

## SECTION I: PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE OF AN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The major goal of an interscholastic athletic program is the same as for any other educational program—to provide youth with the opportunity to develop to their maximum potential. In this case, the program provides for development of physical and mental skills through competitive athletics, which enhances students' personal and social skills. Competitive athletics generates a pride in achievement; an appreciation of team effort, hard work, and fair play; respect for rules of the game; and respect for the abilities of others. It should be noted that participation in athletic activities is a **PRIVILEGE** offered to and earned by students.

Interscholastic athletic programs are designed to give special opportunity for maximum development of athletic skills for physically gifted students. However, every student who is interested in athletics should have the opportunity to compete for positions on teams. The talented student is expected to give more and produce more because of that talent. An athlete gains a healthy respect for self and others and values diligence, achievement, and excellence. These are the positive reasons for providing a program of athletic competition.

A sound athletic program must be based on sound educational principles. Every activity sponsored and supported by the schools must be considered a phase of the educational process. If an athletic program does not serve positive educational goals, the expenditure of time and money is not justified. Athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. They are extracurricular only in the sense that they are assigned time outside of the students' academic class schedule. The academic and athletic programs should be mutually complementary.

### **OBJECTIVES OF ATHLETICS**

1. Development of Physical Fitness
2. Development of Skills and Mental Alertness
3. Development of Personal Qualities such as:
  - Self-pride
  - Identify with the team members and the school
  - Learn teamwork
  - Learn self-discipline in the acquiring of skills necessary to the sport
  - Learn to make decisions and operate under pressure
  - Respect the necessity for authority and the needs of the group
  - Succeed in the total educational academic program
  - Develop good sportsmanship and conduct
  - Develop time management skills to maintain academic and athletic standards

Student participation in interscholastic athletics is governed by rules and regulations established by the New Mexico Public Education Department, the New Mexico Activities Association, and Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School.

Prior to participating in any practice session, in-season or off-season workout session, summer work out session, or Athletic Period, each student-athlete **MUST**:

1. Be **officially enrolled** at CCPS.
2. Be **eligible** in all areas of athletic eligibility of the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) and the Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School Athletic Department.

### **AND**

As a condition of athletic participation in the CCPS Athletic Programs, each student-athlete and parent or guardian **MUST** read and agree to the attached rules and regulations. This information has been developed to provide for the safety and welfare of each student-athlete. After reading this information each parent or court appointed legal guardian and student-athlete **ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN** the following documents and return these documents to the school's Athletic Director.

## SECTION II: ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Athletes voluntarily choose to participate in CCPS athletics, as such they are choosing to be held to higher standards with regards to behavior and academic expectations. Additionally, athletes may be held to standards established by their coaches that are even more stringent with regards to behavior and academics.

### **VIOLATION OF THE SCHOOL'S DISCIPLINE PLAN FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

#### A. Shall be in effect:

1. During the school year (consequences adhere to CCPS Policy).
2. During organized summer activities that are supervised by the Athletic Director or other school administrators.

#### B. Consequences for violations :

##### **First Offense**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Tobacco -                      | Suspension from participation - <b>30 school days</b>   |
| Alcohol/Drugs -<br>or Steroids | Suspension from participation - <b>45 school days</b><br>School Conference with parent or court appointed legal guardian and student. |

##### **Second Offense (any of above listed violations can count as a first offense towards subsequent offenses)**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Tobacco -                      | Suspension from participation - <b>45 school days</b>  |
| Alcohol/Drugs -<br>or Steroids | Suspension from participation - <b>90 school days</b><br>School Conference - upon reinstatement after suspension |

##### **Third Offense (any of above listed violations can count as a second offense towards subsequent offenses)**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Tobacco -                      | Suspension from participation - <b>90 school days</b>  |
| Alcohol/Drugs -<br>Or Steroids | Suspension from participation - <b>180 school days</b><br>School Conference required before any reinstatement will be permitted. |

### **USE OF STEROIDS AND DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS**

A. Steroids -Due to the nature of performance enhancement, serious health dangers, and detection issues, these controlled substances warrant additional coach/student/parent or court appointed legal guardian education and surveillance.

B. Supplements -Dietary supplements unregulated by the FDA (e.g. creatine, excessive caffeine, ephedrine, etc.) may contain potentially harmful ingredients. CCPS adheres to the National Federation of State High School Associations' position: "All student-athletes and their parents or court appointed legal guardians should consult with their physicians before taking any supplement product. In addition, coaches and school staff should not recommend or supply any supplemental product to student-athletes."

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The Cottonwood Classical Athletic Department will follow the CCPS school wide grading policy. It states: The Cottonwood Classical philosophy of learning and achievement is built upon student proficiency and success. A student will be promoted to the succeeding course in core subject areas only after demonstrating proficiency in the subject matter and completing the work required in order to attain a passing grade of C (70.0%) or better. By definition, a grade of 69.99%, or an F, indicates that the student has not attained proficiency in the subject area and/or has not completed the work required to achieve success. A student earning a cumulative year-end grade of 69.99%, or F, in a core subject area may not be considered a candidate for promotion to the next course level and will be required to repeat the course in which such a grade was earned.

Student athletes will be subject to bi-monthly grade checks. To be considered academically eligible, students must meet minimum proficiency requirements. In grades 6-12, students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or above and be passing all classes. All student athletes will be required to submit weekly progress reports showing marks above the minimum proficiency threshold, more importantly showing progress made in the classes

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that were below the minimum proficiency threshold. Only the Athletic Director and/or the Executive Director can remove a student from an academic ineligibility status. Students who are deemed academically ineligible will have to adhere to the following rules:

1. **Practice** - The student may practice with the team if he/she demonstrates academic progress towards eligibility.
2. **Participation** - The Student CANNOT participate in any interscholastic event at any level of competition during the period of ineligibility.
3. **Travel** - The Student CANNOT travel to any interscholastic event or activity with the team during the period of ineligibility.

Participation in athletics is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities and commitments. It is the **RESPONSIBILITY** of the student-athlete and his/her parent(s) or court appointed legal guardian(s) to be familiar with the standards and consequences for student-athlete conduct and eligibility guidelines.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT**

- Maintain "In Good Standing."
- Adhere to the principles of the National Federation of State High School Associations' sportsmanship program "Sportsmanship. It's up to you."
- Refrain from the use or possession of alcohol, drugs, steroids, or tobacco at all times.
- Refrain from any form of **hazing** of fellow student-athletes.
- Avoid the use of foul language, on and off the field of competition.
- Refrain from the commission of criminal or delinquent acts, whether at school or during non-school hours.
- Submit all "Participation Forms" with accurate information to the Athletic Director.
- Will not circumvent any rules or guidelines of Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School.
- If under indictment for a crime, the student-athlete will be ineligible until adjudicated.

### **STUDENT- ATHLETE AGREEMENT**

The student-athlete agrees to:

- Abide by the "Student-Athlete Code of Ethics."
- Uphold the principles of the National Federation of State High School Associations' sportsmanship program "Sportsmanship. It's up to you."
- Pledge to be positive about his or her athletic experience and accept responsibility for his or her actions.
- Seek academic help if grades are poor.
- Maintain scholastic eligibility (Comply with CCPS Guidelines) by maintaining "In Good Standing."
- Create, maintain, and promote team morale and high ideals of sportsmanship.
- Be sincere, loyal, and committed to the school, team, and community.
- Be a positive role model for others.
- Dress properly at school, observe proper etiquette, and respect others.
- Be responsible for all issued equipment and return equipment at the end of the season.
- Encourage parents to be involved with your team and your athletic experience in a positive and supportive manner.

It is understood that it is impossible to have a regulation for every circumstance. Discretionary judgment will be used in situations not covered by a specific written rule or guideline. A student-athlete or his or her parent(s) may obtain an explanation of any part of the Student-Athlete's Code of Ethics from a coach, the school's Athletic Director, and/or the school administration.

### **SECTION III: PARENT OR COURT APPOINTED LEGAL GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARTICIPATION**

The purpose of the Parent or Court Appointed Legal Guardian Code of Conduct is to develop positive parental support and positive role modeling for our student athletes and athletic programs. Parents and court appointed legal guardians are an integral part of this process and should abide by the following:

- Provide positive support encouragement to my student-athlete, his or her team, coaches, and school.
- Provide positive support and encouragement to the visiting team, their coaches, and school.
- Display positive behavior and attitude at all athletic contests, regardless of the outcome.
- Respect the position, professionalism, and decision-making of the game official(s).

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- Refrain from the use of foul language.
- Refrain from yelling or criticizing any student-athlete, coach, or team.
- Refrain from interfering with the coach.
- Willing to let the coach be responsible for my son or daughter during practice, games, and team related activities.
- Avoid making derogatory comments to players, other parents, game officials, or school administrators.
- Assist in providing for student safety and welfare.
- Sign and submit, with accurate information, all required "Participation Forms" to the Athletic Director.
- Will not circumvent rules or guidelines of Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School.

**The parent or guardian also agrees to:**

- Abide by the "Parent or Court Appointed Legal Guardian Code of Conduct."
- Encourage my son or daughter to abide by the "Student-Athlete Code of Ethics."
- Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and game officials.
- Be supportive of my son or daughter's athletic program.
- Ask my son or daughter to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials, with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- Encourage my son or daughter to attend all classes on a regular basis and to excel academically.
- Inform my son or daughter of the dangers and discourage the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, steroids, or tobacco.
- If my son or daughter is injured, assure that he or she does not participate until he or she has been released by the treating physician.

It is the policy of Cottonwood Classical Preparatory Schools Athletic Department that grievances should not be addressed during or immediately after any practice or athletic contest. If a situation arises where a parent or guardian wishes to meet with a coach or address a specific issue or complaint, the following steps should be followed: (1) request a meeting at school with the coach –any meeting will be scheduled at least 24 hours after the practice or athletic contest; (2) if the problem is unresolved, arrange an appointment with the school's Athletic Director and the coach; (3) arrange a meeting with the Executive Director and Athletic Director.

#### **SECTION IV: TRANSPORTATION**

##### **Method of Transportation**

CCPS provides round trip transportation for some out-of-town contests (see below, Parts 1, 2, and 3). When provided, this is the only method of transportation allowed. An exception (see below, Part 2) may be made provided the parent meets all requirements with proper documentation prior to the trip.

Authorized number of student athletes plus managers, coaches, and trainers constitute the normal travel group. If necessary, administrative personnel or the Executive Director's designee may travel with the team. **All others** are prohibited from riding in a bus transporting an APS athletic team.

##### **CCPS ATHLETIC TRANSPORTATION POLICIES**

1. Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School (CCPS) does not provide transportation to athletic practices and events within the areas of the APS district and Rio Rancho.
2. CCPS does provide transportation with school bus and commercial contractors to athletic events outside the areas of the APS district and Rio Rancho. **All participants (i.e. coaches, managers, and student-athlete participants) are required to use this transportation to and from events.**
  - a. Exception – when circumstances indicate a parent should transport the student one way (reasonable educational or family commitments). Parent must request permission to transport their student from the Athletic Director and Executive Director in advance of the trip.
3. CCPS's liability insurance does not cover the use of private vehicles to transport students to athletic events. Therefore coaches are advised not to transport students and that they are personally responsible and liable for any situations that may arise as a result of their transporting athletes to or from practices and/or games. Under any circumstances, staff members must be personally insured and exercise reasonable caution.
  - a. Exception – cases where failure to do so would be considered inadequate supervision (e.g. leaving students unattended).

**SECTION V: SAFETY AND WELFARE STATEMENT**

Sport(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Place Of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ School Last Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to Participate In the CCPS Athletic Program**

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the CCPS Athletic Program under the supervision and responsibility of licensed coaches. Any and all information, when needed to determine athletic eligibility, shall be released and submitted to the New Mexico Activities Association in a timely manner.

**Assumption of Liability And Risk**

We have familiarized ourselves with the benefits and limitations our individual family's medical insurance program and will not hold Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School or the CCPS Athletic Department responsible for liability if an accident or injury should occur. We assume all risks and hazards incidental to the conduct of the activities. We do hereby release, absolve, indemnify, and hold harmless Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School and the CCPS Athletic Department, the event organizers, supervisory personnel, sponsors, coaches, athletic trainers, and supervisors, and or all of them, individually or as a group. In case of an injury to our son or daughter, we hereby waiver all claims against the event organizers, sponsors, coaches, athletic trainers, and supervisors, or all of them, Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School and the CCPS Athletic Department, the event organizers and supervisory personnel, sponsors, coaches, athletic trainers, and supervisors, individually or as a group.

We, the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian, acknowledge that we have completely read, fully understand, and voluntarily assent and agree to the above terms, conditions, and statements.

**Acknowledgement of Injury Risks**

We, the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian, are aware that participation in the CCPS Athletic Program involves risks of serious and permanent injury to the athlete. We understand and acknowledge the danger and risk of these severe injuries as inherent to participation in the CCPS Athletic Program.

We, the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian, acknowledge that we have completely read, fully understand, and voluntarily assent and agree to the above terms, conditions, and statements.

**Personal Medication Notification**

For protection of the student-athlete, we the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian, will inform the Athletic Director, coaches, and/or medical doctors if the student-athlete is taking any medication or using ointment, liniment, balm, or has a metal implant in his/her body BEFORE receiving therapy or treatment of any kind from a medical doctor.

**Insurance**

**Please Check and Fill Out:**

\_\_\_\_\_ We have insurance that will cover medical expenses as a result of any accidental injury incurred as a result of participation in the CCPS athletic program.

Name of Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please attach a copy of your insurance card)

We the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian acknowledge and agree that we have read, understand, and will abide by the above stated conditions.

We, the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian, acknowledge that we have completely read, fully understand, and voluntarily assent and agree to the above terms, conditions, and statements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student-Athlete Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent or Court Appointed Legal Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**SECTION VI: SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INFORMATION**

**Section I: Philosophy and Purpose of Interscholastic Athletic Program** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**Section II: Academic and Behavioral Expectations** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**Section III: Parent or Court Appointed Legal Guardian Code of Conduct for Participation** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**Section IV: Transportation** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**Section V: Safety and Welfare Statement** Initial \_\_\_\_\_

By initialing each section listed above, we, the student-athlete and parent or court appointed guardian of the student-athlete, acknowledge that we have read and understand the terms, rules, and information presented in the following documents. And we agree that these rules and terms of athletic participation are important to the safety and well-being of our student-athlete. We agree to abide by these rules and terms of athletic participation and to conduct ourselves accordingly. We also understand and agree that if any of the terms of the Code of Ethics are violated, any CURRENT or FUTURE participation in interscholastic athletics may be limited or terminated in addition to penalties or consequences that may result or be imposed for the violation under CCPS school rules and policies or under civil or criminal laws.

**Signature of Acknowledgement**

Student-Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Printed) Name (Printed)

Student-Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_