

Springfield City School District

Parent/Athlete

Athletic Handbook



Michael Dellapina, Athletic Director
Dr. Robert Hill, Superintendent

District Athletic Department
Springfield High School
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Phone (937) 505-4319
www.scsdoh.org

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Springfield City School District **Athletic Department Staff**

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District Athletic Web Pages
www.scsdoh.org
www.GWOCsports.com
<https://springfield-oh.finalforms.com>
www.ohsaa.org

Springfield High School Athletic History 1909-2017

State Champions

Football 1932, 1952

Basketball 1925, 1950

Cross Country 1938, 1940

Men's Track 1957, 1958

State Runner-Up

Football 1959

Baseball 1943

Men's Track 1942, 1952, 1953

Southwest District Champions

Men's Track

1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959

Men's Basketball

1933, 1950, 1951, 1959, 2015, 2017

Men's Golf

1952, 1954, 1956, 1957, 1958

Baseball

1940, 1943, 1956, 1957, 1958

Men's Cross Country

1938, 1941, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955

Conference Champions

Football

1955, 1959, 2010

Volleyball

2009

Men's Basketball

1950, 2017

Men's Track

1958, 1960

Men's Cross Country

1951

OHSAA Football Playoffs

2009, 2010, 2016

Student/Athlete Expectations

Sportsmanship

Players, staff members and other team personnel are governed by the sportsmanship policy established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. It states that any team member or staff member ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests (one in football) are played at the same level as the ejection.

If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student or staff member shall be ineligible for the same period of time stated above in the next sport in which the student or staff member participates. A student or staff member under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during, or traveling after the contest(s).

A student who is ejected a second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A staff member who is ejected for a second time will be suspended indefinitely and required to attend a mandatory conference with the OHSAA commissioner.

Equipment

Each athlete will be issued equipment, which is the property of the school District, and athletes are expected to maintain each item of equipment. Please follow care instructions located within most cloth items. All equipment is to be returned at the end of each season. The coach will notify squad members who fail to return equipment and the Athletic Office will assess the cost of this missing equipment. The coach will inform delinquents that they will not receive any athletic awards until they meet this obligation. Grades and credits are not made available to any student, graduate or to anyone requesting same on his/her behalf until all fees and fines for that student have been paid in full. Participation in extracurricular field trips will not be permitted unless payment has been received. Students will be prohibited from participating in commencement exercises unless payment has been received.

Attendance

Student athletes must be in attendance a minimum of one half of the regular school day to be eligible to practice or participate in a contest.

Enforcement of Rules

Because there are different levels of rules (team, athletic department, school and school district rules) that student athletes must obey there has to be different levels of people enforcing those rules. In general, rule enforcement will occur as follows:

Team Rules – Assistant Coach(es) and Head Coach

Athletic Department Rules – Head Coach and Athletic Director(s)

School Rules – Athletic Director(s), Principal, Dean

School District Rules – Building Administrator and Superintendent or his designee

It is important to note that some rule violations could involve violations at several levels, thus having multiple people from several levels involved.

Rules & Regulations Governing Athletes and Athletic Participation

Springfield City School District

CODE OF CONDUCT

The administration and coaching staff of the Springfield City School District believe that a “Code of Conduct” is essential for athletes. Each student athlete is expected to conduct himself/herself in an exemplary manner while a member of the Springfield team. By participating in athletics to the maximum of his/her ability the athlete contributes to the reputation of his/her school. He/she assumes a leadership role when on the athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the community know the athletes. They are on stage with the spotlight on them. The student body, community, and other communities judge a school by the athlete’s conduct and attitudes both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, athletes can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Behaviors which do not exemplify the spirit of student-athlete participation are subject to scrutiny by school personnel.

DEFINITIONS:

Hazing

Hazing activities are prohibited. No administrator, faculty member, or other employee shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate hazing. No student shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing. Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student, or other organization that causes, or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy. All District employees are required to be alert to possible situations, circumstances or events which might include hazing. If an employee discovers that hazing has, will or might occur, the students involved shall be informed that hazing is prohibited and shall be directed not to engage in hazing. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent or designee. This policy shall be distributed to all students and school District employees. Failure to follow this policy could result in discipline and subject the violator to civil and criminal penalties.

Harassment

Verbal

1. Written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person’s gender, national origin, religious beliefs, etc. toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District.
2. Conducting a “campaign of silence” toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District by refusing to have any form of social interaction with the person.

Non Verbal

Placing objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or making insulting or threatening gestures toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the District.

Physical

Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, hissing, or spitting on a fellow Student, staff member, or other person associated with the District.

Any student who believes that he/she is the victim of any of the above actions or has observed such actions taken by another student, staff member, or other person associated with the District should immediately contact school personnel

Repeated Violation of School Rules

A student shall not repeatedly fail to comply with school rules and regulations or directions of teacher, student teachers, teacher aides, coaches, principals, or other authorized school personnel during any period of time when he/she is properly under the authority of school personnel. Such behavior may lead to removal from school-sponsored activities and events.

1. All rules and regulations listed in any Springfield City School District publications apply to all athletes. These rules and regulations apply during practices, contests, and at all times while under the direction of the Springfield City School District.
2. The rules and regulations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association shall govern the eligibility of the athlete to participate in interscholastic contests.
3. All athletes in grades 7 – 12 must have a minimum GPA of 1.67 from the previous grading period to be eligible to participate in athletics and pass at least five full credit courses (or the equivalent) from the immediately preceding grading period to be eligible to participate in athletics in the Springfield City School District. (per OHSAA Guidelines)
4. Any athlete who uses or possesses tobacco in any form including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, alternative nicotine products, electronic cigarettes and any other forms of tobacco:
 - A. On the first offense, the athlete may be removed from athletic participation, including practice or organized conditioning programs, for a period of seven (7) calendar days and enroll in a smoking cessation class.
 - B. On the second offense in the same season, the athlete may be removed from participation for the remainder of the same season of that sport. Students so removed may not participate in another sport during the same season.
5. Springfield Athletic Department Substance Abuse Policy
 - A. If there is a reasonable suspicion while a member of an athletic team, any athlete who uses, misuses, possesses, or stimulants, alcohol, depressants, hallucinogenic drugs, or toxic vapors not specifically prescribed for that athlete by a physician, shall be ineligible from participation in athletics for 20% of the season. In order for eligibility to be reinstated in athletics, the student must agree to the following:
 - Drug test within 24 hours at a location approved by the District (at athlete's expense)
 - If a positive result is obtained, the student must satisfactorily participate in a District approved assessment
 - Student must satisfactory participate in any prescribed intervention program

- After successful completion of any/all of the above, the student will be eligible to return to their team
- B. On any second offense, the student/athlete will be removed from participation for the remainder of the school year.
 - C. Any student/athlete with 3 substance abuse policy violations will be denied the privilege of athletic participation in the Springfield City School District.
6. Student discipline records will be checked at regular intervals during the seasons. If the student has been suspended from school, the student will also be denied participation in all school activities during that time period.

Additionally, upon returning to school, the student/athlete shall be ineligible to participate for a period of time equal to the length of the suspension. Denial of participation will be measured in calendar days not simply school days.

**If any athlete has been suspended for 16 days during the school year; he/she will be ineligible for the remainder of the school year.*

7. All rules violations will be reported to a school administrator and athletic director, and a hearing will be conducted to determine the extent of that reported violation. If, at the conclusion of the hearing, the athlete is found in violation of the reported infraction, subsequent removal from the athletic participation will take place. The athlete has the right to appeal any penalty assessed.
8. In order to receive an award for participation in athletics, the athlete must have attended all official team functions unless excused by the coach; the athlete must be a member of the team in good standing at the end of the season and will be expected to attend the athletic awards program for their sport, unless excused by their coach or athletic director.
9. Athletes coming out for a team must do so within five (5) days of the official OHSAA start date, unless approved by the coach and athletic director. Students may not join a team once official squad selections have been determined.
10. Once a student attains the age of 20, the student will no longer be eligible for athletic competition regardless of where the 20th birthday falls in relation to the sport season in grades 9-12. If a student enrolled in grades 7th or 8th attains the age of 15 before August 1st, that student shall be ineligible in middle school athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year. (per OHSAA) *Exceptions to this bylaw do exist (see Athletic Director)*
11. Athletes will also be governed by any additional written rules presented to them by their coach, unless such rule(s) conflict with state law, OHSAA rules or regulations, school District policy, rule, or regulation.
12. When an athlete quits a team, is ruled academically ineligible, or removed for disciplinary reasons, they may not attend or participate in any athletic related activity with Springfield City School District until current sport season is completed unless otherwise authorized by administration.

Springfield City School District – Athletic Parent Information

Health Insurance

It is the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian to see that their child is covered by his/her own health insurance prior to participation in practice or contest since Springfield City School District does not provide any such coverage.

Final Forms

The Springfield Athletic Department has transitioned to an online collection process for all required athletic documents. Parents and students must register online at <https://springfield-oh.finalforms.com> before your student athlete may try out for an athletic team. Student are not considered eligible until the online process is complete.

The following information is required through Final Forms:

- Contact information
- Health History and Medical Profile
- Emergency Medical Authorization
- Assumption of Risk
- OHSAA Pre-Season Meeting Presentation
- OHSAA Student/Athletic Eligibility
- Concussion Acknowledgement
- ImPACT Testing Consent
- Springfield City School District Athletic Handbook Acknowledgement
- OHSAA Authorization
- Current Physical (valid for 1 calendar year)

Transportation

It is the expectation of the Springfield City School District that athletes travel to and from athletic events via District transportation. The only exception to this rule is when an unusual circumstance occurs and the parent/guardian of the student athlete fills out an alternate transportation request form at least one day before the aforementioned event.

Parent Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching can be extremely difficult. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your children. This begins with clear communications from the coach of your child's program.

Communication You Should Expect From Your Child's Coach

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child and all players of the team
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning

5. Procedure should your child be injured during participation
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
7. Your child will be treated with dignity and respect

Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

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

Philosophy And/Or Expectations

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

Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches

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

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

Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches

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

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

Concerns

1. Call to set up an appointment with the coach
2. If you cannot contact the coach, call the Athletic Director – he will set up the meeting for you
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

The Next Step

What Can A Parent Do If The Meeting With The Coach Did Not Provide A Satisfactory Resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation
2. At this meeting, the next appropriate step can be determined

Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided makes both your child's and your experience with the Springfield School District Athletic Program more enjoyable and less stressful.

Springfield City School District Middle School Team Rules

1. RESPECT
Yourself, teammates, coaches, equipment, and the other teams.
2. STUDENT ATHLETES
Academics come first. If you can't get things done in the classroom academically or behaviorally, your eligibility will be affected. You must be a student athlete.
3. TIME MANAGEMENT
This means dressed and ready to begin practice at the scheduled practice time, including bus trips for away events.
4. ATTENDANCE
 - A. If you are at school, you are to be at practice. If you miss school, you CANNOT practice or participate in the event. You must be in school for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the school day to participate in an event that day.
 - B. Having two unexcused practices means you will NOT participate in the following contest. Having 3 or more unexcused practices will result in removal from the team. Attendance will be taken at all team scheduled events.
5. CLASS ACT/SPORTSMANSHIP
We represent the Springfield City School District and hold ourselves to a high standard of behavior. We WILL NOT tolerate fighting, disrespect, profanity or other behavioral issues.
6. TRANSPORTATION
 - A. You are REQUIRED to ride to and from events on the bus. This includes games and after school practice sites.
 - B. All athletes can be picked up following practices and events at the host school.
7. PERSONAL ITEMS
You are responsible for taking care of all your items. You are welcome to lock items in the locker room. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items if they are not secured.
8. UNIFORMS
You are responsible for washing and having all necessary uniforms on the day of the event. If you fail to bring your uniform, you WILL NOT be participating. If you damage your uniform or warm-ups, fines can/will be assessed.
9. SCHOOL DETENTIONS
If you fail to serve a school detention you will not be able to participate in the next scheduled event or practice until the school detention is served.

If you have ANY questions, please contact one of your coaches or the SCSD Athletic Office at 937-505-4319

Sport: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

SPRINGFIELD HIGH ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT TEAM RULES

Team

Coach

1. Participation is at the discretion of the coaching staff.
2. Players may be denied participation for disciplinary reasons.
3. Players who quit the team are responsible for notifying any coach immediately and returning all SCSD issued equipment.
4. Practice is necessary for team and individual success. Players are expected to attend every practice unless they are absent from school due to illness/injury or contact a coach prior to that practice. Failing to do so results in an unexcused absence, which may result in a denial of participation.
5. Be on time for practice.
6. Only the coaching staff can cancel a practice.
7. Report any injury of any type to a coach immediately.
8. If you see a physician or the trainer for an injury, you are not permitted to practice or compete until the head coach is given a note signed by the doctor or trainer stating you are physically able to practice and compete again.
9. You are expected to work diligently toward earning good grades in your school courses.
10. You are responsible for all equipment and uniforms issued to you. You will be charged for the full replacement cost for any equipment or uniform that is lost, damaged, or stolen.
11. There is zero tolerance on this team for violence or the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Violations will result in players being denied participation.
12. There is zero tolerance on this team for any criminal activity. Violations will result in players being denied participation.
13. Treat all coaches, officials, spectators, and other players with respect and courtesy.
14. You are expected to follow all school rules as approved by the school board while on this team.
15. You are expected to follow all rules as established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association while on this team.

I have read these team rules and agree to follow them during the season. I also understand the consequences for any violations.

Player's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date