

MIDLAND
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT

REVISED 06/13



STUDENT-PARENT
ATHLETIC
HANDBOOK



Why This Handbook?

This handbook has been developed in order to establish a foundation for all athletes, coaches, teachers, administrators and community members to build upon. It is imperative all involved are of one philosophy and objective to avoid confusion and personal agendas. The expectations for athletes and their coaches within the Midland Independent School District Athletic Department are high due to the fact that athletic competition is highly visible within the community. It is with full consideration and recognition of that fact this handbook has been developed.

NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED SPORTS

It is the expectation of MISD Athletic Coaching Staff that school sponsored sports takes precedence over non-school sponsored sports



MIDLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

“The way the game should be played.”

OUR PHILOSOPHY:

Our approach to each sport is governed by a simple philosophy: Athletics is a part of the total education process. Therefore we will strive to give **300%** every time a team or individual from the Midland Independent School District’s athletic program steps into the classroom or into the arena of competition. **100%** effort by **100%** of athletes and coaches involved **100%** of the time. **300%**

OUR OBJECTIVE:

To provide the opportunity of athletic participation to every student who has the ability and desire to do so, while creating and implementing a positive environment that encourages both athletic and academic excellence.

**COMMUNICATION COACHES
EXPECT FROM THE PARENTS**

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts illness or injury in advance.
- Avoid using SOCIAL MEDIA negatively towards coaches, school and/or athletic programs.

**APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO
DISCUSS WITH COACHES**

- Coach's interaction with your child or interaction with others.
- Ways to help your child improve athletic skills

**TOPICS LEFT TO THE
COACHES DISCRETION**

- Playing time
- Play calling
- Team strategy
- Other students/athletes

PARENT-COACH MEETING PROCEDURE

- Call the school and ask for the coach's extension.
- Request a meeting.
- If the coach is unavailable, call the Campus Athletic Coordinator and request a meeting to be arranged.
- Do not confront a coach before or after a practice or game. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions. Abuse of this request will result in suspension from attending athletic contest.

**IF ISSUE CAN NOT BE RESOLVED WITH ABOVE
PARENT-COACH MEETING, NEXT STEP IF NOT SATISFIED**

- Call the Campus Athletic Coordinator
- Call the District Athletic Director
- Call the Campus Principal

THE MISD ATHLETE

There are many advantages of being a member of an athletic team in the Midland Independent School District. In fact, there are so many that it would be difficult to list them all. But there are some realities each athlete needs to be aware of before accepting the challenge of becoming a student athlete for his/her school.

NOTE: If a licensed Athletic Trainer suspects that athletic participation would jeopardize the health and welfare of a student/athlete, the Athletic Trainer may prohibit the student/athlete from participating.

1. You may practice and never get to start.
2. Training rules may cramp your social life. Sacrifices will be necessary.
3. You will have to practice every day after school, Saturday's and possibly holidays.
4. Less study time will be available, yet you must pass to be eligible to play.
5. Do not expect favors because you are an athlete, expect a challenge.
6. You will be expected to be well behaved on and off the field. What you do off the field may get you dismissed.
7. You will be expected to follow MISD Student Code of Conduct.

*If you like to party, then you'd better decide what is more important.
A good party or a uniform. It will be tough having both.*

Most things listed in Athletic Conduct should be self-imposed rules. Although if you lack the maturity of self discipline, then it will be necessary for the Athletic Department to instigate disciplinary action, possibly even permanent dismissal.

To be admired as a champion and as an athlete—**ACT RIGHT!**

MISD ATHLETIC CONDUCT

1. No profanity or trash talk. Remember, people don't see you, they see the school's name across your chest.
2. School attendance is required on game day unless approved by the coach and principal.
3. Truancy is unacceptable. Go to class!
4. Male in season hair policy:
No facial hair. Hair should be out of the eyes and off the shoulders, and not below the ear lobe. Pony tails, Mohawks, multiple colors, etc. are not permitted.
5. No jewelry during practice or games.
6. Go to practice. There are very few acceptable excuses to miss a practice.
7. Any athlete that quits a sport will not be allowed in another sport until the sport he or she quit has finished or has received the consent from all coaches involved. Also note that any athlete who quits or is dismissed from a sport forfeits that sports athletic award.
8. If a student becomes academically ineligible for two six-weeks in a row, they may be dismissed from athletics. The student can be reinstated when academics stability is demonstrated.
9. **NO HAZING/BULLYING.** Any activity intentionally taken in which any student(s) humiliates, degrades, or physically or mentally abuses any other student. This to include **SOCIAL MEDIA.**
10. Being in the environment of alcohol, tobacco or any illegal substance or activity is prohibited. If you are at a party, in a car, etc. where drugs and alcohol are present, **LEAVE!** Do not be found guilty by association.
11. Engaging in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts or sexual conduct in locker rooms or playing fields/courts, in **SOCIAL MEDIA** or while on athletic trips will not be tolerated.

**Violations of Athletic Conduct are subject to being
“written up” resulting in a strike.**

*Obviously all situations can not be noted. Therefore, the athletic staff
can determine inappropriate behavior.*

ATHLETIC LETTERING POLICY

An athletic letter award (letter or jacket) should require serious sacrifices on the part of the student athlete. The school letter should be symbols of not only school pride, but also of hard work and dedication in the classroom and on the playing field/court. If they are handed out as “favors”, then value of the award is diminished for all that have earned theirs the right way. If sacrifices were not made, then the athlete does not deserve it.

In order to receive an athletic award each athlete must participate and complete the season on the varsity team at listed level.

**By UIL rules, each athlete can be awarded one (1)
letter jacket during their high school career.**

FOOTBALL	5 or More Games
BASKETBALL	14 or More Games
TRACK	4 or More Meets
CROSS COUNTRY	4 or More Meets
VOLLEYBALL	14 or More Matches
BASEBALL	13 or More Games
SOFTBALL	13 or More Games
SOCCER	9 or More Games
TENNIS	50% or More Matches
GOLF	4 or More Tournaments
SWIMMING/DIVING	4 or More Meets
POWER LIFTING	2 or More Meets
STUDENT TRAINER \ MGR	1 Varsity Season

**AND/OR have the unreserved recommendation of the head coach of the
varsity sport participated in.**

MISD ATHLETIC TRAINING RULES

*******APPLIES 365 DAYS A YEAR*******

Consumption and/or sale of alcohol, or any illegal substance are strictly prohibited. Violators will be “written up” resulting in a strike.

Minor in Possession (Alcohol or Tobacco)

The student/athlete will be disciplined by the head coach. A second MIP will result in a strike. Any violation after receiving strike one is a strike.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

FIRST STRIKE OFFENDERS of rules are subject to disciplinary action, suspension or expulsion. The head coach has the authority to extend the punishment beyond the minimum mandatory suspension. Action recommended might be in addition to any action taken as a result of policies that apply to all students. The coach and Athletic Administration will consult parents. Counseling may be recommended. All first offenders will be “written up” resulting in **STRIKE ONE!**

SECOND STRIKE OFFENDERS of rules are subject to disciplinary action, suspension or expulsion. The head coach has the authority to determine the extent of punishment beyond the minimum mandatory suspension. Action recommended might be in addition to any action taken as a result of policies that apply to all students. The coach and Athletic Administration will consult parents. Counseling will be required. All second offenders will be “written up” resulting in **STRIKE TWO!**

MINIMUM MANDATORY SUSPENSION FOR STRIKE ONE

Football.....	1 game	Volleyball.....	2 matches
Basketball.....	2 games	Baseball.....	2 games
Track.....	1 meet	Softball.....	2 games
Cross Country.....	1 meet	Soccer.....	2 games
Tennis.....	1 match	Golf.....	1 tournament
Swimming.....	1 meet		
Student Trainer/Manager.....	follow in-sport season		

**Strike Two Offenders—Multiply the above number by 2
for Minimum Mandatory Suspension.**

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

If a student athlete has been allowed to return after a second strike, this student will return on a “three strikes and you’re out” status. Meaning a third violation between the grades of 9-12 would be **STRIKE THREE!** This would result in automatic dismissal from the athletic program for the remainder of his or her eligibility. A review committee will be formed that is made up of the athlete’s present coach, campus athletic coordinator, campus head coach, campus principal, and district athletic director prior to issuing the third strike. The district athletic director will chair the committee that will include, but not be limited to the following criteria:

- 1. Student/ athlete personal file.**
- 2. Willingness to follow athletic training rules.**
- 3. Behavior and reaction since first offense.**

APPEAL PROCESS:

Note: Athletics is a privilege, not a right. However, a student/athlete has the option to appeal a decision if he or she chooses to do so. Any appeal must seek Administrative Remedy beginning with the head coach of the particular sport in question.

U.I.L. TRANSFER POLICY

A student who changes schools for athletic purposes **is not eligible to compete in varsity athletics** at the school to which he or she moves for **at least** one calendar year, even if both parents move to the new school attendance zone. The District Executive Committee for the district into which the student moves shall determine **when or if** the student who moves for athletic purposes becomes eligible. A student attending a school outside the attendance zone where the parents reside **would not be eligible for varsity athletics** for **one** calendar year. A Previous Athletic Participation Form (PAPF) must be filled out each year if the parents of the student do not reside in the attendance zone. A student who changes school for non-athletic purposes must be enrolled **and in** regular attendance for **15** or more calendar days before becoming eligible for varsity athletics. The student becomes eligible on the **15th** day. A Previous Athletic Participation Form (PAPF) is also required if the student has participated or practiced in athletics in grade **8-12** at another school. This form must be approved by the District Executive Committee before they are eligible to participate at the varsity level. Approval is not guaranteed.

M.I.S.D. ATHLETIC TRANSFER POLICY

PRIOR to approval for a transfer from the Office of Student Services, a **STUDENT/ATHLETE ATTACHEMENT** to the **APPLICATION FOR STUDENT TRANSFER** must be completed. If it is discovered that the student is moving for athletic purposes, participation in athletics at the new school will be denied. A student could be approved for a transfer, but denied athletic participation at the new school.

I, the undersigned, have read and fully understand the Midland Independent School District's Student-Parent Athletic Handbook and agree to comply with it.

Student Athlete's name PRINTED

Student Athlete's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

Athletic Coordinator's Signature

Date

SWEAT

**Sweat, the most important ingredient of success.
If you don't produce it, you are satisfied with less.
Do you really sweat? I mean really bust your tail?
Or do you go half speed, teaching others how to fail?
Sweat doesn't come easy, it starts from within.
Sweat is liquid courage, a pre-requisite to win.
Tired of being average? Just barely getting by?
Set your sights on sweatin' and reach for the sky.
Taste it in your mouth, let its salt be your meal.
Push your body to its limit, try sweatin' for real.
Sweat, it's gasoline for your inner fire.
Stay focused and remember, anyone can perspire!**