

HARRY COLLINGE HIGH SCHOOL

ROCKIES



Athletics Handbook

2019-2020

PHILOSOPHY

Harry Collinge High School recognizes that extracurricular athletics promotes sportsmanship, team building, good citizenship, high academic standards, and community responsibility. Our extracurricular athletics programs are designed to develop and provide opportunity for the school's athletes. These activities demand a high level of commitment, excellence, and self motivation, which will help prepare students for the challenges they will meet outside the school community.

It is a privilege for students to participate in extracurricular athletics. Participation is voluntary and is not a requirement, nor an entitlement. Therefore, extra time and effort are required of those who participate. Since the reputation of the school is often judged by its extra-curricular programs, high standards must be maintained. Those who earn the privilege of representing Harry Collinge High School in extracurricular athletics are expected to accept greater responsibilities as school citizens.

Athletes will be given practice time and the best coaching we can provide to develop their potential in extracurricular sports. They will have social opportunities, road trips, and the opportunity for high level competition; as well as the chance to win medals, division trophies, and honour for themselves, their school, and their community. Coaches at Harry Collinge High School feel that involvement in extracurricular sports can be one of the most rewarding experiences available to students.

Participation in extracurricular athletics is open to all students provided they meet the general requirements as outlined in this handbook, and any requirements specific to the activity of their choice.

STRUCTURE OF ATHLETICS

- JUNIOR HIGH
 - League Play- Between schools in the Grande Yellowhead Athletic Conference
 - Exhibition tournaments
 - GYAC Final Tournament
 - Zone tournament for the highest ranking 3J schools in the North Central Zone (Must Qualify)
- SENIOR HIGH
 - Exhibition games between schools in the North Central Zone.
 - Exhibition tournaments
 - North Central 2A Zone Tournament.
 - Player Eligibility:
 - 3 years of eligibility from the time they enter grade 10
 - A minimum of 800 instructional minutes per semester
 - Athletes must be under the age of 19 as of Sept. 1 of the current school year

GUIDELINES

1. TEAM SELECTION

- Is the sole responsibility of the coaches and/or designates
- Based on attitude, coachability, skill level and grade level. We are here to develop a program of players and good citizens.
- A parent meeting will be set up after the completion of the try-outs to explain team rules, how to address parent concerns, and the fees for the sport.

2. FEES

- Players pay school and sports fees before they are allowed to participate in practices, league games, and/or tournaments. If this poses a problem, please contact the financial secretary.
- Fees are paid to the school accountant and are determined by the school administration.
- Fees are used to help pay some of the cost for uniforms, sports equipment, officiating, tournament fees, first aid supplies, transportation and miscellaneous expenses.
- Some sports require more travel and gameplay, so these sports will have higher fees than sports which do not require travel or other costs.
- Any athletics travel which requires a night spent in a hotel will require an additional fee of \$40 per person. This is paid separate from team fees, and will be paid as required. This fee must be paid to the office prior to leaving for the overnight trip.

3. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

- Coaches will hand out and return uniforms at the end of the season. The coach is responsible for ensuring all uniforms are returned, and that they are in good condition. Any players who lose or damage their uniforms will be required to pay for their replacement.
- During the season of play, the equipment is the responsibility of the coach. This includes jerseys, team balls/equipment, ball bags, etc.
- Please inform the athletic director of any lost or broken equipment.
- The team will be charged for any lost equipment and no new equipment will be purchased if money is not collected.
- Teams may be provided equipment, specific to their activity. The equipment is owned by the school. The care and supervision of this equipment shall be the responsibility of the coach. This equipment is provided for team use, and not for use by the Physical Education department. Coaches are responsible for making sure this equipment is put back and locked at the end of practice, so that it does not get mixed up with the PE Department equipment.

4. TRANSPORTATION

- Buses will be booked for all league games
- If parents are driving a child other than their own they must have the correct paperwork completed:
 - This includes a driver's abstract and proof of the necessary insurance
- Players are not allowed to drive to any away games, tournaments or events.

5. PRACTICE and GAME TIMES

- All practices are booked through the athletic director.
- There must be a coach or a teacher present at all practices.
- League games and home tournaments have booking priority over practices.
- Any activity underway shall have priority over the following season of play (ie. volleyball over basketball)
- A season calendar of games, tournaments and practices should be given to players at the beginning of the season. This schedule is subject to change throughout the season. Any changes to the schedule will be communicated with the coach with as much notice as possible. It is the coaches' responsibility to pass this information along to the team.
- Tournament schedules will be given to players in advance, however, completion time is determined by the team's advancement in the tournament.
- Return times for league games will be determined by the location of the game, number of teams and length of the games.
- Due to most games being held after school in the gym, some regularly scheduled practice times will be moved to accommodate all teams. These changes will be communicated to coaches of the affected teams with as much notice as possible.

6. PLAYING TIME

- Coaches will make playing time decisions based on the needs of the team as well as long term team athlete development. Coaches will communicate to athletes where they are in their development and what areas they can improve. Players and parents need to understand that less playing time in competitive matches does not equate less value as a person or team member. Players should maximize the value they get out of practice, formal and informal, if they wish to earn a larger role during competition

7. OVERNIGHT TRIPS

- A school representative is required for supervision.
- An adult supervisor of the same gender is required.
- Supervision is required at all times.
- Room checks may happen prior to curfew
- Students who break rules of curfew, drinking or drugs will be reported to administration for automatic suspension from the team and school
- Accommodations and contact numbers will be given to the parents and school administration.

8. PARENTAL COMMUNICATION

- Team communication methods will be established by coaches at the beginning of the season. This typically includes electronic communication. Parents will need to closely monitor electronic communication for last minute changes, cancellations, etc
 - if electronic communication is not possible an alternate plan must be arranged with the coach immediately
- Parent concerns are not to be discussed with coaches on site (at games or practices). Parents should wait 24 hours before discussing anything with coaches.
- If a concern arises, parents are to call the school and arrange to have a private meeting with the athletic director and/or the coach.

9. TEAM TREATMENT

- No hazing rituals will be permitted. There are absolutely no initiations of any kind.

10. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A player must maintain a satisfactory work effort in all courses to be eligible to play on any team.
 - o priority areas include: attending classes and the completion of assignments
- Students must be in attendance the entire day of the game in order to participate. Students who have one or more unexcused absence on the day of the game will be ineligible to play. A medical note is an excusable absence.
- Players who are not meeting behavioural or academic expectations in a class may be suspended from play until the problem is resolved.
- Players who are ineligible to participate due to an administrative or coaching decision forfeit their team fees.

11. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

- As representatives of Harry Collinge High School, student athletes are expected to conduct themselves appropriately on social media at all times.
- Even if your social media is “private”, your posts are still visible to others. Please exercise caution when posting anything on social media, in team group chats, etc.
- Student athletes who are deemed to be acting inappropriately or in an unsportsmanlike manner on social media could face a number of consequences, including suspension or removal from their team.

12. FUNDRAISING

- Teams wishing to travel to tournaments or events which fall outside the norm of their scheduled season (as outlined above) must raise all funds prior to travelling to their event. The team is responsible for the organization of any fundraising activity but the activity must have prior approval from the school administration.

RULES OF THE GYM

1. No students are allowed in the gym unless supervised by a teacher or coach. If the coach is running late for practice, students must wait outside the gym until their coach has arrived. Being in the gym without a supervisor is not permitted.
2. Proper non-marking athletic shoes must be worn.
3. No food or drink in the gym, except for water. All other beverages and food must be left in the hallway.
4. Coaches and players are responsible for any equipment used. All equipment should be put back neatly and locks secured. If equipment in the gym is left out or not put back properly after practice, that team could lose practice privileges for the week.
5. There should be no one else in the gym except team players and coaches.

6. While waiting for practice or games, athletes must not wander the halls.

PARENT / COACH COMMUNICATION

Communication Coaches Accept from Student Athletes:

- Concerns expressed in a timely manner, directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regards to a coach's expectations and/or philosophy

As your son or daughter becomes involved in the sports programs at Harry Collinge High School he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments in their high school career. It is important to understand however that there will be times when things do not go the way you or your son/daughter wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Communication Coaches Accept from Parents:

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach away from the court setting (24 hour rule)
- Notification of any scheduling conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regards to a coach's philosophy and or expectations.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:

- The treatment of your child mentally or physically
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behaviour

It is difficult to accept your child is not playing as much as you or they may hope. Coaches are dedicated individuals who make judgement decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all athletes involved. There are certain things that should be discussed with your child's coach, however there are also certain things that should not be discussed. Those decisions will be left to the coach's discretion.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student athletes unless it directly impacts your own

These are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged but the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

Procedure for communicating an issue regarding your child.

- Wait 24 hours from the day of the game and incident.
- Communicate first with the coach in the manner the coach establishes.
- Only speak to the topics listed above that are with the coaches authority.
- If further mediation is needed call and set up an appointment with the coach or the Athletic Director.

- The principal may become involved as a final step upon the request of the Athletic Director.



HARRY COLLINGE HIGH SCHOOL ROCKIES ATHLETICS - PARENT CONTRACT

- I have read and fully understand the athletic handbook.
- Any fees related to participation in athletics must be paid prior to participating unless specific prior arrangements have been made with the school administration. This includes practices as well as competitions.
- I understand that the coaches at Harry Collinge High School are all voluntary.
 - I will not attempt to deter, through negative comments and confrontations the ability or willingness of these volunteers to coach at the school.
 - Communication will be conducted according to the athletic handbook.
- I understand that as a spectator at school events my own behaviour and communication is governed by the same expectations as the players. I agree to conduct myself politely and respectfully at all times and understand that event hosts, school staff and administration have the right to ask me to leave if I fail to do so. Failure to comply can result in my child being removed from a team.
- I understand that if an athlete:
 - Has an unexcused absence from school the day of a game , that they will not be allowed to play in any game that day.
- I understand that:
 - outstanding NHI assignments will not be allowed and the student will not be allowed to participate until all work is handed in.
 - if an athlete is failing 2 or more subjects they may be placed on academic probation until the athlete has demonstrated acceptable progress toward success. Parents will be notified and students should attend extra work sessions. Athletes may still attend practices and games (supporting the team from the bench) unless extra help sessions are not attended.
 - Students who are failing 3 or more subjects during a reporting period will be declared academically ineligible to participate in athletic activity.
- Students earn the privilege of participating in athletic based on good school citizenship, accepting responsibility and maintaining appropriate behaviour in school and at school events. Harry Collinge High School staff and administration believe that all students should be accountable for their actions.
- I understand that teachers and administrators may remove athletes from competitions based on behaviours exhibited in or out of class, during school hours or at school events. Those students may be excluded from all extracurricular activities
- I understand that the care of equipment is each athlete's responsibility. Each piece of equipment issued to the athlete must be returned. Any athlete who owes the return of equipment, including uniforms, will be required to pay for that equipment prior to participation in any further athletic teams.



I understand that:

- All players will ride to and from games on the team bus under the supervision of a coaching staff member.
- Proper conduct is expected at all times while riding on school transportation.
- Parent drivers must be approved through the school.
- Proper documentation must be received before parents are allowed to transport other students from the school. (Abstract and copy of Insurance with minimum \$1,000,000.00 liability)
- **Students are not allowed to drive themselves to/from an athletic activity that is held off campus. Doing so voids their eligibility to participate.**
- When it becomes necessary for a parent to pick up their son/daughter from a game or venue it must be cleared with the coach before the athlete leaves.

I have read and fully understand and agree to fully abide by the terms of the Athlete's Contract:

Date **Student's Signature** **Print Name**

Date **Parent or Guardian's Signature** **Print Name**