

Santa Fe Public Schools Athletic Contract

Athletics are an integral part of the education process, providing students with opportunities to further develop their unique qualities, interests, and needs beyond the classroom. Participation in athletics is a privilege afforded and earned by students. Students wishing to take advantage of the opportunities presented to them by the Santa Fe Public Schools must show a commitment to the athletic program by regular attendance at practices and contests, as well as conformity to the rules established by the District and the coach. The privilege of competing in interscholastic athletics in the Santa Fe Public Schools requires that each athlete adhere to a number of conditions that enhance their commitment to his/her school and community, family coaches, and himself/herself. Failure to comply with the SFPS Student Code of Conduct and/or this contract will result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the team.

Eligibility

- An athlete candidate must be a bona fide student and adhere to the SFPS and NMAA rules and regulations
- An athlete must maintain a grade point average of a 2.0 and have no more than one "F"
- All athletic candidates must have completed a sports physical prior to participation. All physicals must be taken after April 1 of the calendar year to be valid for the ensuing school year

Substance Abuse

Smoking, being in the possession of or drinking alcohol, or becoming involved with narcotics or controlled substance of any kind, at any time or any place will result in disciplinary action that may include suspension from the team for a period of two weeks (14 days): the suspension from the team for the remainder of the sport season; or the suspension from all athletic teams for the remainder of the school year. In addition, the athlete may be subject to the disciplinary provisions of the State of New Mexico and the SFPS Code of Conduct.

Hazing

"A person is guilty of hazing... when, in the course of another student's entry into or affiliation with any team or club, he/she intentionally or recklessly engages in conduct which creates a risk of physical injury, emotional harm or a feeling of intimidation toward another student or students. This includes, but is not limited to physical harm, threatened harm, harassment, ridicule, criticism and causing the victim to damage public or private property. Any type of "initiation or hazing" is prohibited. Athletes who violate the "hazing" rules will be subject to severe discipline and may be subjected to criminal action.

Academics

It is recognized that the primary function of the school is to provide each student with a basic education. Therefore, Santa Fe Public Schools maintains an academic eligibility policy.

The school year is divided into in to four nine week grade reporting periods. Progress reports and report cards grades will be used to identify students having academic difficulty. The purpose of this academic eligibility policy is to ensure that any student's involvement in any athletic activity does not detract from the main objective of academic achievement. It is also essential that any participant in athletic activities maintain a minimum academic level of performance.

Students receiving a progress report comment of "student is failing" or a report indicating failure in two subjects will be placed on probation for four weeks. Students on probation status will be allowed to participate in practices during this period but must attend extra help sessions on a regular basis established at each school.

Students who fail three or more subjects during the four week grade report period will be declared academically ineligible and will not be allowed to participate in any athletic activity during that particular four week period.

Any student who fails two or more subject during the final four week grade reporting period in June will fulfill his/her probationary or ineligible period during the first four weeks of the school year in September. Their status can be overturned by successful completion and passing of one failed subject in summer school. This is subject for subject.

Transportation

All participants will ride to and from practices and games on the SFPS team bus, under the supervision of a coaching staff member. Proper conduct is expected at all times while riding on school transportation. There may be times when it becomes necessary for a parent to pick up an athlete after a game. This must be cleared with the coach and administrator in writing in advance (prior to the day of the contest).

Attendance

- If any athlete is absent from school, he/she may not participate in any practice, scrimmage, or game on that day.
- All athletes are expected to be punctual daily for all of their classes. Failure to attend classes on time will prohibit athletes from participation in any practice, scrimmage, or game on that day.
- Each athlete is expected to accept responsibility for his/her appearance and behavior at all times.

Student Responsibility

Student earn the privilege of participating in athletics based on good school citizenship, accepting responsibility and maintaining appropriate behavior in school and at school events. The SFPS Board of Education, faculty staff, and administration strongly believe that all students should be accountable for their actions. Those students who exhibit a failure to abide by the SFPS Code of Conduct may be excluded from all extracurricular activities. Athletes are responsible to review the SFPS Student Code of Conduct and be aware and knowledgeable of its content.

Equipment

The care of team equipment is each athlete’s responsibility. Each piece of equipment issued to an athlete must be returned. Any athlete who “owes” the return of a piece of equipment or payment for a piece of equipment may not participate on any athletic team until the equipment is returned or restitution is made. Seniors that do not return equipment will not receive their diploma and all transcripts will be held until equipment is returned or restitution is provided.

Injuries

All injuries should be reported to the coach and athletic trainer as soon as possible so that treatment may begin immediately and necessary insurance regulations are complied with.

Conduct of an Athlete

Student Athlete Conduct is a reflection on the educational institution. The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

On the field – In the area of athletic competition, an athlete must not use profanity or illegal tactics, understand that losing is part of the game, and is gracious in defeat and modest in victory. The student athlete is always courteous, makes no excuses, and congratulates the opponent on a well played game.

In the classroom – In the academic area, an athlete strives to become a good student. If you are not productive and responsible in class, you will likely be the same on the practice field or floor and never reach your full potential. As an athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies to ensure acceptable grades. In addition to maintaining good scholarship, an athlete should give full attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and faculty members at all times. An Athlete should have a good attendance record, never cutting class or school.

Assumption and Acknowledgement of Risk

Injury, including paralysis or death, is a risk that must be assumed when engaging in sports: accordingly, it is acknowledged that the athlete assumes the risk of such injury or death and in consideration of the District permitting participation in interscholastic athletics, the student athlete and his/her parent/guardian agree not to hold the District liable for any such injury, including death. **We understand and acknowledge the danger of these severe injuries as inherent in physical activity.**

Concussion Statement

A concussion is a disturbance in function of the brain, caused by a blow to the body or head, occurring in any sport or activity. Results include a variety of symptoms (headache, dizziness, memory or balance problem) with or without a loss of consciousness.

New Mexico Concussion Law, Senate Bill 1, requires athletes to be removed immediately from an activity when signs and symptoms are present, may not return to any participation/activity prior to a minimum of one week (five days), requires a medical professional release to return to participation/activity, required to follow the school district’s return to play guidelines and coaches will continue to monitor for signs and symptoms once an athlete (s) return to activity.

I, we, understand that there is a concussion protocol established for/by the sport that includes care and return to play criteria.

I have read, fully, understand and agree to fully abide by terms of the Athlete’s Contract.

Printed Name of Student

Signature of Student

Date

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date