

ECTOR ISD



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK 2021-2022

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS OFFERED

FALL SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL: JH Girls, Varsity Girls, Junior Varsity Girls

CROSS COUNTRY: HS Boys/Girls Varsity, Junior Varsity, JH Boys/Girls.

SOFTBALL: JH Girls

BASEBALL: JH Boys

WINTER SPORTS

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Varsity, Junior Varsity, Junior High

BOYS BASKETBALL: Varsity, Junior Varsity, Junior High

SPRING SPORTS

SOFTBALL: Varsity, Junior Varsity (if numbers allow)

BASEBALL: Varsity, Junior Varsity (if numbers allow)

TENNIS: HS Boys/Girls Varsity, JH Boys/Girls

GOLF: HS Boys/Girls Varsity

TRACK: HS Boys/Girls Varsity, JH Boys/Girls

2021-2022 COACHING STAFF

Jayson Adams- Head Baseball, JH Boys Basketball

Terry Drain- Head Softball, Head Girls Basketball

Joey Grijalva- Assistant Boys Basketball, Assistant Baseball

Elizabeth Whitehead- JH Volleyball, JH Girls Basketball, Assistant Girls Basketball, Assistant Softball

Terry Johnson- Head Tennis

Jacob McMinn- Cross Country, Track

Blake Turner- Athletic Director, HS Volleyball, Head Boys Basketball, Golf

PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Participation in athletics is an excellent tool for students to develop new skill sets, develop personal relationships, learn the value of communication with peers and those in positions of authority, learn accountability, learn the value of hard work, and learn how to accept and operate under a specific role within a team. Through competition, students also learn the value of goal setting and working as hard as necessary to achieve those goals.

The specific goals of the Athletic Program are:

- Promote the concept of teamwork, and the importance of teamwork to the overall success of the team.
- Promote the idea of accepting a role given to an individual within a team, and how important every role plays in the success of the team.
- Promote the idea of commitment, responsibility, and dedication.
- Teaching accountability and accepting responsibility for actions.
- Learn how to cope with losing/failure, and how to succeed with class and humility.
- Develop leadership skills.
- Promote the concept of good sportsmanship.
- Promote the idea of self-improvement.
- Promote the idea of healthy lifestyle choices.
- Promote the idea of pride in the individual, school, and community.

The mission of the Ector ISD Athletic Program is to develop student-athletes into hardworking, positive, productive members of our local community and in society as a whole, upon the completion of their athletic career. We want the lessons learned through the participation in athletics to lead to the development of lifelong skills that allow for a well rounded individual.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS

All students who have the desire to participate in athletics are highly encouraged to do so. Ector ISD supports the idea of all students having the opportunity to participate in any extracurricular activity that is offered. However, we want to stress that participation in the athletic program is a privilege, not a right, for students. Students who decide to participate in athletics will be held to a higher standard, with greater expectations set on them. Since athletics is a privilege, the coaching staff has the authority to suspend or revoke a student's privilege to participate in athletics when rules, regulations, or athletic program standards are not followed. Any suspension of privileges will be made in accordance with other Ector ISD policies and due process procedures.

GRADES

All student-athletes are required, by the University Interscholastic League (UIL), to maintain a passing grade in all of their classes for each grading period in order to be eligible for participation in athletics. For Ector ISD, grading periods are in six week increments.

If a student-athlete is failing any class at the end of a grading period, the student athlete becomes ineligible for participation in athletic competitions for 3 weeks. Grades will be reviewed at the three week mark of the following grading period. If the student-athlete is passing ALL of their classes, they will become eligible for athletic competition again. Any failing grade at the three week mark will keep the student-athlete ineligible.

- Any student-athlete who has a failing grade for two consecutive six week grading periods may be removed from their current sport.
- Any student-athlete who has a failing grade for three consecutive six week grading periods may be removed from athletics until he/she demonstrates the ability to pass all subjects for a six week grading period.
- These cases will be reviewed individually, and final determinations will be made by the head coach of the sport and the Athletic Director.

DRESS CODE

All athletes are required to adhere to the dress code that is expressed in the student handbook. Dress code applies to student-athletes both at school, and on road trips. In accordance with UIL rules and regulations, athletes are not allowed to wear jewelry, of

any kind, during any athletic competition. For the same reason, jewelry will not be allowed during athletic practices.

Head coaches of each sport have the right to impose any other dress code rules for their sport, as long as it follows the guidelines of the Ector ISD dress code policy.

TRAVEL

Ector ISD will provide travel to and from all athletic competitions for student-athletes.

Varsity athletes are expected to ride school transportation to and from **ALL** athletic competitions. Sub varsity and Junior High Athletes are highly encouraged to ride school transportation home from an athletic competition.

- Exceptions can be made with prior approval.
 - Each request will be reviewed individually by the head coach, then ruled upon.
 - Requests must be made at least 24 hours in advance of travel.
- Student-athletes will not be permitted to ride home with anyone other than their parent/guardian unless agreed upon by the parent/guardian before the travel.
 - These requests need to be made at least 24 hours in advance.
- Student-athletes will not be permitted to ride home with another minor.
- Any emergency situations will be accommodated.
- Athletes who need transportation to a contest from a different activity at a different site, will be accommodated.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

All students involved in any competitive extra-curricular activities in grade 7 thru 12 will be tested at the beginning of the school year or during the year when they enter a program for the first time. Random testing will be done at intervals during the school year. All students and parents must sign a drug testing consent form before they are allowed to participate or practice in any activity. Refusal to sign the consent form will make the student ineligible to participate in competitive extracurricular activities. Testing results shall be kept confidential and disclosed only to the student, his or her parents/guardians, school sponsor, school administration, and school counselor. Confidentiality shall be maintained at all levels. Results shall not be placed in school records.

SANCTIONS FOR POSITIVE TESTING THE FIRST TIME:

- The student will be required to meet with parents, sponsor, school administration, and school counselor.
- The Ector ISD counselor shall arrange outside counseling with parental involvement and input. Any expense incurred will be the responsibility of the parent.
- The student must complete counseling within the allotted amount of time decided by the counselors and parents. Once the student's counseling program has been determined the students continue with that program until it is complete. During this time, the student shall not be eligible to compete in any competitive extra-curricular activity for six weeks. At any time during the counseling program the student stops going to counseling, they will immediately become ineligible to participate in any competitive extra-curricular activities. They will not become eligible until they have successfully completed the counseling program and the six weeks suspension has been completed.
- The student must agree to mandatory testing at the next three random drug tests done by the school.

SANCTIONS FOR A SECOND POSITIVE TEST:

- The student will be suspended from all competitive extra-curricular activities for 1 calendar year.
- The student must follow the same counseling process as steps mentioned in first positive testing.
- The student shall be retested when they become eligible to re-enter the competitive extra-curricular activity program.

SANCTIONS FOR THIRD POSITIVE TEST:

- The student will be unable to compete or participate in all competitive extra-curricular activities as long as they are a student at Ector ISD.

USE OF VAPING DEVICES

The use of any vaping devices on campus, or within any school related travel, will not be tolerated. Violations of this will result in discipline measures being enforced by the head coach of the sport in season. The use of vaping devices at any off campus locations is also strongly discouraged.

QUITTING A SPORT

There may be times when an athlete needs to quit a sport, or makes the choice to quit a sport. Athletes are not permitted to quit one sport to start another. The following procedures will be followed should an athlete decide to quit a sport:

- The athlete is expected to speak with the coach, in person, to see if a resolution can be reached.
 - A parent conference may be required.
- If the decision to quit the sport is made, the athlete must “check out” of their sport with the head coach. All clothing/equipment that has been issued to the athlete must be turned in.
- The athlete will not be permitted to play or practice in their next sport until the first sport finishes their season in its entirety.
- An athlete is allowed to quit a sport within the first two weeks (14 calendar days) of the sport without consequences.

REQUIRED PAPERWORK

All athletes who are participating in athletics must have the following paperwork on file before they are allowed to compete.

- Pre Participation Medical History and Examination Form (Physical) (UIL Form)
- Parent/Student Acknowledgement of Rules Form (UIL Form)
- Illegal Steroid Use Form (UIL Form)
- Previous Athletic Participation Form (UIL Form) (if applicable)
- UIL Foreign Exchange Student Forms (if applicable)
- Ector ISD Parental Consent to Drug Test Form
- Ector ISD Athletic Handbook Acknowledgement Form

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COACHING STAFF

PLANNING SPORTS SEASONS

The head coach of each sport will be responsible for the planning of their specific season. All essential equipment and supplies will be provided by Ector ISD, at the head coaches discretion. All decisions made by the head coach, and approved by the athletic director, will then be communicated through the proper lines of communication.

Head coaches will set their season schedules. Paper copies will be sent home with each athlete, and a digital copy will be accessible on the Ector ISD website. Scheduling information will be made available as soon as the schedule is complete and confirmed.

Head coaches will develop a schedule for extracurricular practices. This practice schedule will be provided at the beginning of the season. This schedule is subject to change based on circumstances within the sport season. All scheduling changes will be communicated to the student-athletes by the head coach. This schedule will include all practice dates and times during any holiday breaks.

Head coaches will develop a written plan for the rules and regulations that will be enforced during their season. This plan will consist of any discipline policies that the head coach has in regards to missed practice, or conduct the head coach deems detrimental to the team.

All decisions in regards to the selection of teams (Varsity/JV, A team/B team) will be made by the coaching staff of each sport. These decisions will be made by evaluating players in practice and games. Decisions on playing time for each individual athlete will also be made by the coaching staff of each sport. These decisions will be made by evaluating players in practice and games.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT USE

All student athletes and coaches are expected to take care of the facilities and equipment that are provided by Ector ISD. Normal wear and tear is expected, but vandalism and destructive behavior are not. Any school equipment that is checked out to a student athlete is his/her responsibility. Any lost or damaged equipment is the athlete's financial responsibility.

UNIFORMS/PRACTICE GEAR

Uniforms and practice gear will be provided by Ector ISD. Any school issued clothing is expected to be worn only during participation in athletic practices or competitions. It is preferred that all school issued uniforms or practice gear stays at the school, and is washed and returned to the student athletes. Athletes are responsible for having all equipment available for practice or games. Any consequences for not being dressed out in proper practice gear will be at the discretion of the head coach. Athletes will be responsible for purchasing their own shoes for each sport.

LOCKER ROOMS

Locker rooms will be provided for all athletes to use. Locker rooms should only be accessed before and after practice. The use of locker rooms during a practice should be limited, and approved by a member of the coaching staff. The locker rooms should not be used as a hangout area, thus locker rooms will be locked at the conclusion of a practice session.

Athletes are expected to behave appropriately in locker rooms, both at home and on the road. Expected behaviors include:

- No horseplay, running, or throwing objects
- All lockers are expected to be clean and organized
- All trash is expected to be thrown away

Any behavior issues will be dealt with by the coaching staff of the sport.

Athletes should not leave personal belongings, especially money, wallets, and jewelry, in areas that are unsupervised. Any personal belongings should be locked up, or not kept unsecured in the locker room. Ector ISD is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

PRACTICE AND GAME EXPECTATIONS

PRACTICE

Athletes are expected to be at and stay for the entire duration of all practices as required by the head coach. It is the responsibility of the athlete to communicate with the head coach if he/she will not be able to attend a practice or needs to leave early. Any missed practices can result in discipline being enforced. This discipline will be at the discretion of the head coach. Any athlete that is injured, and not able to actively take part in practice, is expected to attend and be engaged in all practices. The coaching staff may develop a treatment plan for injured athletes during the practice session, if necessary. An injured athlete will be excused from practice if they must miss for rehab/therapy/appointment. A signed doctor's note is required to resume practicing.

GAMES/CONTESTS

Athletes are expected to attend and stay for the entire duration of all games/contests as required by the head coach. It is the responsibility of the athlete to communicate with the head coach if he/she will not be able to attend a game/contest, or needs to leave early. Any discipline measures taken for missing a game/contest will be decided upon and enforced by the head coach. Any athlete that is injured, and not able to actively take part in the game/contest, is expected to attend and be engaged in the game/contest. Exceptions will be made for athletes who are not able to sit on the bench/sideline with the team due to the extent of their injury. A signed doctor's note is required to resume game competition.

Any athlete that misses school on the day of a contest may be allowed to compete, given that the absence is excused. Each case will be reviewed and ruled on by the head coach and athletic director, on an individual basis.

CONFLICTS WITH PRACTICE AND CONTESTS

Student athletes are encouraged to participate in as many extracurricular events as they want. With student athletes competing in multiple sports, there will inevitably be conflicts with schedules overlapping. The Ector Athletic Department will consider all measures to accommodate all student athletes, and have them compete in all their events.

If there is a conflict that cannot be resolved, it is the responsibility of the athlete to communicate the conflict with the coach/sponsor of each conflicting activity.

The coaches/sponsors of each activity will meet to discuss the situation and determine the best option for the athlete. The importance of each event to the student, and the importance of each event to its respective season will be considered. A team sport activity will take precedence over an individual sport. Once a decision has been agreed upon, that decision will be considered final and the athlete is expected to abide by the decision.

If there is a conflict between a select/club sport event and a school sponsored event, the school sport event will be given priority to the select/club sport event.

DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

MISSED PRACTICE OR CONTEST

Any discipline for missed practices or games will be at the discretion of the head coach of the sport. These discipline guidelines will be provided by the head coach before the season starts.

ISS

Any athlete that is assigned ISS will not be allowed to participate in practice (before or after school) on days that ISS is assigned. Any practices missed while in ISS may result in discipline measures for each practice missed, at the discretion of the head coach and/or athletic director. Any athlete that is assigned ISS will not be eligible to compete in

games/contests until the entire assignment has been completed. Assignment to ISS could result in the loss of playing time, based on the head coach's discretion.

AEP/DAEP

Any athlete that is placed into AEP/DAEP will not participate in practices and/or competitions until the placement is completed. The athlete will not be eligible to return to the team until an investigation into the action that resulted in the placement is completed by the appropriate Ector ISD administration team. Each case will be reviewed, and ruled on, individually.

CRIMINAL CHARGES

Any athlete that is legally accused of, arrested for, or convicted of any criminal charge will be suspended from all team activities until an investigation into the matter has been completed by the legal system and the appropriate Ector ISD administration team. Each case will be reviewed, and ruled on, individually.

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS

EXPECTATIONS OF ATHLETE

Athletes are expected to communicate with the coaching staff prior to missing any practices or contests. Communicating in person or through a phone call is the preferred method of communication. Texting the coach should be considered the last form of communication to use.

If an athlete has a dispute with a coach, those matters should be handled in a face to face meeting with the coach. Taking to social media to vent about the decisions of the coach will not be tolerated.

EXPECTATION OF COACHES

Coaches are expected to handle all communications in a professional and civil manner. All communication should allow adequate time for plans to be made by the families of each student athlete. Coaches will be encouraged to set up a GroupMe for their sport to communicate any information with the members of their team.

Coaches are expected to present the rules and guidelines for their sport before the season starts. These rules and guidelines should be clearly stated and in written form. Coaches are also expected to present a schedule for contests and a schedule for practices, including holiday contest/practice dates, before the season starts.

EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS

Parents are expected to handle all communication in a professional and civil manner. Any problems that may arise during a season should be handled in face to face meetings with the coach. Derogatory social media posts are strongly discouraged.

Parents have every right to request a meeting with a coach, if they feel a meeting is necessary. The following protocol should be followed when setting up a parent conference with a coach.

- Follow the 24 hour rule.
 - Do not approach the coach immediately after a game/contest has concluded. Allow a 24 hour “cooling off” period before contacting the coach.
- Contact the coach directly to set up a conference during the coach’s conference period.
- Contact the athletic director only if the coach cannot be reached.
- Consider what you plan to accomplish with the meeting.

Not all concerns will be discussed with all parents.

- Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach
 - The physical and/or mental treatment of an athlete.
 - What improvements your student athlete can make.
 - Concerns with your student athletes behavior.
- Concerns that are not appropriate to discuss with a coach
 - Playing time
 - Selection of teams
 - Situations that deal with other student athletes

LETTERING REQUIREMENTS

In order for an athlete to letter in a sport the athlete must achieve the following criteria.

- **Freshman/Sophomore**
 - Must compete in 75% of district games for team sports.
 - Basketball and Baseball
 - Must reach the Regional level of competition for individual sports.
 - Cross Country, Tennis, Golf, Track
- **Junior/Seniors**
 - Must complete the season in good standing and be recommended by the head coach.

2020-2021 ECTOR ISD ATHLETIC HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I have read and understand the policies and procedures of the Ector ISD Athletic Department. I am also aware of the consequences for violating these policies. If at any time I have questions regarding this handbook, I will address these questions to the Head Coach and/or Athletic Director in a professional and civil manner. I understand that the athletic director and coaching staff will enforce these policies, procedures, and consequences.

Student's Name (printed)

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Name (printed)

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date