Steroids (PA Act 93 of 1990)

The use of steroids continues to be a problem that plagues athletics. Student athletes must be made aware of the dangers of steroids and the consequences of their use.

The Pennsylvania legislature has passed legislation specifically prohibiting the use of steroids in athletics in the Commonwealth. The provisions of this Act and the consequences for violations supersede the Newport Board of School Directors policies on the use of drugs or alcohol.

First Offense - Suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the current season.

Second Offense - Suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the current season and the following season.

Third Offense - Permanent suspension from school athletics.

No student shall be eligible to resume participation in school activities unless a medical determination has been submitted, verifying that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

Tobacco (NSD Policy #222)

The objective of this policy is to provide a tobacco-free environment. The policy bans the use of all forms of tobacco products on school property or at school activities. In keeping with this policy the athletic department prohibits the use of tobacco products by coaches, athletes and support personnel while taking part in a school-sponsored activity, whether or not on school district property. Violations of this policy will be dealt with, first in accordance with the guidelines of the policy, and secondly, in accordance with the following school procedure:

First Offense - Suspension from participating in the next regularly scheduled competition. This will be accompanied by a letter of reprimand from the Director of Athletics.

Second Offense - Suspension from the team or activity for a period of five, school days. Upon return from the suspension, the student-athlete will be required to complete five days of practice prior to resuming competition.

Third Offense - Expulsion from the team for the remainder of the season.

Criminal Activity and Embarrassment Rule

Students charged with any violation or felony shall remain eligible to participate until conviction. If convicted, the student may be consequenced with suspension or expulsion from activities. Additionally any behaviors not mentioned above which bring embarrassment upon the student, the activity, or Newport School District may be consequenced by suspension or expulsion from activities.

Uniform and Equipment

The District provides all uniform and equipment necessities except shoes to student-athletes. All items remain the property of the Newport School District. Athletes are held accountable for the uniform and equipment issued to them, and are responsible for using them in compliance with instructions as provided by the coaches and athletic training staff.

Items are to be returned directly to the coach in a timely manner at the end of the season. No student-athlete is permitted to try out or participate in another sport until all uniform and equipment obligations have been fulfilled from any previous season(s). Unreturned items are subject to collection through the Newport High School/Middle School Office and local magisterial procedure.

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT
CO-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT &
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PARENT, COACH & STUDENT ATHLETE HANDBOOK

Agreement and Consent – This sheet MUST be signed by both parents/guardians and student prior to the beginning of practice. Refusal to sign by parents/guardians or student, excludes the student from participation in Co-curricular activities.

As a student of Newport High School or participation in a sport of Newport High School, I have read the Co-curricular Code of Conduct, understand the policies, and agree to abide by them.

Student Name (Print)

Date

Student Signature

Student Name (Print)

Date

Student Signature

We, the parent/guardian(s) of the above named student have read and understand the Newport School District Co-curricular Code of Conduct and allow our student to participate in Co-curricular activities at Newport High School.

Father's/Guardian Signature

Date

Mother's /Guardian Signature

Date

Remove this page and return to the Athletic Office/Shawn Lesh
(Parents may retain pages 1 & 2)