

## ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

The Montville Township School District takes great pride in providing the necessary elements needed to produce quality athletic teams. Students who serve as athletes on the various squads have a responsibility to the school and community to present themselves in an exemplary manner, both in appearance and in behavior. The following list of guidelines are minimal standards which apply to all members of all athletic teams at Montville Township High School.

### CITIZENSHIP

All acts of poor citizenship, whether or not school related, reflect not only upon the individual but the team as well. Disciplinary action, that may include suspension from the team, will be taken against any athlete who may cause the team to be viewed unfavorably.

### ATTENDANCE

- A. All athletes are students first, and will be treated as such in all matters concerning school and classroom attendance. Any infractions will be dealt with through normal channels adhering to the school policy that prevails. All student athletes must be officially present **no later than 9:30 A.M.** in order to participate in after school activities. As outlined in the Student Handbook, **“No pupil who has been absent for a school day may participate in an athletic competition scheduled for the afternoon or evening of that school day or for a weekend activity following an unexcused absence on the previous Friday. To be considered in attendance, a student must be present for at least one-half of the school day.”**
- B. Attendance and promptness at all practice sessions, games, meetings, trips and related team functions are mandatory. In an emergency, notification of a pending absence must be reported by phone or in person to a coach, beforehand. Notes **after the fact**, from parents, guardians or emancipated students will not be considered satisfactory, and disciplinary action deemed reasonable by the coach will be administered. Chronic tardiness or absence will result in permanent dismissal from the team.
- C. There may be times during a sport season when an athlete must miss a practice or competition. Although this is not encouraged because of a student's commitment to the other members of the squad and a school's commitment to the N.J.S.I.A.A. to field a team, excused absences are permitted as outlined in the student attendance policy. Valid reasons for absences include: personal illness or injury, illness in the family, religious holidays, funerals, a period of bereavement for death in the family, family vacations, doctor or dental appointments, college visitations or other reasons that are considered valid by the school administration to make absence from practice or competition a necessity. Upon return, the student continues as a member of the team.

It is important for all students to be able to participate in family vacations. However, family vacations for athletes may result in interruptions of practices, competitions or tournament play. For this reason, specific rules must be maintained for athletes to be granted excused absences for family vacations. These rules are as follows:

1. Parents must make requests for excused absences from athletics in writing to the coach, and must do so as far as possible in advance.
2. Each Head Coach should advise the parent that the athlete's standing on the team or squad may suffer as the result of the absence from athletic participation and that, upon return, the athlete is not guaranteed his or her former status on any team or squad. In addition, the athlete may have to compete with others whose performance has improved during the period of vacation.
3. Absence from athletics for family vacation at the end of a season is especially serious because of the post-season championships, playoffs and tournaments. Family vacations for athletes could have an impact upon the total team and, therefore, should be planned with care.

4. Athletes excused for family vacations are considered as valid team members upon return and are eligible for all awards and honors afforded other athletes who did not go on vacation.

## SMOKING

Smoking by athletes is not permitted. Offenders will be dealt with as follows:

- 1st offense: Immediate suspension from the team for **three** full days.
- 2nd offense: Automatic dismissal from the squad for the remainder of the season.

## ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Substance abuse is strictly prohibited. The school district's drug and alcohol policy will be immediately implemented upon violation of this policy:

- 1st Offense: Parent meeting with administration  
**Five** days out of school suspension  
**Ten** school days exclusion from participation in extra curricular activities
- 2nd Offense: Parent meeting with administration  
**Ten** days out of school suspension  
**Forty-five** school days exclusion from participation in extra curricular activities
- 3rd Offense: Parent meeting with administration  
Out of school suspension pending Superintendent's review and/or hearing for expulsion consideration  
**Ninety** school days exclusion from participation in extra curricular activities

Athletes are prohibited from attending parties where drugs/alcohol are present. Those determined to be in attendance at a party or function where drugs or alcohol are present as documented by police notification will be consequence as follows:

- 1st Offense: Parent meeting with administration  
**One** week suspension from team
- 2nd Offense: Parent meeting with administration  
**Thirty** days suspension from the team
- 3rd Offense: Parent meeting with administration  
**Forty-five** day suspension from the team

**Note: Exclusion from extra curricular activities will carry over, if necessary, to the following school year.**

## SCHOOL RULES & REGULATIONS

All team members will abide by the rules and regulations of the school. Suspension from school will also result in dismissal from the team during the suspension.

## DETENTIONS

Any team members receiving detention(s) after school will not be permitted to practice or play in a game on the day of detention. All appeals must be handled directly with the Athletic Director. Chronic detention will result in suspension or perhaps dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season.

## RESPECT

Any act or language deemed disrespectful that is directed at a coach or an official will result in immediate suspension or dismissal from the team.

## CRITERIA OF AWARDS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETES

The criteria for awarding a letter will be based upon an evaluation by the coach or coaches concerning the amount of playing time accumulated by the athlete along with the following criteria:

1. Attitude
2. Attendance
3. Self-discipline
4. Character
5. Skill development
6. Leadership qualities
7. Loyalty qualities

### GUIDELINES FOR VARSITY/JUNIOR VARSITY/FRESHMAN AWARDS::

- a. **Football/Field Hockey/Soccer:** 50% of total game time
- b. **Cross Country:** Finish in top one half for 50% of meets
- c. **Tennis:** 50% of Varsity matches
- d. **Basketball:** 40% of total quarters
- e. **Wrestling:** 50% of total matches
- f. **Baseball/Softball:** 50% of total innings of regular season(Pitchers must accumulate total number of innings equal to total number of regular season games. Ex: - 20 games require 20 innings pitched)
- g. **Lacrosse:** 50% of total game time
- h. **Track:** Must accumulate total number of points equal to number of regular season meets. (Example: 10 meets require minimum of 10 points for season)
- i. **Golf:** 50% of regular schedule
- j. **Swimming:** 50% of Varsity meets/Swimming to average 2 team pts. per meet
- k. **Volleyball:** 50% of Varsity meets
- l. **Cheerleading:** A letter or insert will be awarded at the appropriate level (Varsity - J.V. - Freshman) provided that all attendance and participation requirements are met.
- m. **Color Guard:** Minimum of 3 years experience as squad member
- n. **Managers:** Letters will be awarded on the recommendation of the coach.
- o. The awards for seniors who do not meet the above criteria will be based on the recommendation of the coach.  
**The Coach's Recommendation will supersede any or all of the above criteria in evaluating game time. Exceptions to the criteria will be reviewed with the Athletic Director.**

A letter will be awarded in each sport at the appropriate level (Varsity, J.V., Freshman) the first time an athlete meets the requirements. In succeeding years, when a similar letter is earned, pins and certificates will be issued in lieu of a letter. An athlete must finish the season, including all post-season competition, in good standing to earn an athletic award.

### CRITERIA FOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

1. League Championship team members and coaches will be awarded a jacket by the Board of Education to commemorate their season. The type and style of jacket will be a light to medium weight lined jacket, waist length. The jacket will be a nylon shell or its equivalent, with appropriate lettering. The main color of the jacket will be forest green with white lettering. A minimum of gold trim for styling purposes is permissible. In general, the jacket will be similar to those jackets previously awarded to Championship teams.
2. County Championship teams will also receive jackets.
3. State Championship teams will be awarded rings in addition to jackets as stated above.

**MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL**

**ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT, PERMISSION FORM & RELEASE  
STUDENT ATHLETE AND PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN  
SIGN-OFF SHEET**

We have read and understand the Athletic Code of Conduct and the Parent/Coach Communication of Montville Township High School and agree to comply.

We also understand that participation in interscholastic athletics involves an element of danger and risk of personal injury, and we have chosen to participate with the awareness in mind.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, wish to participate in the following sports.  
(Student's Name)

**For the 2009/2010 School Year**

ONLY ONE (1) SPORT MAY BE CHOSEN FOR EACH SEASON. YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SEASON.

**FALL**

- \_\_\_ Football
- \_\_\_ Boys Soccer
- \_\_\_ Girls Soccer
- \_\_\_ Boys Cross Country
- \_\_\_ Girls Cross Country
- \_\_\_ Girls Tennis
- \_\_\_ Field Hockey
- \_\_\_ Volleyball
- \_\_\_ Cheerleading
- \_\_\_ Marching Band

**WINTER**

- \_\_\_ Girls Basketball
- \_\_\_ Boys Basketball
- \_\_\_ Wrestling
- \_\_\_ Winter Track
- \_\_\_ Swimming
- \_\_\_ Cheerleading
- \_\_\_ Ice Hockey

**SPRING**

- \_\_\_ Girls Lacrosse
- \_\_\_ Boys Lacrosse
- \_\_\_ Baseball
- \_\_\_ Softball
- \_\_\_ Girls Track
- \_\_\_ Boys Track
- \_\_\_ Boys Tennis
- \_\_\_ Golf

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Student's Name)

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

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Student Athlete)

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

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian)

I, the undersigned, as parent or legal guardian, do hereby grant permission to the Montville Township High School Athletic Department to use the image, voice and name of the student athlete named herein in publicity releases and/or videotapes, including the Internet, to be used in conjunction with the Montville Township Public Schools. I affirm that I am the legal parent or guardian of the student athlete named herein.

I, furthermore, hereby consent to the above and relinquish and release all rights pertaining thereto.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian)

