



W.C.H.S. Athletic Handbook

2017-2018 Academic Year

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Student-Athletes:

Welcome to the Williamsburg Charter High School's Athletic Program.

Parents and student-athletes are encouraged to carefully read the entire Athletic Handbook. It contains information that will be important throughout each sport season. The handbook is progressive in nature, giving parents and athletes the philosophy and expectations of our student-athlete program.

This guide gives parents and athletes a complete listing of all sports offered at our school, and the season of placement for each sport. It is an excellent source of information for all those involved in interscholastic activities and serves as a notification of the expected responsibilities and behaviors of our student-athletes as well as information regarding the consequences of unsportsmanlike activities or behaviors.

Sincerely,

Bryn Worrilow

Athletic Director

The Williamsburg Charter High School



2017-2018 SPORTS

*All sports are subject to change or cancellation dependent upon coaching duties, student interest, etc.

Fall

Co-Ed Cross Country
Boys Soccer
Girls Soccer
Boys Flag Football
Girls Volleyball
Cheerleading
Spirit Team

Winter

Boys Varsity Basketball
Boys Junior Varsity Basketball
Girls Varsity Basketball
Girl's Junior Varsity Basketball
Girls Volleyball
Cheerleading
Spirit Team

Spring

Boys Baseball
Girls Softball
Track
Cheerleading
Spirit Team

Approximate Start/End dates for the sports seasons*

Fall: September through December

Winter: December through March

Spring: March through early June

*Note these dates are subject to change.



SECTION I – PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletics at The Williamsburg Charter School is an outgrowth of our physical education and health program, and therefore is a part of the school's overall educational program. The interscholastic competitive environment provides an opportunity for our students to learn positive life skills, values and ethics in a climate that demands dedication, responsibility, self-discipline, cooperation, and respect for others. This program provides an opportunity for all to share their commonalities, celebrate their differences, and appreciate physical competition as a lifelong process.

All involved in the program must show a personal commitment of the goals of the team and make the personal sacrifices necessary to achieve success. Making such a commitment to excellence nurtures a sense of pride; loyalty and leadership qualities in an athlete, enabling that individual to become more resilient and better prepared to face life's challenges. This unique experience allows students to achieve their full potential as students, athletes and citizens.

It is the nature of athletic competition to strive for victory. However the number of victories is only one measure of success. Ultimately, the real challenge is guiding the individual and the team to reach full potential. This is the true measure of achievement. The competitive athletic environment is one that demands respect for a full effort, and applause for those who rise to the challenge and accept the risk of defeat. Those who are successful in life are those who have learned to embrace challenges, and take personal risks. Dedication and self-sacrifice on the athletic field does not always result in victory over the opponent. However, if one strives towards reaching full potential, with passion and perseverance, personal victories that last a lifetime are the end rewards, even though the win-loss record may not always meet expectations.

The Williamsburg Charter High School's Athletic Program, both in school and interscholastically, offers a variety of individual and team sports and activities. Students are encouraged to participate and to strive to reach their highest potential whether it is on the field, in the gymnasium, or in our Fitness Center.



SECTION II CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Athlete's Code of Behavior

To be a member of a WCHS interscholastic athletic team or club is considered a privilege, and each student-athlete should strive to perform to the best of his/her athletic and academic abilities. All members of the team should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on their school and promotes good health.

There are times when student athletes are afforded special programs and rewards not given to the general students. Therefore, student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible and legal manner. One of the services provided by our program is to promote health, and to prevent health problems, which in turn enhances individual and team performance. Because the use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco prevent the normal development of a healthy mind and body, the following tenets must be accepted by all those that participate in our sports programs:

- Student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible and legal manner. Similarly, a school has a right to expect athletes to lead healthy lifestyles that exclude the use of illegal drugs and alcohol. Athletes must abide by our schools' policies, which support a drug and alcohol-free environment. In accordance with the school code of conduct, no person may manufacture, use, posses, sell or distribute alcohol or any other drug, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event. Additionally, any person exhibiting behavior, conduct, or physical characteristics that are indicative of having used or consumed alcohol or any other drug, are prohibited from school grounds or school sponsored events.
- In accordance with school codes of conduct, smoking, or the use of tobacco products is prohibited on school grounds and at school sponsored events. According to the American College of Sports Medicine, cigarette smoking is a major coronary risk factor. Nicotine, the major drug in tobacco, is a widely known stimulant that is highly addictive. Therefore, for obvious health, safety and conditioning reasons, athletes should not use tobacco products. The use of tobacco in any form is in direct conflict with an athlete's goal of excellence, which in turn, can adversely impact the potential success of a team.
- The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs shall also be prohibited. Student-athletes are expected to use prescription drugs only with the consent of a physician and/or parent during sport season. Parents are expected to notify both the school and the coach when their child is taking prescription medication.
- Students who violate the athletic policy regarding drug and alcohol use will, in addition to any school sanctions, be prohibited from participating in the athletic program for the remainder of the school year.



Sportsmanship and Fair Play

- Visiting team members, students and adult spectators are guests to be accorded all the courtesy and consideration that a friendly, well-mannered and well-intentioned host would normally give.
- The visitors, in turn, are to act as invited guests, using the home school's facilities with care, while respecting the rules and customs of the home school.
- Officials are the proper authorities to make decisions regarding rules and their interpretation; these decisions should be gracefully accepted.
- Spectators, student-athletes and coaches must recognize that their conduct plays an important role in establishing the reputation of their school and that their actions can relate directly to the success of their team.

SECTION III SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Spectators are an important part of the game and shall conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.

Spectators at all times will respect the officials, coaches and players, and extend all courtesies to them. While cheering is encouraged, taunting, foul and abusive language, inflammatory remarks, and disrespectful signs and behavior are not acceptable. The schools expect our adults and parents to set the tone for all spectators and serve as appropriate role models for all of our student-athletes and any other students present. Please assist the school officials and coaches in providing a healthy educational climate that our schools can be proud of, and by maintaining an appropriate competitive perspective throughout the game or match.

Spectators shall observe and obey the rules and regulations of the schools, concerning tobacco, smoking, food and soft drink consumption, use of the lavatory facilities, and any other common school area.

NY State law prohibits smoking and alcoholic beverages of any kind on school property. The law further prohibits any person under the influence of alcohol to be on school property.

Spectators shall respect and obey all school officials, supervisors, personnel, security officers, and teachers' at all athletic contests.

Spectators who fail to adhere to conduct expectations should be prepared to accept consequences for their inappropriate behavior. These may include ejection from the school or other venues.



SECTION IV ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

The WCHS recognizes that the primary responsibility of student-athletes is educational. Therefore, the school supports the concept that student-athletes should work to their potential in the classroom and be committed to achieving maximum academic success. The school has an academic eligibility requirement, so coaches and administrators will require athletes to cooperate with the guidelines established for those individuals who need to focus on greater academic responsibility and achievement.

All students participating in interscholastic or club sports must be in good academic standing, *meaning they must be passing all of their classes with a 70 or above*. Coaches are notified when students have academic issues and they are then placed on academic review. This includes, but is not limited to,

1. Daily progress sheets that are to be handed in to the coaches on game day.
2. Mandate tutoring or review sessions until grades are improved.
3. Academic suspension from athletic programs and practices until grades are improved.
4. Removal from all extracurricular activities until grades are returned to “in good standing”

Classroom and School Attendance

No student-athlete may participate in a practice, scrimmage or contest on a day when the student is absent from school.

No student-athlete excused for medical reasons from a physical education class may participate in a practice, scrimmage or contest on the same day.

Students who demonstrate problems with frequent absences or lateness, either excused or unexcused, are subject to suspension and/or dismissal from the team. Athletes are expected to get to school on time, and make a commitment to classroom attendance.

Students who cut class will be suspended for one game.

Students who reach 10 unexcused lateness's will be suspended for at least one game.

Students who are written up for behavioral misconduct will be suspended for at least one game.

Students who are suspended either “in or out of school” may not practice or compete during the suspension period. In addition, students will not be able to play in their next regularly scheduled contest without adequate practice time.



Commitment to Practice/Games

Athletes are expected to attend every practice and contest, unless excused by their coach or for academic or behavioral issues outlined above. If an athlete is in school, he or she is expected at practice. There are no unexcused absences from practice or games. Excused absences are permitted for extra help, death in a family or family illness, family emergencies, medical reasons, and religious observances. Timely communication between the coach, parent and/or athlete in this situation is essential.

Student-athletes are expected to make a full commitment to the season, and notify the coach of any potential commitment conflicts at the start of the season.

Student athletes cannot participate in a scheduled game or competition until they have logged at least 10 practices.

SECTION V REQUIRED MEDICAL CLEARANCE

Return to Play After an Injury or Illness

Any student-athlete under treatment by a physician must have written permission from that physician to return to active status in the sports program. If an athlete misses multiple days or practice due to an illness or injury, he/she must be given clearance by a private physician before returning to play.

Responsibility for Personal Items

During practice sessions or at sporting events each student-athlete must be aware of their personal possessions. At the WCHS, student-athletes may lock their belongings in the locker rooms during practice, or use their own lockers. Wherever they leave their possessions, they are advised not to bring valuable personal items to school. Cash, expensive jewelry and electronics should be left at home!



SECTION VI TEAM UNIFORMS AND SCHOOL ISSUED EQUIPMENT

Athletic equipment becomes more costly each year. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to secure all school issued equipment and uniforms during the course of the season. Please do not keep your uniform in school all the time. It should be taken home after each wearing and laundered. The expense of a uniform is significant, and if the athlete loses or damages it more than normal wear and tear, it is expected that the athlete will be expected to replace the damaged part or parts.

Care and Maintenance of Uniforms and Equipment

All athletes and parents are responsible for the cleaning and maintaining all school uniforms and equipment issued to them during the course of the season. Some of the uniforms may shrink, fade, or bleed color if washed in hot water. In addition, logos, numbers, and the screens may crack and peel off if the temperature settings for washing and drying are set too hot. Therefore, do not wash or dry your uniform on the hot settings. Please wash in cold water and hang to dry. Read the tags for additional cleaning instructions.

Return of School Issued Uniforms and Equipment

It is the responsibility of the athlete to personally return all school issued equipment to their coach at the end of the season. All team uniforms and equipment must be returned to the coach immediately after the last practice or contest where the item is needed. Any school issued uniform or equipment items are sole property of the school and must be returned. Student-athletes will be financially responsible for any uniform or equipment pieces that are not returned. Likewise, if a student-athlete has any outstanding athletic items, their report cards, transcripts, and other school related items will be held until such time as they rectify the situation. In addition, student-athletes may be unable to attend extracurricular school events. Turning in equipment and uniforms “on time” insures that all items in the team inventory are available for reconditioning. Athletes should never give their school issued equipment or uniform to any one else to return for them.

Coaches keep records of school inventory, and if there are any items not returned at the end of the season the athlete will be responsible for the unreturned item.



**The Williamsburg
Charter High School**

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By signing this document, both the student-athlete and his/her parents/guardians understand the rights, privileges, rules and regulations associated with being a WCHS student athlete.

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Sport _____

Date _____



CSAA/Williamsburg Charter High School
Athletics Parental Consent Form

I hereby give my permission for my child _____ to participate in the (The Williamsburg Charter High School) interscholastic program, in the 2017-18 season. Further, I authorize the The Williamsburg Charter High School the consent to provide emergency treatment of an injury to or illness of my child if qualified medical personnel and the supervisor/ coach consider treatment necessary and perform the treatment. This authorization is granted only if I cannot be reached and a reasonable effort has been made to do so. I the Parent/Guardian am aware of my child’s medical history, and see no medical reason that would prevent my child from participating in physical and active activities such as (SPORT)_____. I agree to inform the school of any change in my child’s medical or physical condition which develops or is discovered at any time after the date this document was signed.

Date _____ Parent or guardian _____

Adress _____ Phone _____

Family Physician _____ Phone _____

Pre-existing medical conditions (e.g., allergies or chronic illness)

Other(s) to contact in case of emergency _____

Relationship to child _____ Phone _____

My child and I are aware that in participating in _____ is a potentially hazardous activity. I assume all risk associated with participation in this sport, including but limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, traffic, and other reasonable risk conditions associated with the sport. All such risk to my child are known and understood by me. I also understand that the The Williamsburg Charter High School and all its officers, board members and staff are not responsible for risk that may arise during travel to and from games, as well as risk that may arise during team practice, WCHS games and events.

I understand that my child is responsible for her/his behavior at all time, and agree not to hold the school responsible for any expenses or damages incurred as a result of my child’s behavior. I also understand that violation of the The Williamsburg Charter High School athletic code of conduct and/or Student Life Guide may result in exclusion from the program.

I hereby give permission for my child’s photograph to be put on the WCHS web site. I understand that this does not include my child’s academic records or any other personal records other than my child’s name and school.

I understand this informed consent form and agree to its conditions on behalf of my child.

Child’s signature _____ Date _____

Parent’s signature _____ Date _____

School Name _____