

Eureka County School District
Eureka County High School

Athletic Coaching and Advisor Handbook



ECHS VANDALS

**Excellence in
Academics and Athletics**

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“Reputation is what you are perceived to be; character is what you are.”
John Wooden

Athletic and Activity Program Statement of Philosophy

Eureka County School District and Eureka County High School believes a balanced program of student activities is vital to the cognitive, social, and physical development of students. Athletics and activities should work as an integral part of the total curriculum for all students. It should offer opportunities for fellowship and enhance personal growth within our schools. It is our objective that every school achieve the following goals:

- Develop character traits such as responsibility, leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork and self-control.
- Stimulate school spirit and pride without compromising respect toward others.
- Prepare our students for advanced levels of athletic participation by developing fundamental skills and knowledge of program rules.

Coaches and advisors have the responsibility to provide students the opportunity to grow through the pursuit of athletics and activities. The Activities Department will provide proper facilities, equipment, and personnel to see that each student has an opportunity to reach his or her potential.

Within the context of a comprehensive educational program, excellence in sports and activities, rather than mere success, is the goal.

ECHS is bound by the simple acronym A.C.T.S. Our philosophy is simple. We provide students the opportunity to compete in a competitive environment without sacrificing the ability to succeed academically, and to develop lifelong skills through extra-curricular programs.

Academics: All members of extra-curricular programs, including coaches/advisors, students, faculty, and parents firmly believe the importance of academics in the overall success of individual and program success.

Community: The Eureka community is our home...Eureka students and coaches are committed to perform and uphold the values of the community.

Team: "We not Me"... "the means of the many outweigh the means of the few or one"

Self: All program participants are taught to believe in themselves. The staff is committed to provide the means for individuals to better themselves as society members from junior high through high school.

Communication

Communication is vital to the success of the athletic program. Coaches should feel comfortable communicating with the principal and athletic director on all athletic matters. Keeping the principal and activities director involved in the day to day routine activities can avoid potential future problems.

It is important that the coach insure that all players participating in athletics understand the rules and regulations set forth in the athletic policies of the District and Eureka County High School. An ingredient of good coaching is insuring that your athletes understand their roles as players, not just X's and O's. Communication between the coach and players are vital in the success of any program. The following is a list of some of the ways you can get information passed along to those who need it:

- NIAA League Meetings (Principal and Activities Director)
- NIAA Coaching Rules Clinics (Season Coaches)
- Principal
- Activities Director / Athletic Director
- Parent(s) or Guardian(s)
- Team and team members
- E-mail
- Athletic Memos
- School, NIAA, and Nevada Prep web sites
- Athletic handbook / School Policy Handbook
- Newsletters
- Bulletin boards
- Newspaper

(It is important that coaches instruct players on the basic rules of each given sport they are involved in.)

- It is the coaches' responsibility communicate with news services concerning articles for their respected teams and players.

High School Athletic Affiliation (NIAA)

The Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association is the private, non-profit governing body of high school activities and athletics in the Nevada. The NIAA is responsible for directing and developing activities and athletics in Nevada's high schools. In addition, the Nevada Association of Student Councils (NASC) is affiliated with the NIAA. The NIAA also oversees the Nevada Coaching Education Program, the Citizenship Through Sports Program, and three official's associations among many other special events and projects.

The NIAA is incorporated in compliance with NRS 81.170-81.280 and was recognized in 1974 under the provisions of NRS 386.420-386.470. For more information, call the NIAA at (775) 453-1012. The NIAA office is located in the 549 Court Street, Reno, Nevada

CONTACT THE NIAA
Web Site = www.niaa.com

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Athletic / Non Athletic Activities

Eureka County School District attempts to provide students with a wide array of extracurricular activities in which they may participate. We believe that such participation provides students with immediate and long-term physical, emotional and social benefit.

If the district is successful in attracting qualified personnel to coach or advise, the high school and junior high school will offer the following extracurricular activities provided that there is sufficient student interest. (See the ECSD negotiated agreement for minimum participation activity numbers)

Baseball	FFA
Basketball	Honor Society
Football	Student Council
Wrestling	Yearbook
Softball	Academic Olympics
Track and Field	Pep Band
Volleyball	Drill/Dance Team
Cheerleading	
J.H. Football	
J.H. Volleyball	
J.H. Basketball	
J.H. Track	

Team and Organization Participation Numbers

Listed below are the minimum participation numbers necessary for a sport to be offered within the District and to have paid coaches.

Football = 12

Volleyball = 9

Wrestling = 6

Basketball = 8

Baseball = 12

Softball = 12

Track = 6

Cheerleading = 5

FFA = 10

Athletic Director and High School Principal

Coaches and advisors are under the direct supervision of the Athletic Director/Activities Director in coordination with the High School Principal. Coaches and advisors who have questions or feel the need to report problems that are outside the normal scope of their positions should report to the Athletic Director or High School Principal.

Athletic Schedules

Schedules will be completed by the Athletic Director. Coaches are not to schedule their own activities without first consulting the Athletic Director.

Coaches and Advisors

It is the responsibility of the coaches and advisors to provide the students and athletes information on policies and procedures. Included in this handbook are many policies that you should remind your students of at the beginning of each season and school year.

Policies within this handbook that are labeled with an * should be reviewed with each team member at the start of each activity.

Coaches and advisors will receive notice from the Athletic Director and Principal of their assigned duties. Once the coach or advisor has fulfilled their assigned obligation (duty), a payment form will be issued. Coaches and advisors are required to turn in any assigned keys which were checked out, if applicable to the site building supervisor. Coaches are also required to submit a post season self-evaluation to the activities director before coaching compensation will be issued.

Post Season Discussion and Evaluation:

If determined by the Activities Director each coach will be required to attend a post-season discussion and evaluation to be conducted with the activities director and/or principal. The discussion/evaluation will be informal is intended to isolate areas which can improve the overall success of the team and/or activity.

Media Information

It is the coach's responsibility to contact the news media of post game information involving team results. Coaches and advisors are encouraged to submit information to the local high school newsletter for their respected program(s) activities throughout the season. The athletic

director and principal can assist coaches and advisors in distributing information through the proper news channels.

Athletic Dress Code *

Students are representing Eureka County High School and Eureka County School District when they are traveling and when they are visiting opponents' schools and towns. They are required to dress in accordance with the policies of Eureka County School District. It is the coaches and advisor's responsibility to ensure that all students dress appropriately while they are on away trips at various schools and towns. Students should also dress appropriately at home game events.

Coaches and advisors should also dress appropriately while given their respected sport and or activity.

Public Displays of Affection (PDA) *

Students must always follow the guidelines contained in the ECHS student handbook regarding PDA.

Pre-Season Coaches/ Parents Meeting

Coaches and advisors are encouraged to conduct a **pre-season meeting** at the beginning of each activity with their students and parents. Coaches and advisors will have the opportunity to discuss their goals, along with team, district, state rules and regulations. Lines of communication with the coach/advisor and parents can be established at this time.

Athletic Awards Night

Athletic awards will be granted to all varsity, junior varsity, and junior high school team members who participate in accordance with the school award requirements. Awards are distributed at the Athletic Awards Program for each season. Awards Night dates and times will be determined by the athletic Principal and Athletic Director during the school year. Special team awards will also be presented at each Athletic Awards Program. Each coach, on an individual basis determines criteria for special team awards. It is the coach's responsibility to provide office personnel, those player names that will receive certificates and awards for post season Awards Night ceremonies. Other than All-Division, League and State awards, it is recommended that individual player awards be equal. Other activity advisors may conduct award ceremonies in coordination with the school administration. Coaches should understand and accept the responsibility to attend the Athletic Awards Night on behalf of their players and students.

Athletic Award Requirements *

Coaches and advisors should understand that honoring our students with awards is an honor and privilege that should not be taken lightly. Students should also be reminded that at Eureka County High School, receiving such an award is an **effort earned** and not an **effort given**.

Participants in activities must meet certain criteria before receiving certificates, awards, and letters. Criteria will include, but not limited to the following guidelines:

The student must end the season in good standing. This includes the following items, but is not limited to:

1. Finishing the season as a team member
2. Adequate citizenship and sportsmanship is adhered to by school policy; and
3. All school equipment and uniforms must be returned to the satisfaction of the coach and/or athletic director.

Students that quit the activity, or are dropped from the activity as a disciplinary action, or in any way fail to end the season in good standing forfeit all available awards for that activity.

The coaching staff, athletic director, and principal reserve the right to make the final determination on athlete letter status in the interest of preserving the integrity of the letter award.

For **Letter “E” Awards**, the participant must be at the high school grade level and have competed in:

Basketball = minimum 20 varsity quarters

Volleyball = minimum 6 varsity matches

Football = minimum 12 varsity quarters

Wrestling = minimum 4 varsity contests

Baseball = minimum 6 varsity games

Softball = minimum 6 varsity games

Track and Field = minimum 4 varsity meets

Cheerleading = minimum 10 varsity games

Only one Letter E will be awarded to any athlete attending Eureka County High School. When a letter is awarded to an athlete, the athlete will also receive a representative pin for that sport. Athletes who have earned more than one letter for one sport will receive a service bar for each letter awarded.

Plaques will be award to athletes who make a special select team, i.e., All-Division, All-State.

In the event of injury or other legitimate extenuating circumstances, letters will be awarded on the recommendation of the coach to the athletic director and principal.

Participants who are not in good standing at the end of the sporting season **will not** be eligible to receive division and state awards.

Athletic Steering Committee

The Athletic Steering Committee is an organization formed to support the athletic programs within Eureka County School District. The club's primary focus is recognition of teams and fundraising. The athletic department encourages all coaches and or advisors to be a member of this committee. Local parents and citizens are welcome to be on the committee.

ECSD Academic Eligibility *

Both the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association and Eureka County School District require that all participants maintain an academic and citizenship eligible status throughout a particular season.

Eligibility is checked in each course, including dual-credit courses, every third Monday in order to determine that a participant is achieving a passing grade. Coursework is due the preceding Thursday.

When the results of the three-week grade check indicate that a student is not meeting academic standards, he/she will be **ineligible** to participate in that week's activities. Students have until the following Thursday to regain eligibility for the next week and so on.

***If a student becomes ineligible for a third week during a particular season, that student will be dismissed from the team or activity.**

Teachers will inform the school secretary when the student athlete regains eligibility. It is the responsibility of the coach and/or advisor to check the eligibility status one each participant in their activity.

Students who are deemed academically **ineligible** are encouraged to attend practice and meetings during the period of ineligibility. However, academically ineligible students cannot travel with the school team or organization to games, conventions, or meetings.

The academic eligibility policy pertains to students participating at the high school and junior high school level including 6th grade students participating at the junior high school level.

NIAA 2.0 Minimum Grade Point Average *

A student must maintain a 2.0 grade point average ("GPA") during the prior semester, based on a 4.0 grading system. A student who fails to meet this minimum requirement shall be ineligible until grades are checked at the next nine-week period.

- a. For purposes of this Regulation a student's academic eligibility status shall be determined on the day immediately following distribution of semester grades.

- b. A student who is below a 2.0 GPA at the end of a semester and remains below a 2.0 GPA at a nine-week progress check remains ineligible for the remainder of the semester.
- c. A student who receives an incomplete grade at the end of a semester shall have three weeks to make up the grade. To be eligible a student must have passed 2 units of credit and accumulated a GPA of 2.0 even if the student has an incomplete grade.
1. Discretion shall be given to the student's teacher in deciding upon the appropriate amount of time to accept make up work, but this discretion shall not exceed three weeks from the date grades are posted for the grading period.
 2. Within three weeks after grades are posted for a particular grading period a permanent grade shall be issued and used to calculate the student's GPA.
 3. An incomplete grade shall not be computed in the student's GPA for purposes of determining academic ineligibility until the student's permanent grade has been posted.
- d. If a student repeats a class during summer school, grades shall be computed in accordance with the regulations of the specific school district. The summer school grade may be used as it best benefits the student in the previous or current semester. Grades may only be used one time for this purpose.

Playing for Other Teams / Participating In Conflicting Activities *

The school expects athletes to play only for the school team they are participating in until that particular season ends. Playing for another team or participating in other activities creates conflicts with school practices and/or games. Eligible students may participate in only one athletic endeavor per season (fall, winter, and spring). I.E.; an athlete may not play basketball and wrestle at the same time.

All Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular Activities

The school encourages all students to participate in extra-curricular activities for the basis of a well-rounded education. Students participating in more than one extra-curricular activity, i.e., (Academic Olympics, Cheerleading and Basketball, etc.) may find themselves choosing which activity to attend when event activities simultaneously occur. Students may have to choose which activity to attend when a conflict between two or more extra-curricular activities occurs. With this in mind, the school recognizes that Academic and Co-Curricular activities outweigh all other extra-curricular activities and encourages students to choose Academic competition over all others. The school also believes that school sponsored Athletic events outweigh school sponsored non-competitive/club activities and non-school sponsored activities. The school believes that ultimately it is the students' and parents' choice as to which activity to attend in the event of an extra-curricular conflict. To help students choose between two or more conflicting activities, and to adhere to the philosophies and principles of the school, a hierarchical list of

extra-curricular activities was established. The hierarchical list is outlined below that includes extra-curricular activities offered at ECHS.

The consequences the student will receive for not attending one activity by attending another will be stipulated by the coach or advisor of the activity. It will be the coach and/or advisors duty to inform the student as differing penalties may be enforced by different coaches/advisors.

HIERARCHICAL LIST OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

1. Academic Competition/Co-Curricular Competition Academic Olympics - Competition Ag. Mechanics - Competition FFA – Competition Academic Testing (ACT/SAT) Summer School
2. School Sponsored Athletic Competition Football Volleyball Basketball Wrestling Baseball/Softball Track
3. School Sponsored Non-Competition/Club Activities Cheerleading (if competitive event, considered listed #2) Yearbook School Newspaper Student Council Honor Society
4. Non School Sponsored Events Rodeo Club (if competitive event, considered #2) Hunting/Fishing/Camping Dances and Parties Town Team Athletic Activities Family

Ten Day Practice Rule *

A student who participates in any sport is required to have completed ten (10) days of practice under the direct supervision of the member or affiliate school coaching staff for that particular sport before the student shall be eligible to participate in any NIAA sanctioned game, contest or meet.

- a. Each calendar day, excluding Sundays, counts as one practice regardless of whether multiple practices are held on a given day.
- b. A student who participated individually or on a team that qualified for regional playoff or state competition during the prior season that overlaps the beginning of the next season in question must complete a minimum of five (5) days practice to be eligible for competition in the next sport. A student cannot practice and compete in interscholastic competition on the same day.
- c. Any student who participates in baseball is prohibited from pitching until he has completed ten (10) days of practice.

Player Absence from Game, Practice, or Class *

Playing time is a privilege and should be earned. Players are expected to attend all scheduled practices and games.

Attendance at practices, meetings or other scheduled activities is important. Absences for reasons other than another school function, illness/injury or a parental request approved by the principal or athletic director will be considered an unexcused absence. Missing more than one-half of a practice will be considered an unexcused absence. **Attendance at practice the day before the scheduled activity is required.** A third unexcused absence may result in **dismissal from the team.** In addition, absence of more than one-half the classes on the day of a regularly scheduled activity will result in loss of eligibility for that specific game or event. However, the principal or athletic director, when notified of the absence, in advance, by the parent/guardian in the event of an emergency, can override this rule. **This policy also applies to Friday-Saturday activities.** In order to be eligible to participate in a contest on Friday and Saturday, the player must have attended at least half of the classes on the last day before. This rule may be waived if the coach, athletic director, and principal excuse the absence.

In School / Out of School Suspension *

Students on in-school suspension remain eligible for practices or meetings but may not participate in games or activities during the days of suspension; however, they may participate on that weekend after the suspension days are completed.

Students on out-of-school suspension may not attend nor participate in practices, games, meetings, dances or any extracurricular activities on the days of the suspension or on the weekend of the suspension.

Safety

The Athletic Department strives to provide students a safe and enjoyable environment in which to participate. Consequently, all coaches and administrative personnel have a responsibility to reduce and/ or eliminate all potential safety hazards. It is vital to understand that participation in athletics involves inherent risks. Coaches and administrative personnel are obligated to act in a prudent manner in order to prevent foreseeable accidents and injuries. When coaches, athletic director, officials, and principal agree, athletic contests may be canceled for the sake of safety.

In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student-athletes, we have acquired a software tool called ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). Pre-season testing will be conducted for all athletes and retesting will be required for any athlete suspected to have suffered a concussion.

Insurance and Athletic Physicals

Adequate insurance coverage and physicals for an athlete is the **responsibility of the parent or guardian.** Students may obtain physicals locally at the Eureka Clinic. Families may seek insurance coverage for certain student athletic injuries through the school district PoolPac insurance pool. The school will notify parents prior to the start of each school year when the clinic will provide free physicals to students. The school requires that all students participating in junior high school athletics obtain a physical each year. Under NIAA regulations all high school student athletes entering the 9th grade are required to obtain a physical their first and third

year of participation in an athletic event. Students who do not need to obtain a physical must complete a physical interim form. If the student submits an affirmative response to any question on the interim form he/she must complete a complete physical examination before being eligible to participate in a sanctioned sport.

Medical Release of Athlete *

Any student injured in a sport who seeks treatment from a licensed health care provider shall not be allowed to resume participation in the sport until the health care provider submits a written and signed document addressed to the principal and/or athletic director clearing the student for participation. With concussion injuries, a follow-up concussion test will be administered by the school.

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy *

It is the coaches' responsibility to ensure that all players participating in each assigned sport have a signed copy of the Eureka/NIAA Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy on file with the high school office. Coaches must ensure that new student athletes who have just entered high school or transferred to ECHS provide the school with a signed copy of the policy. This form **must** be renewed with the beginning of every new sport season.

When sufficient evidence is produced to prove that an athlete has violated the Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco policy, that student will become immediately ineligible and adhere to the NIAA policy as written.

Controlled Substance Policy and Consequence*

Any student athlete or activities member participating at the junior high school or high school levels who is caught using or is in possession of a controlled substance, i.e., marijuana, etc., including alcohol, will be banned from active participation on away and home activities for 4 consecutive, competitive school weeks.

The consecutive weeks will overlap from sport to sport in the event the infraction was at the end of the season or school year. This policy will be in force during the school year and while the student is actively participating on a school function during non-school summer months. This will include all activities.

The student athlete will be allowed to participate in practice during the four-week suspension. This policy is not a substitute for the NIAA Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Policy.

Sportsmanship *

All students, coaches and advisors are representatives of the Eureka County School District. Our actions, behavior and spoken words are vehicles by which we are judged and perceived.

At Eureka, team and individual competition contribute significantly to the development of character and school spirit. Sportsmanship and fair play are important parts of this experience. We expect our coaches, players, faculty and students to represent Eureka County School District in a manner that is respectful of others on and off the fields of competition. It is our desire and goal that we develop and practice the highest standards of courtesy, discipline, good sportsmanship, and the ability to act as good hosts and guests. We encourage enthusiastic support at all games within the boundaries of accepted good sportsmanship. We expect adult spectators to uphold the same high standards that we demand of our student supporters and players and to set good examples of sportsmanship.

NIAA regulations require that when a coach or player is ejected from a contest neither will be eligible to participate in the next game or activity.

Student-Athletes who fail to display proper behavior or good sportsmanship before, during, and after an athletic contest or practice may be barred from further participation at the discretion of the coach, athletic director or principal. Penalties such as probation or suspension from one or more games may be imposed depending upon the severity of the offenses. **Students who have been severely reprimanded or dismissed from a team for poor sportsmanlike conduct will not be eligible for end of the season awards.**

Spectators (students or adults) who display poor sportsmanship or improper behavior before, during, and after an athletic contest may be asked to leave the field or gym. Based on the circumstances, they may be barred from attending any games for the remainder of the season.

Cheerleaders

Cheerleaders will be under the direct supervision of the cheerleading advisor. The Cheerleading advisor is under the direct supervision of the Athletic Director. Cheerleaders are guided by the same rules and regulations as the athletes. Rules and regulations for the cheerleading squad are determined by the National Federation and NIAA.

Supervision of Athletes/Students

A qualified adult must supervise all areas in use. Students may not participate in any unsupervised activity. Coaches and advisors have a duty to supervise the members of their group. This involves **always** being physically present at practice and activities. **In an emergency, if the coach or advisor needs to leave the gym or field, he or she should instruct the players to stop activities until his or her return.** All students must be properly supervised while traveling and when out of town. For all-day or overnight tournaments, coaches should plan an itinerary that will ensure the proper supervision of the students at all times. Coaches and advisors must remain with the students until all transportation needs are met after all activities.

Coaches and advisors should routinely check the areas used prior to departure to ensure the area has not been disturbed and is properly clean. Coaches and advisors must remain with the students on away trips, follow the travel plan, and accompany the group home.

Concussion Management Procedures

ECSD Concussion Management Program - Procedures

Starting 2011-2012 School Year

1. Rosie Bliss and Amy Damele will be administering the Impact Concussion management program for the school district (initial and or follow up testing of athletes).
2. All athletes, both junior high and high school age students who go out (play) athletics will be tested every year. (All Sports) (6th – 12th Grades)
3. The initial testing will take place as a group within the start of the practice season.
4. Athletes who are not initially tested as a group will receive individual testing as soon as the athlete tries out and makes the team.
5. There will be no cost to the family of the athlete. The District will pay for the concussion management software system and initial concussion test as long as the student is an athlete participating in a district sanctioned sport.
6. The initial athletic concussion management testing and any subsequent testing within the District Impact Concussion Management program will be administered by school district personnel.
7. The student athlete will be required to be initially tested at ECSD whether he/she has been tested by another school and or district.

Below are some common facts related to concussion management:

1. A concussion is a disturbance in brain function that occurs following either a blow to the head or as a result of the violent shaking of the head.
2. In the United States, the annual incidence of sports-related concussion is estimated at 300,000. Estimates regarding the likelihood of an athlete in a contact sport experiencing a concussion may be as high as 19% per season.

FAQ:

1. More information on the District Concussion Management program can be received at/by:
 - a. Eureka County School District Website
 - b. Contacting the high school principal, athletic director, athletic secretary, concussion management testing team.
 - c. On-Line at <http://www.impacttest.com>
2. Do I need to fill out any forms before my child is tested?
 - a. Yes, a Concussion Management form will be included in your child's athletic packet supplied by the school. Before initial testing, the form must be signed by the parent/guardian of the child

Team Student Managers

It is advised that coaches seek, solicit, and select same gender students as team managers. Exceptions to this advisement must be presented to the administration in advance of any manager selection.

Hazing/Bullying*

As a coach and advisor you should **strongly** remind your students at the start of each activity that any form of physical and/or non-physical hazing, harassment, bullying, or initiations will not be tolerated and are against the law. Hazing and bullying in any form can include students telling another student to do something which they do not want to do, threatening or physically touching another person in any manner. Students will incur severe consequences if they are guilty of hazing another student including possible dismissal from the group and legal ramifications.

Student Transportation*

Transporting students to and from an activity: Whenever students are to be transported on an activity trip other than a sports activity the advisor/coach is required to fill out a Transportation Request and Claim Reimbursement form (AR 3300). The coach/advisor is also required to submit a Trip Itinerary Form to the building principal before the trip is approved. The trip will not be approved unless signed by the Principal, Activities Director, Transportation Director, and Superintendent.

Supervision on Athletic/Activity trips requires the presence of the Head Coach/Activity Advisor. Established Assistant Coaches or Advisors may be placed in charge of supervision when the head Coach/Advisor is absent. As a last resort for temporary replacements, ECSD employees only may substitute as Coach/Advisor in emergency situations. The activity will be cancelled if an ECSD employee is not available.

Only School District Employees with a valid Nevada driver's license will be authorized to drive ECSD vehicles. All staff transporting students will need to complete a driver training class as determined by the school district. Vehicle drivers are required to comply with the Department of Motor Vehicle Regulations pertaining to the 10 & 15 hour law. (5800.2 AR)

ECCHS policy emphasizes team togetherness and spirit. Every effort will be made to have students eat, sleep, and travel together.

EUREKA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REQUIRES MEMBERS OF ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY GROUPS TO USE SCHOOL PROVIDED TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM ALL AWAY ACTIVITIES.

Exceptions may be made in the following circumstances:

1. Parents or guardians may transport group members' home after offsite activities. Parents or

guardians must notify the coach/advisor personally, **IN ADVANCE**, that the student has a ride home. Exception leave slips can be obtained at the high school office or coach/advisor. Other students may ride home with another consenting parent(s) or guardian(s) with advance written permission from their own parent or guardian. All parents and guardians involved must have advanced written permission on file at ECHS. Under **no circumstance** will a group member be allowed to ride home from an away activity unless it is with a consenting parent or guardian. Exceptions to this rule must be presented in advance to the Athletic Director and/or High School Principal for approval or denial.

2. Requests for exceptions must be made in writing from the parent or guardian at least one day before the activity takes place. It is the coaches/advisors responsibility that the student understands the exception rule. Last minute requests at the away event will generally not be approved. Coaches, advisors, drivers and administrators reserve the right to approve or deny requests based on circumstances, judgment and requirements.

3. Additional passengers on any district transportation must be approved through the administration in advance.

4. A group advisor, coach, or chaperon must always accompany traveling student groups in district busses. A separate chaperon is not required in district vehicles, i.e., suburban, cars.

Activity transportation and assigned busses and cars are issued by the District Transportation Director. Deciding which mode of transportation is issued for any given activity event involves several factors and is an involved process. Typically, the Transportation Director and Activities Director in conjunction with the school secretary will arrange initial travel leave times by Monday of each travel week. Coaches will be notified of the travel itinerary and can discuss different travel arrangements at that time.

Out of Town Lodging and Meals *

When students are required to stay in motels/hotels overnight, they may or may not be responsible for paying the cost of the rooms. Students will be responsible for their own meal money. Students will be responsible for motel charges outside the normal room expenses, i.e., long-distance telephone room charges.

A coach or adviser will determine room assignments for away activities. The coach or adviser will designate eating facilities and menus. When necessary, a coach or adviser may examine student belongings. Students will, at all times, be under the direct supervision of a coach or adviser. No group is allowed to leave the lodging area without permission from the coach or adviser. The coach/adviser will establish a curfew and check all rooms after the curfew has passed.

It is the coach's/advisors responsibility to check individual rooms upon checking out of lodging facilities to determine the condition of the rooms. Coaches/advisors should always assign a room captain for each room. The captain will take responsibility for the room and members in

that room. **Students and parents will be responsible for damages in the event it is determined that items are taken or broken from living quarters, such as motels/hotels.**

Meal Reimbursement

As a coach/advisor of a school district funded activity, you are entitled to meal reimbursement per the school district negotiated agreement for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. For reimbursement, coaches/advisors are required to complete form AR 3300.

Nevada Coaching Education Program

All newly-hired teacher coaches and all non-certified coaches at the high school level are required to complete the Nevada Coaching Education Program in accordance to NIAA rules. The school district will pay or reimburse the cost of these classes. The coaching education program consists of the following on-line courses:

- National Federation Coaching Principals
- National Federation First Aid
- Concussion in Sports

Pre-Season Rules Clinics

All head coaches must attend the NIAA sanctioned rules clinic in their respective sport. If you are unable to attend the clinic, make prior arrangements with the athletic director so that the school is represented.

CPR Class and or First Aid Certification

All coaches are required to have a current CPR or First Aid card certification. The athletic department will pay the cost for coaches to acquire current CPR status. All newly hired coaches are required to possess first aid certification within 1 month of hire date depending on availability to take a CPR/First Aid Course.

Equipment and Uniforms

It is the coaches' responsibility to inventory the uniforms and athletic equipment in each of their given sports. Coaches are also responsible for the storage of uniforms and equipment in the school's storage facility. Coaches must make every effort to quickly collect all uniforms and equipment after the last contest. Awards may be withheld from those who fail to return school owned items. A complete inventory of equipment and uniforms must be completed before coaching payment is issued.

NIAA Point-Differential Rule

Applies to all NIAA sanctioned football games played in the state of Nevada, including Varsity, JV & Freshman games. These rules will apply to playoff games, but will not be applied to state championship games.

Football -

1. When one team leads by 35 points or more points at any time during the game, the officials shall use a running clock to time the game.
2. If the score differential becomes less than 35 points at any time during the game, the officials shall revert to regular timing until the point differential again reaches 35 or more points.
3. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, 1) a running clock may be used at any time during the game or 2) any remaining period may be shortened at any time or the game terminated.

Basketball –

When one team leads by 35 points or more points at any time during the game, the officials shall use a running clock to time the game.

If the score differential becomes less than 35 points at any time during the game, the officials shall NOT revert to regular scoring

By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, a running clock may be used at any time during the game.

Baseball/Softball –

1. A regular game shall be declared, if a team is leading by 15 or more runs after 3 complete innings or 10 or more runs after 5 complete innings.

Building Keys and Supplies

All coaches and advisors will be issued keys to access buildings and rooms which are needed to conduct their programs. Keys are issued by the building facilities director and will be required to be returned after the activity is concluded.

NIAA Student Participant Eligibility

- Freshman teams will be comprised of 9th graders only.
- Junior varsity teams will be comprised of 9th, 10th and 11th graders only

- Varsity teams can be comprised of any grade level.

Schools that wish to appeal this rule (senior on junior varsity teams) must request permission from the league/class president with copies to the NIAA Executive Director.

The Class 1A will follow the maximum participation rule in volleyball and basketball.

NIAA Policy for Filming/Video Taping Games

There is no restriction for the use of film or video equipment when scouting an opponent. It should be understood, however, that no special arrangements need to be offered by the school hosting the contest. This rule is in effect for both regular and post season competitions.

NIAA Maximum Participation Rule (1-A League)

The purpose of this rule is to ensure that a school with a small enrollment has enough players to provide junior varsity and varsity teams.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a player may play in a junior varsity game and in a varsity game on the same day. A coach shall not allow:
 - a. A player to play more than five total quarters in one day; or
 - b. An athlete to play in a junior varsity game and in a varsity game on the same day solely to win the junior varsity game.
2. A coach shall designate five varsity players who will not play in a junior varsity game held the same day as a varsity game. The coach shall submit the names of the designated players to the official score keeper at least 10 minutes before the junior varsity game begins. The official scorebook shall stay at the scorers table until both the junior varsity and varsity games are complete
3. The uniform worn by a junior varsity player for a varsity game must include a varsity jersey, which displays a number that is unlike the number displayed by any other varsity player.

Participation in Out-of-Season Activities

All athletic programs within Eureka County School District will adhere to the NIAA policy for player participation in out-of-season activities. The NIAA policy is as follows:

The NIAA encourages a pupil to participate in a broad range of activities. A pupil must not be compelled to participate in preseason or post-season programs. A pupil must be permitted to choose his activities without the compulsion of a coach.

Teams must be selected and must practice during the sport seasons, which are established by the NIAA Board.

Participation in an out-of-season activity by a pupil is voluntary and must be directed toward improving individual skills.

NIAA Guidelines

1. The season for each sport begins with the starting practice date for that sport and ends with the state championship for that sport. The NIAA Board will set the dates and include them on the "Activities Schedule" of the NIAA. Practices of a team must be held on these listed dates.
2. **A member school may not sponsor a team or an individual pupil, provide a uniform, transportation or otherwise be responsible for a pupil in an out-of-season competition. This includes, but is not limited to, camps, summer leagues and trips abroad.**

NOTE: For accounting purposes, a school may deposit monies raised for out of season activities. At no time may a school use state or school district budgeted funds for out of season activities.
3. If the preceding guidelines set forth in this section are met, a coach may work with individual pupils in the out-of-season. The contact must be voluntary and may not be a prerequisite for a tryout for a team by the pupil or for the acceptance of the pupil on that team during the regular interscholastic season. With the permission of a member school and school district, the facilities and equipment of a member school may be used by a coach and a pupil out-of-season.
 - a. The exception to this rule would be for the sport of football, which shall use the following guidelines:
 1. Legal Equipment -- Out of Season
 - a. Footballs
 - b. Football shoes
 - c. Shorts and sweatshirts
 2. Illegal Equipment -- Out of Season
 - a. Helmets, shoulder/hip/thigh pads and other protective equipment
 - b. Blocking dummies, sleds or similar devices.
 - c. A student attending an out-of-season contact camp may not use any equipment purchased by a Nevada high school.
4. The NIAA advises member schools and school districts that permit out-of-season activities to require its voluntary participants to provide proof of adequate insurance coverage.
5. At no time may an out-of-season program interfere with an in-season sport. Coaches shall respect their peers and support the entire athletic program of the school. A pupil may not attend a camp or all-star competitions which conflicts with an in-season sport.

Eureka / NIAA Drug, Alcohol Policy

NIAA ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUG POSSESSION, USE, ABUSE and PENALTIES POLICY

Participation in NIAA sanctioned sports is a privilege and responsibility which requires all participants to adhere to athletic training rules imposed by the school district and member or affiliate school the student attends and represents. Adherence to training rules ensures that all student-athletes are in top physical condition, minimizes potential for injury, and further ensures that all member and affiliate school athletic teams are appropriately represented by their student-athletes. Therefore, the possession or use of any controlled substance, alcohol or tobacco products by a student athlete, whether it occurs on or off of school property, is prohibited and shall result in the penalties set forth herein.

This regulation shall begin once our son/daughter begins participation as a student athlete in high school athletics. This policy remains in effect for every calendar school year during the course of his/her high school career and when he/she is directly involved in a school activity occurring at any time (summer leagues / camps, etc.). This policy remains in effect regardless of whether our son/daughter is currently participating on a high school athletic team.

a. Definitions The following terms or phrases shall have the meaning ascribed to them for purposes of interpreting this Policy.

1. Competitive Week – means a seven (7) day period of time beginning with the **first scheduled competition** after a violation occurs in which a student athlete is participating as a member of an athletic team for a member or affiliate school, and in which that team is officially competing in NIAA sanctioned competition.
2. Controlled Substance – includes any mind altering substance or beverage set forth in Schedule I-V of the list of Controlled Substances as identified by the office of the Drug Enforcement Administration or as set forth in 21 U.S.C. §812.
3. Period of Suspension – means a student athlete is prohibited from appearing in any NIAA sanctioned sport or event as a member of an athletic team or in individual competition. A suspension from athletic competition begins with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs. A student athlete who is suspended under this regulation who does not serve the entire period of suspension during the sport season in which suspension occurs shall serve any remaining period of suspension during the next sport season in which the student athlete appears on a NIAA roster. A violation of this regulation that occurs during a time when a student athlete does not appear on a NIAA roster shall be implemented at the commencement of the next sport season in which the student athlete participates. Attendance in a summer school class shall not apply toward satisfying any period of suspension.

- b. Possession or Use of Tobacco/Alcohol/Controlled Substance/Narcotics. Any student athlete determined to be in possession of, or to have used tobacco, including smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco or snuff, an alcoholic beverage (as defined by NRS 202.020 **and any relevant local ordinances**), controlled substance and/or narcotic (unless prescribed by the student athlete's physician for medical purposes), is in violation of this policy. If after an investigation by the school it is determined that the student athlete is in violation of this regulation the student athlete shall immediately be declared ineligible to compete in any NIAA competition beginning with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs. Additionally, the student athlete shall be subject to the following discipline:
1. First Violation: a six (6) competitive week suspension from participation in interscholastic competition beginning with the first scheduled competition after the suspension occurs. Four (4) competitive weeks of the suspension of eligibility may be waived if the student successfully completes all components of the appropriate substance abuse intervention program set forth in

subparagraphs (d) (1) (A) and (d) (1) (B) below. The student may practice with the team during the period of suspension if approved by the coach and principal.
 2. Second Violation: The student shall be suspended from interscholastic competition for a minimum of ninety (90) school days which shall include a minimum of six (6) competitive weeks of competition. The student shall not be allowed to practice with the team, or participate in any out of season activities and must complete the requirements set forth in subparagraphs A and B below, in order to be considered for reinstatement of future athletic eligibility, which shall be determined following the ninety (90) day suspension of athletic eligibility by a group composed of one of the student's parents/legal guardians, the school principal, athletic director, coach and a substance abuse program coordinator.
 - A. A substance abuse evaluation assessment conducted by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor at the expense of the parent/legal guardian of the student must be completed within ten (10) school days following the suspension and all assessment recommendations must be satisfactorily met before athletic eligibility may be reinstated.
 - B. The student must successfully participate in all sessions of the appropriate substance abuse intervention program set forth in subparagraphs (d) (1) (a) and (d) (1) (B) below, and successfully complete a minimum of ten (10) tobacco or alcohol/drug related support sessions.
 3. Third Violation: The student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's high school career.
- c. Cumulative Effect of Suspensions: Multiple suspensions of a student athlete's athletic eligibility based on violations of this Regulation shall be considered as cumulative over the length of each student athlete's high school career, 9th through 12th grade.

- d. Substance Abuse Intervention Program: Any student who has been suspended from athletic eligibility for violation of the provisions of this Regulation and whose future athletic eligibility is contingent on successful completion of a Substance Abuse Intervention Program, or whose suspension of athletic eligibility may be reduced through successful participation in a Substance Abuse Intervention Program, shall complete the Substance Abuse Intervention Program developed by the NIAA in conjunction with the State of Nevada, Department of Human Resources Division of Child and Family Services Program available through the Juvenile Justice Programs Office: (775) 684-7294.
1. Successful completion of the Substance Abuse Intervention Program shall require, at a minimum:
 - A. The completion of a video program specific to the nature of the student athlete's offense, by the student athlete, and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), as demonstrated by the successful completion of an assignment on the content of the video by the student athlete and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
 - B. The completion of a minimum of an eight (8) hour assignment selected from a list of ten (10) possible assignments by school personnel. Successful completion shall be determined through a meeting between the student athlete, his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the head coach of the sport in which the student athlete was participating at the time of offense, and the school counselor or dean of students.

All investigations and penalty enforcements will be conducted by the school and / or district with support through the NIAA office.

PARENT / LEGAL GUARDIAN AND STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) recognizes and understands that parents / guardians take the primary role in instilling values for their students. It is the goal of the NIAA to work cooperatively with parents to provide guidelines and programs that assist student athletes in making positive choices.

IMPORTANT – Please read the following information and acknowledge with your signature below.

We understand that participation in high school athletics is a privilege, not a right, and that underage drinking and drug use is against the law. It is against the law to sell tobacco to people under the age of 18 and usage is against school policy. Substance abuse negatively impacts athletics and academic performance, and research indicates that early onset of alcohol use increases the occurrence of addiction in adulthood by four times. Alcohol and drug use interferes in learning processes, brain development and increases the chance of physical injury

while participating in athletic competition. Because of these risks, and in addition to the laws of the State of Nevada, the NIAA requires participants and parents to agree to the following:

1. We have read the NIAA Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Possession, Use and Abuse Penalties Policy and agree to abide by the Policy as written.
2. We realize that a Power Point presentation regarding the Policy is available and we have either seen this presentation or agree to waive the requirement of viewing the presentation.
3. We understand that we are encouraged to notify our school's athletic administrator / director if our son / daughter violates this Policy and / or the laws of the state of Nevada. It would also be acceptable for our child to self-report any violation of this policy to our school's athletic administrator / director.
4. We understand that knowingly providing erroneous information during the course of an investigation of an alleged violation of the policy will result in a one calendar year suspension from all high school athletic activities.
5. We further acknowledge that once our son / daughter begins participation as a student athlete in high school athletics that this policy remains in effect for every calendar school year during the course of their high school career and when he / she is directly involved in a school activity occurring at any time (summer leagues / camps, etc.). This policy remains in effect regardless of whether our son / daughter is currently participating on a high school athletic team.
6. We have also reviewed the following NRS 202.020, Purchase, Consumption or Possession of Alcoholic Beverage by Minor, and understand the laws of Nevada and how they pertain to our family.
7. We understand that although it is not technically against the law to use tobacco in the state of Nevada (NRS 202.2493 and 202.24935 prohibits anyone from supplying a person under the age of 18 with any kind of tobacco product), we realize it is against this policy and general school policy, and that scientific evidence demonstrates it is unhealthy and a detriment to athletic performance.
8. We understand that the use of steroids and other performance enhancing drugs are dangerous, illegal, provide only temporary gains and are a form of cheating other competitors.

NEVADA LAW

NRS 202.020 Purchase, consumption or possession of alcoholic beverage by minor.

1. Any person under 21 years of age who purchases any alcoholic beverage or any such person who consumes any alcoholic beverage in any saloon, resort or premises where spirituous, malt or fermented liquors or wines are sold is guilty of a misdemeanor.
2. Any person under 21 years of age who, for any reason, possesses any alcoholic beverage in public is guilty of a misdemeanor.
3. This section does not preclude a local government entity from enacting by ordinance an additional or broader restriction.
4. For the purpose of this section, possession “in public” includes possession:
 - a. On any street or highway;
 - b. In any place open to the public; and
 - c. In any private business establishment which is in effect open to the public.
5. **This term does not include:**
 - a. Possession for an established religious purpose;
 - b. Possession in the presence of the person’s parent, spouse or legal guardian who is 21 years of age or older;
 - c. Possession in accordance with prescription issued by a person statutorily authorized to issue prescriptions;
 - d. Possession in private clubs or private establishments; or
 - e. The selling, handling, serving or transporting of alcoholic beverages by a person in the course of his lawful employment by a licensed manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer of alcoholic beverages.

[1:272:1947; 1943 NCL § 10594.02] – (NRS A 1967, 482; 1987. 482)

We acknowledge that this form must be signed by **both** parent / legal guardian and our child before our son / daughter will be cleared for athletic competition at his / her high school.

Print Name

Print Name

Student Signature

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Date

Sport

GUIDELINES FOR POLICY VIOLATION RESPONSE

If a violation occurs, a school will use the following steps:

1. Conduct an investigation exactly how you would for any violation of school and/or NIAA regulations.
2. If it is determined that the athlete violated the Policy, the Athletic Administrator should immediately call the NIAA (775-688-6464).
3. Policy and Penalty will be explained and reviewed with the Athletic Administrator.
4. Impose the sanctions outlined in the Policy, and complete the clearance form when the athlete has fulfilled the requirements.
5. An athlete who has violated this Policy must be cleared by the NIAA before competing in any sanctioned activity.
6. Students must also meet and be approved by the NIAA and district level athletic administrators when appropriate.

If at any time you have questions regarding the procedures established with this Policy, please contact the NIAA at your convenience.

Note: Each school district will be provided with a resource library of educational materials on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

SUGGESTED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Attend a substance abuse education program approved by the respective school district. (Not recommended for students with tobacco violations, unless the program specifically addresses tobacco cessation.)
2. Contact the local health department and gather information on liver diseases and other health issues relating to drinking.
3. Research a famous person whose career was affected because of alcohol or drug usage; i.e. Daryl Strawberry or Robert Downey, Jr.
4. Complete a report on why the student athlete chooses to drink or use other drugs in the first place. What influenced their decision? How will they make better decisions in the future?
5. Complete ten hours of community service work at the school; i.e. work with janitors.

6. Work with law enforcement officials to identify upcoming community parties, or assist with alcohol sales checks.
7. Visit jail or juvenile hall and talk to staff about the extent of alcohol and drug use among the offenders.
8. Visit with an older person about drinking and drugs in their day and write a report on the differences of now and then.
9. Interview a member of a local AA or NA chapter.
10. Internet research regarding substance used by the student.

**A WRITTEN AND ORAL REPORT SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE
ADMINISTRATOR CONDUCTING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS POLICY**

