

## Student-Athlete Handbook Helps Avoid Problems

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One of the most useful tools which we use at Magruder High School to communicate our expectations to our athletes and parents is our Student-Athlete Handbook. Once teams are, I distribute enough copies of our Student-Athlete Handbook to our coaches for each athlete to take home. The athlete and the parent/guardian review the Student-Athlete Handbook and return the last page which is signed by both parties to the coach. This needs to be done prior to the first contest.

Our handbook describes the rules, policies, procedures, and framework within which our school athletic department functions. This handbook is revised each year so that the document allows for change and improvement when warranted. Suggestions for changes or additions can come from the athletic department, administration, faculty, students, community, and coaches.

The following topics are included in our Student-Athlete Handbook:

Philosophy

Sportsmanship and Citizenship

Eligibility

Academic Standing

Expectations

Smoking, Substance Abuse and Steroids

School Attendance

Arriving Late and/or Missing Practice

Equipment and Responsibility for Proper Care

Participation and Outside Teams

Inclement Weather Procedures

Physical Education Participation

Requirements for Participation

Transportation

Risk Statement (new after recommendations from LTC 504 and 506)

During the course of a school year, countless issues involving student-athletes arise. This Student-Athlete Handbook has been able to resolve many of the issues quickly and fairly so that rules are applied in an equitable manner for all student-athletes. A copy of our handbook can be received as an attachment by E-mailing Karl Heimbach at: [Karl\\_S\\_Heimbach@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Karl_S_Heimbach@mcpsmd.org)