

Over 40 Years of Quality Education



**BEAUFORT ACADEMY**  
**2009-2010**  
**Athletic Handbook**

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## **Beaufort Academy Mission Statement**

Beaufort Academy is a community of learners in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. It is an independent coeducational college preparatory school that serves able students who are motivated to realize their true potential. The Academy is committed to developing the whole person within the framework of the Judeo-Christian tradition. Committed teachers promote honesty, integrity, and respect, while guiding students through a demanding curriculum. Beaufort Academy seeks to inspire in each student a sound sense of responsibility to the community and the environment, with the ultimate goal of instilling in its students a desire for life-long learning and achievement.

## **Athletic Department Philosophy**

At Beaufort Academy, we believe that the entire experience of competing, developing lifelong skills and healthy habits and teaming toward a common goal is invaluable in the growth of a human being. As a key part of the educational tripod of academics, arts and athletics, being a student-athlete enhances physical strength, stamina and coordination, teaches time management through the important responsibility of balance in meeting the myriad expectations of dedicated teachers and coaches, and grows one's sense of sportsmanship, fair play, the value of perseverance, practice, courage, sacrifice and supporting one's teammates through team or individual adversity. The meaning of commitment is embodied in many ways through the experience of team athletics at Beaufort Academy.

## **Athletic Chain of Command**

Headmaster

Athletic Director

Head Coach

Assistant / JV Coaches

Players

If there are any questions or concerns regarding any aspect of a player-coach relationship, the athlete should first contact the appropriate coach. If there is no resolution at this level, he/she should then move onward to the next level in the chain of command hierarchy, until resolution is achieved.

The chain of command is a step-by-step process bringing together the primary individuals for discussion purposes. Each level is in place in order to assist in the product of conflict resolution. Parents are also asked to respect this chain of command model regarding conflict resolution.

## Introduction

Interscholastic athletics can be a fun, rewarding and memorable part of the high school experience. While academics offer the primary source for formal education, athletics can contribute to the total value of that education in many different ways. Building upon the concepts of teamwork, fair play, sportsmanship, and self-esteem, athletics can help to provide for a well-rounded educational experience. Athletic participation is a privilege and not a right. To those who strive to succeed in the classroom comes the privilege to compete outside it.

Being an athlete or the parent of an athlete can be very challenging. Sometimes this relationship can become complicated due to the nature and structure of athletics in general. It is the intent of this Athletic Handbook to provide some insights as to the role and responsibilities that athletes and parents face and share, separately and together, in the realm of high school athletic participation.

The high school sport experience is much different than the recreational sport experience. Whereas recreational sport philosophy stresses equal participation by all, at the interscholastic level playing time is earned and not guaranteed. Student athletes earn playing time through good work ethics in practice, skill development, sportsmanship and overall team attitude.

Likewise, not all who try out for a given team will endure the final selection process to make the team roster. The coaches are responsible for the selection of the team rosters and for the determination of playing time for those on the team. Activities held in the off-season, whether it is for weight training and conditioning, team camps, summer / fall leagues, specialized training, or any other type of out of season participation, can in no way affect a student-athlete's ability to try out for or participate on an in-season team. Participation in any out of season activity is strictly voluntary on the part of the athlete. Coaches may not mandate nor pass judgment based upon out of season participation.

A parent reserves the right to send his/her child to any out of season source for the purpose of conditioning, training or specialized instruction. Participation in Beaufort Academy based out of season opportunities are simply that: opportunities.

## **Section A: RELATIONSHIPS**

### **Player-Coach Relationship:**

All too often during athletic events, situations arise where many adults become too involved in the game in progress, professing to know more than the coaches or even the officials in charge. While this expertise may heighten a person's appreciation for a particular sport, it in no way changes the status of the individual as a parent-spectator. You should be there only to observe and enjoy the athletic performance.

The player-coach relationship is perhaps the most critical of all relationships in athletics. Parents can have a very profound effect upon this important and delicate balance. While you as a parent may not agree with all decisions that a coach may make, how and when he/she expresses his/her feelings can have a decided effect upon the child. If parents express a negative opinion in front of the child, he/she needs to remember that he or she may carry such convictions to the next practice or game. This in turn can lead to a player-coach confrontation. Parents have great influence upon this delicate relationship. Please allow the coaches to do the job for which they were hired.

### **Parent-Coach Relationship:**

As a parent you obviously want what is best for your child. Allowing the coach to guide and instruct the team is crucial. Again, you are asked to please allow the coach to do his/her job.

Should you have any questions or concerns, do not approach the coach immediately after a game. At this time, coaches have other responsibilities, and it may be a very emotional moment. Call and make an appointment for a later time and approach this meeting in a calm and logical manner.

For many coaches, one of the post-game responsibilities is to meet with his/her players. Athletes should not be expected to stop and talk to parents and friends immediately after a game is over. These team meetings are essential to the learning process and are important in efforts to build team unity and understanding.

### **Parent-Player Relationship:**

Being positive and supportive as a parent is very important, but adding pressure and unrealistic expectations may be extremely harmful. Allow your child to enjoy and to grow and to take responsibility for his/her athletic experiences. Encourage your child to give 100% effort and to become a team player, this will go far in preparation for adult life. In the end, it is the child's perception of the game and learning experiences that really matters.

### **Relationship with Game Officials:**

It is often the case that if a game is seemingly leaning toward one side over the other, irate fans will infer an unfair advantage given by the officials. The home school does not select the officials. A sport commissioner assigns all officials and neither team has a say in which officials are assigned to a given game or contest.

Game officials agree to and follow a code of conduct and ethics. They really do not have a vested interest in which team emerges victorious. It is very essential to understand that officials are an integral part of the game.

While you may not agree with all of their calls, please do not harass and taunt game officials. Parents are supposed to be good role models for their children. Remember that officials are in charge of the game and have complete authority to have unruly spectators removed. Coaches, athletic directors and school administrators work hard to establish good working relationships with game officials; this relationship can be easily damaged or destroyed by spectator interference.

Our goal is for the players to play, the coach's coach, the officials to officiate, and the spectators enjoy the event...

## **Section B: RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Responsibilities of the Student-Athlete:**

Student-athletes are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. The team's goals and success should always come before individual interests.
2. Student-athletes need to be in attendance at all scheduled practices and games.
3. Student-athletes must be receptive to coaching styles.
4. Team members are responsible for all issued uniforms and equipment.
5. Student-athletes are responsible for the security of all personal items.
6. As a team member a student-athlete must abide by established team rules.
7. All injuries must be reported to the coach.
8. Strive for academic success in order to assure athletic eligibility.
9. Take pride in being a student-athlete at Beaufort Academy.

\*\*\*\* It is important to remember that participation on an athletic team is a privilege and not a right. Being part of and maintaining one's membership on a given team means accepting all the responsibilities of an athlete. Unlike recreational or intramural teams, equal or guaranteed playing time is not assured. Coaches will make the necessary decisions and utilize those players best suited to the conditions or demands of the particular contest on any given day.

### **Responsibilities of the Coach:**

Coaches are responsible for all of the following:

1. Running fair tryouts and using an effective evaluation process.
2. Determining the style of play, including offensive and defensive philosophy.
3. Teaching, instructing, and overseeing all practice sessions.
4. Determining starting lineups and making decisions regarding playing time.
5. Selecting position players.
6. Establishing and enforcing team and school rules.
7. Selection of team captains.
8. Coordinating communication with players and parents with regards to games and practices.
9. Provide appropriate supervision at all times (before, during, and after all games and practices).
10. Presenting themselves as appropriate role models.
11. Be willing and available to discuss player-coach or parent-coach issues.
12. Be consistent, fair, and respectful of individual differences.

### **Post Practice – Game Responsibilities:**

Student-athletes should not be loitering on school property after practices or games. In an effort to avoid potential risk of injury, property damage, or theft, the following responsibilities have been established.

#### **For the Coach:**

1. Call in game results.
2. Secure all equipment, locker rooms, and appropriate facilities.
3. Supervise locker rooms, lobbies and hallways until all athletes have vacated.

#### **For the Student-Athlete:**

1. Arrange in advance for transportation after practices or games.
2. Leave school property within one half hour after the end of practices / games.
3. Do not leave personal property unattended or unsecured.

## **Section C: SPORTSMANSHIP**

### **Sportsmanship: The School's Role:**

It is the expectation of Beaufort Academy, and more specifically the Athletic Department, that everyone in the Beaufort Academy community will conform to and demonstrate good sportsmanship and fair play during all athletic contests. This concept is presented to the staff and to the athletes throughout the school year.

1. At the coaches meeting sportsmanship is addressed with all current year coaches.
2. The Athletic Director and Headmaster will discuss Beaufort Academy expectations regarding sportsmanship with each team after team selections.
3. The student body is reminded of sportsmanship at all Pep Rallies and other athletic activities.
4. The Blue and White Club is addressed as to the need for good sportsmanship.
5. The sportsmanship slogan is posted and announced at all home games.
6. Student-athletes sign a "Student-Athlete's Pledge" form.

\*\*\*\* The Athletic Department at Beaufort Academy views the need for good sportsmanship as a very important issue. We will continue in our efforts to assure that every student-athlete understands that need as well.

### **Sportsmanship: The Parent's Role:**

Since the concept of athletics should be educational in nature, it is important that all parents demonstrate good sportsmanship and serve as role models for our students and athletes. *"Sportsmanship is an overt display of respect for the rules of sport and for all others – players, coaches, officials, and fans". (National Federation News, March 1995, p.10)*

It also involves a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior, and integrity. This means that:

1. Vulgar or inappropriate language from fans is not tolerated nor permitted.
2. Taunting or trash talking with opponents or with their fans is not tolerated.
3. Spectators may not leave the bleachers or step onto the court or field of play during a game or contest.
4. Fans should be supportive and positive. Cheering should be done for our team, not against our opponent.
5. Fans should not interfere with the opponent's cheerleaders preventing them from leading their cheers.
6. Fans should let the officials officiate. Remember it is after all, only a game.

## **Section D: PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

### **Risks Associated with Athletic Participation:**

The very nature of athletic competition provides for potential risk and injury to occur. Even with protective equipment, proper supervision, and sound instruction, injuries still do happen. In extremely rare cases, even death could result. All student-athletes and parents need to be aware of the potential hazards that exist within the athletic arena. We in Beaufort Academy Athletic Department will always do whatever we can to ensure that our athletes have a safe and healthy athletic experience.

### **Pre-Tryout Eligibility Checklist:**

Student-athletes and their parents have certain responsibilities to uphold even before tryouts begin. All of the following requirements must be satisfied before any student will be allowed to tryout, practice, or participate on an athletic team at Beaufort Academy.

**Physical Examination Form:**

This form must be completed, signed by the parents/guardians and the physician and submitted to the Athletic Director to be kept on file. Student-athletes' must have a "current year" physical exam form on file in order to be cleared and eligible for athletic participation. It is suggested that physical exams be scheduled over the summer months so the entire school year will be cleared for athletic participation. SCISA rules state that every student-athlete must have a completed physical before he/she is allowed to participate, play or practice.

1. Physicals are valid if they are within one calendar year; or
2. The physical was performed after April 1, 2009. A physical dated after April 1, 2009 will be valid for the entire 2009-10 athletic year.

**Athletic Permit Form:**

This form must be completed and signed by the parents/guardians. Sports to be played should be indicated as well as all applicable insurance information. This form should be submitted to the Athletic Director.

**Student-Parent Compliance Form:**

Both the student-athlete and his/her parents/guardians as evidence of reading and understanding the information contained in the Athletic Handbook must sign this form. Student-athletes who tryout and are selected as team members must bring this form with them to the pre-season meet the coaches night for their sport. This meeting is mandatory for team members and their parents. Failure to attend this meeting and to submit this Compliance Form will result in the student-athlete being rendered ineligible for participation.

**Sport Tryouts:**

1. All pre-tryout checklist eligibility items must have been completed.
2. All student-athletes should be given a fair and equitable tryout evaluation.
3. Coaches should utilize an evaluation tool in order to keep track of strengths and weaknesses of those trying out for their sport.
4. Efforts evaluated over the tryout period are the most important factors used to determine team selection. Out of season workouts, camps, or other sport participation are not considered as criteria for selecting team rosters.
5. Not everyone who tries out for a team will make it through to the final selection process. Coaches are responsible for selecting final team rosters and determining playing time during the season.

**Expectations of Rostered Players:**

All student-athletes, who after tryouts, are selected as final rostered players must agree to the following:

1. Agree to sign the "Student-Athlete's Pledge". As a rostered student-athlete you are expected to serve as role models for others. Efforts in the classroom are just as important as efforts on the field. Respect and responsibility go hand in hand. You lead by example when it comes to sportsmanship.
2. As a rostered student-athlete you agree to comply with all school and team rules
3. As a rostered student-athlete you agree to maintain academic and disciplinary eligibility throughout the season.

**Practice Sessions and Games:**

Practice sessions may be closed to spectators at the discretion of the coaches. These sessions are the equivalent of a teacher's classroom and there is real instruction taking place. Interference and interruptions to an athlete's concentration and focus in practice cannot be allowed any more than a disruption would be tolerated in an academic classroom. Coaching should not be compromised.

**Practice Sessions:**

1. May last up to, but not more than two and one half hours.
2. May start and end at different times due to the schedule of coaches and or the availability of our facilities.
3. Will not be held when school is dismissed early or closed due to inclement weather.
4. May be held in the evening and over holiday break periods.
5. Attendance is mandatory. Lateness will not be tolerated.
6. Athletes may not be penalized for missed practice time in order to gain academic help or to make up missed tests or quizzes.

**Eligibility: Academic or Disciplinary Procedures**

The student-athletes at Beaufort Academy are here for their education first and foremost. Athletic participation is a privilege and granted only to those who are deserving of this opportunity. Problems with grades and or behavior are justifiable reasons for Academic or Disciplinary Ineligibility. Student-athletes are expected to:

1. Maintain a cumulative academic average of no less than 75 in each academic subject...
2. Meet all academic criteria for eligibility as stated in the SCISA handbook.
3. Remain in good disciplinary standing.
4. Attend school on time in order to be eligible to practice or play on a daily basis.

If a student-athlete has an In-School or Out-of-School Suspension, they will not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for that day.

\*\*\*\* Please refer to the Student Handbook for specific interpretations of all Academic and Disciplinary Eligibility procedures, regulations and SCISA Rules and Regulations.

**Uniforms and Equipment:**

At the beginning of each season, the head coach distributes all necessary uniforms and equipment. As a student-athlete you are responsible for the care and return of all issued goods at the end of the season. The head coach will determine the collection times. Failure to return uniforms or equipment will result in an extracurricular ineligibility and a financial obligation for replacement of the outstanding items.

**Changing Teams:**

In fairness to coaches and team members, a student-athlete can leave one team and join another but only after the following conditions have been satisfied.

1. Any player cut from a team during tryouts may immediately tryout for another team if that team has not already completed its scheduled tryouts.
2. Any player quitting a team must have the original coach's approval to try out for another team. All uniform and equipment obligations must be met before approval can be given.
3. Any player quitting a team cannot participate in any other sports preseason activities until the original sports season has concluded.
4. Any player dismissed from a team must have the original coach's and the athletic director's approval before joining another team.
5. Any player who quits one team prior to the end of the season cannot tryout or participates on another team unless they have the permission of the original team coach and the athletic director.

**Transportation:**

Student-athletes must travel as a team to athletic contests, on the bus if available. Once a game is over student-athletes are expected to return to school as a team, on the bus provided. Proper behavior is expected of all student-athletes when on bus trips.

The only exception to this rule is if parents wish to take his/her own child home with them. Arrangements must be made in advance if a parent will be transporting someone else's child. The coach must receive written notice from the other parent at least 24 hours prior to the event.

**Off Site Practices and Games:**

In some sports off campus facilities may be used. Transportation is an issue that must be organized and planned. Beaufort Academy cannot provide daily transportation for these activities so parental assistance from those on the approved driver list, coaches as drivers, or individual driving may be necessary. Again, parental permission is essential in response to any transportation issues outside of normal team transportation.

**Early Dismissals:**

For some athletic events students may be dismissed from school before normal dismissal times with administrative approval. Early dismissal from classes for athletic reasons does not release student-athletes from class-work responsibilities. Each student-athlete must make arrangements for getting assignments, taking missed quizzes or tests, and/or handing in homework. Student-athletes will have 15 minutes from dismissal until bus departure.

**Lateness / Absenteeism:**

As per the Beaufort Academy Blue Book, absence of more than four academic periods in one day will be considered as a full day's absence and the student will be unable to participate in extracurricular activities that day. This includes practices and games. A student-athlete who is dismissed from school early due to illness is also unable to return to school to participate in extracurricular activities that day.

A student-athlete will not be tardy to school following a game night unless they have a written doctor's excuse.

**Dress for Away Athletic Events:**

Because our student-athletes are ambassadors of our school each time they leave our campus, it is expected that their appearance will be appropriate. Teams that do not dress in their sport uniform before leaving campus are to be in school uniform. Warm-ups over non-athletic team uniforms are not allowed.

**Game Jerseys on Game Days:**

Student-athletes are allowed to wear their game jerseys to school on game days. All team members must be wearing the same top that was approved by the head coach. If the privilege is abused, all student-athletes will be in school uniforms every day unless otherwise advised.

**Injuries:**

Any time that a student-athlete becomes injured in a practice or game setting, the head coach should be made aware and an accident report completed by the coach and athlete. The Athletic Director should be advised of the injury by the coach. A visit to a doctor will yield a determined return to play date. No student-athlete will be allowed to participate further until that date is reached and a note of clearance is issued by the attending physician and received by the Athletic Director.

**Athletic Awards:**

Varsity letters and junior varsity certificates will be awarded to all team members who attain the criteria determined by the head coach and approved by the Athletic Director. Beaufort Academy will hold an All-Sports Banquet. In order to qualify for post-season awards the student-athlete must have completed the season in good standing and have fulfilled all team obligations, including return of uniforms and equipment. Attendance at these ceremonies is mandatory for students to receive their awards.

Each head coach may present awards at the annual banquet in the following categories:

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Coaches Award

Student-Athlete Award for Scholarship

**Other awards may be deemed appropriate by the specific sport head coach and approved by the Athletic Director. The head coach will notify the Athletic Director of the awards and recipients within two weeks of the conclusion of the season. The head coach will also identify student-athletes for special SCISA awards and assist in the nomination process.**

**Steroids:**

Beaufort Academy Athletic Department does not condone the use of prohibited substances such as steroids, nor support the use of other over the counter supplements which contain artificial or naturally occurring substances that increase heart rate, blood pressure, or promote unhealthy muscle tissue growth. Use of any of these products, which may be detrimental to a student-athlete, is a violation of the Athlete's Pledge.

**Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco:**

School rules are very specific as to the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco products. The use of or possession / distribution of any of these substances is forbidden. Student-athletes who violate this "no use" policy are subject to possible dismissal from athletic teams and the school. Use of any of these products, which may be detrimental to a student-athlete's health, is a violation of the Athlete's Pledge.

**Theft:**

Stealing will not be tolerated under any circumstances, whether it is from teammates, opponents, or others. Any student-athlete involved in a theft will be immediately dismissed from his/her team and normal disciplinary procedures will be imposed. This is a zero tolerance policy. Do not leave personal items unattended or unsecured in locker rooms or hallways. Students should take personal items to practice, if necessary.

**Fund Raising:**

Only school sanctioned fundraisers are permitted. All other inquiries regarding fund raising must be directed to the athletic director and headmaster.

**Blue and White Club:**

The Blue and White Club exists to support all teams of the Athletic Department at Beaufort Academy. The Athletic Director serves as the liaison between the Blue and White Club and the School. The Blue and White Club runs and promotes various activities in effort to support the athletic program and promote school spirit and pride. Parents are encouraged to join this organization and to become active members.

**Athletic Team Trips:**

Just as the classroom is designed to provide for an educational experience the realm of sports can also be very educational. At times, athletic opportunities provide for teams to take overnight and extended team trips. The experience of travel and the opportunity to compete make these events valuable additions to the overall high school experience.

Student-athletes are representatives of Beaufort Academy and as such carry a great deal of responsibility when teams travel. Best behavior is not only requested but also mandatory. All school rules apply when teams travel, and violation of school and team rules carry disciplinary consequences. Athletes should be sure to familiarize themselves with the Blue Book, regarding rules and consequences.

In order for a team to travel certain mandates must be specified. There must be a rationale of why the trip is being considered. There must be adequate and appropriate chaperones. Financial obligations must be determined and satisfied before the trip occurs. This includes travel days. The Athletic Director and Headmaster must approve all overnight trips.

**College Visitation:**

Student athletes are allowed, as excusable absences, one college visit during the Junior year and two visits during the Senior year. Students are responsible for any missed academic work during these visits. Coaches may not penalize an athlete for missing practice time due to a college visit.

**Hazing Procedures:**

The process of hazing, forced or coerced commitment of an unpleasant or undesired action, by members of a team or the coaching staff, is strictly forbidden. Hazing activities will carry a punishment to include, possible dismissal from a team by those involved, and any other stated disciplinary procedures established by the school.

**Section E: LEAGUE GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION****South Carolina Independent Schools Association:**

Refer to the addendum for specific SCISA rules and regulations. Parents and student-athletes can access all applicable league rules, policies and regulations by going to the following website: [www.scisa.org](http://www.scisa.org)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

It is our hope that all student-athletes will find their overall athletic experience to be worthwhile, enjoyable and a valuable contribution to the entire Judeo-Christian educational process at Beaufort Academy. You should be proud of your school, confident in your education, and satisfied with your athletic experience. If you can look back as a graduate of Beaufort Academy and feel good about the overall process, then we have been successful in nurturing your academic, spiritual, physical and emotional development.

**Beaufort Academy**  
**THE STUDENT-ATHLETE'S PLEDGE**

*At Beaufort Academy sportsmanship is an expectation. Our goal is to let the players play, let the coaches coach, let the officials officiate and let the spectators be positive.*

As a student-athlete at Beaufort Academy, I promise to:

- Represent my school, my coaches, my teammates and myself in a manner that is appropriate and just.*
- Maintain a healthy and competitive approach to athletics.*
- Accept responsibility for my actions both on the playing field and in the classroom.*
- Lead by example in the areas of self-respect and respect for others.*
- Compete to the best of my abilities.*
- Refrain from the use of prohibited substances such as steroids, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products.*
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and fair play at all times*
- Understand that academics take priority over athletics.*
- Be thankful for good health and athleticism.*

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

**Sport:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Beaufort Academy**  
**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK COMPLIANCE FORM**

*As a rostered student athlete and as the parents/guardians of this student athlete, we affirm that we have read and understand the contents of the "Athletic Handbook for Athletes and Parents."*

- We understand and will abide by the "Athletic Chain of Command"*
- We will strive to make the "Athletic Experience" a positive one*
- We will attend the mandatory pre-season meet the coaches meeting*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Athlete Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Signature**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sport**

# South Carolina Independent School Association Athletic Rules, Regulations, and Forms 2009-2010

## Section IV: Eight Semester Rule

The primary purpose of school is **EDUCATION**. The participation in Athletics is a privilege for those students who are academically eligible.

**EIGHT SEMESTER RULE:** All students will have Eight (8) Consecutive Semesters of Eligibility beginning when he/she first enters the ninth grade, regardless of whether he/she participates in athletics or not. Exceptions to the *Eight Semester Rule* may be granted by the Athletic Committee for a **DOCUMENTED**

**MEDICAL CONDITION, caused by an illness or injury**, which prevented his/her attending school sufficiently to pass.

A request for a waiver may be considered at the time that the facts have been determined. *Example: Student A was unable to attend school during the tenth grade because of an extended illness. A request for a waiver could be made and considered as soon as he/she recovers. All requests for waivers must be made in writing by the Headmaster.*

Requests for an Eight Semester Waiver must contain the following:

1. A written request from the school for an Eight Semester Waiver.
2. A Completed Form A - Eight Semester Waiver Request
3. A copy of: A. Birth Certificate; B. Complete Transcript.
4. Documented medical information from a licensed healthcare provider stating the causal relationship between the medical condition and the school absences.
5. Detailed attendance records clearly indicating and corresponding to absences directly related to the documented medical condition.
6. Statement from the school administration attesting to the academic failure/retention due to excessive absences caused by a documented medical condition. Also, detailed information addressing how/why academic assistance would or would not be able to bring the student up to standard.
7. A written appeal brief must be filed, in its entirety, ten days prior to a scheduled meeting.
8. The school may request to personally appear before the Athletic Committee. Presentations to the Athletic Committee shall be limited to 15 minutes.

*The decisions of the Athletic Committee (whether appealed or not) to grant a waiver shall not be considered as setting a precedent for other cases of somewhat similar nature.*

# THE SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION 2009-10

### 1. STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The primary purpose of school is education. The participation in athletics is a privilege for those students who are eligible according to rules and policies of the SCISA.

### 2. SUMMARY OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT:

All fans, spectators, coaches, and student-athletes are encouraged to enthusiastically support his/her school and team. We all must realize that the athletic arena is an extension of the classroom. Valuable lessons other than winning and losing are taught. The safety and well-being of students, coaches, and officials is of utmost importance to us all. Athletic events shall be conducted in accordance with the policies, rules, and regulations of the South Carolina Independent School Association. Participants, coaches, and spectators shall at all times conduct themselves in a reasonable and sportsmanlike manner.

A participant, coach or fan will be violation of the Code of Conduct upon any one or more of the following actions:

- By making any degrading remark about any official, coach, or athlete during or after a game, either on or off the field/floor of play.
- By arguing with an official or going through motions indicating dislike or disdain for a decision.
- By using any foul, abusive, or profane language at any time.
- By entering the playing area or field to protest, question, or object to a call or play.
- By hitting, shoving or striking any official, coach, athlete or fan at any time (or attempting to do so).
- By being ejected/removed from any contest.
- By detaining an official following the contest to request a ruling or explanation. By following/chasing after the official after a game to express your displeasure or opinion with a call or result of a play or game.
- By the use or display of alcohol, tobacco or an unauthorized drug.

Violations of the Code of Conduct could result in a school, player or fan being fined, suspended or placed on probation. The school shall be notified of the action taken by SCISA and will be responsible for the enforcement of the action.

### 3. WARNING OF INHERENT RISK/DANGERS OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Participation in athletics includes the risk of injury which may range in severity from minor to disabling to even death. Although serious injuries are not common in supervised programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants can and do have a responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Participants must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems, follow guidelines for safe play and inspect his/her own equipment and report any problems.

### 4. SUMMARY OF STUDENT ELIGIBILITY RULES

**Eight Semester Rule:** A student has Eight (8) Consecutive Semesters of eligibility from the time he/she first enters the ninth (9th) grade.

**Academic Requirements:** A student in grades 9-12 must take and pass at least four (4), one unit CORE courses or any five (5), one unit courses each grading period/semester. Students below the 9th grade must pass four (4) subjects each grading period/semester. A senior who has met or is meeting all requirements for graduation must pass four (4), one credit courses each marking period/semester. *Note: a student must have earned at least four (4) core units or any five (5) units of credit to be declared eligible at the start of a school year. Also, credits or courses taken by the "Home School" method during the school year are not eligible for athletic eligibility determination.*

Any student who did not receive credit for at least 50% (one-half) of all courses taken the previous school year cannot be declared eligible for athletic participation until the successful completion of the first semester.

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A student who is academically ineligible to participate is also prohibited from practicing with the team until the time he/she is academically eligible to participate.

### **Grade Level Requirements/Restrictions:**

**Varsity Teams:** Eligible students in grades **8-12** may participate on varsity teams in baseball, basketball, soccer, football and softball. Eligible students in grades **6-12** may participate on varsity teams in tennis, golf, swimming, cross country, track, cheer and volleyball. *Note: To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 9th grade before permitting participation on any varsity team.*

**Junior Varsity Teams:** Eligible students in grades 5-10 may participate on junior varsity teams in all sports except football. **Junior Varsity Football:** Eligible students in grades 6-9 may participate in junior varsity football.

*Note: To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 9th grade before permitting participation on any junior varsity team.*

### **Grade Level Requirements/Restrictions:**

**B-Teams:** Eligible students in the 8th grade and below may participate on B-Teams in all sports except football.

**B-Team Football:** Eligible students in the 7th grade and below may participate on B-Team football.

*Note: To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 6th grade before permitting participation on any B-Team.*

### **Age Requirements/Restrictions:**

A student is **INELIGIBLE** to participate in athletics if his/her 19th birthday is before July 1, 2009.

*Note: There are no exceptions to the age standards.*

**Junior Varsity:** In order to participate in junior varsity athletics a student must not have reached his/her sixteenth (16th) birthday before July 1, 2009.

**B-Team:** In order to participate in B-Team athletics a student must not have reached his/her fifteenth (15th) birthday before July 1, 2009. Exception: B-Team Football: In order to participate in B-Team football, a student must not have reached his/her fourteenth (14th) birthday before July 1, 2009.

### **TRANSFER RULES:**

A student who transfers after having: A. attended one class or B. filed the Agreement for Participation during the defined sports season or practices with team on or after first official practice date must wait sixty (60) days to become eligible. This may be waived for a *bono fide* change in residence.

A transfer must have attended classes for thirty days prior to the start of the play-offs to be eligible to participate in the play-offs.

An academically eligible transfer student (*school year transfer as defined above*) must have been eligible to represent his/her former school under any school, student, or athletic policy that was in place when the student transferred or the student must wait for ninety (90) calendar days to become eligible.

A student who transfers before the start of the school year (*has not attended one class and has not practiced with the team on or after the first official practice date*) and has met all eligibility standards is eligible for athletic participation.

### **RECRUITING:**

A student must not have transferred as a result of recruiting or undue influence. Refer to SCISA *Blue Book* for clarification of recruiting.

### **GUARDIANSHIP:**

A student must reside with his/her parent(s) to be eligible for athletic participation. Refer to the SCISA *Blue Book* for a clarification of a legally appointed guardian.

**Medical Insurance Coverage Statement**

It is important for a parent to understand his/her school's medical insurance coverage policy. SCISA requires that each school participate in the associational catastrophic plan which provides coverage in the event of a catastrophic injury.

***Participant and Parent/Legal Guardian Permission***

\_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) has my permission to participate in athletics. We have read and understand the philosophy of the SCISA, the Code of Conduct, and the Summary of Eligibility Rules. We understand that there are inherent risks in all athletics and that injuries do occur. The South Carolina Independent School Association may examine school records of the student whose name appears above in order to verify eligibility. I understand that this form is considered to be a binding contract. The student whose name appears above may only participate in athletics for the school named below. Transfer to another school after this form has been filed will subject the student to the Sixty Day Rule. I also agree not to hold the South Carolina Independent School association or any of its agents, members, employees or affiliate Organizations responsible in the event of an accident or injury. I further authorize any and all emergency medical treatment for the student named and will be responsible for any and all such cost.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The South Carolina Independent School Association  
**Warning of Inherent Risk**  
**Minor Waiver/Release**

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR MINOR PARTICIPANTS READ BEFORE SIGNING**

IN CONSIDERATION OF (name of student participant) \_\_\_\_\_, my child/ward, being allowed to participate in any way in the related events and activities of the **SCISA Athletic Association and this school's athletic program**, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. The risk of injury to my child/ward from the activities involved in athletic programs exist, including the potential for permanent disability and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,

2. I FOR MYSELF, SPOUSE, AND CHILD/WARD, I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my child/ward's participation; and,

3. I willingly agree to comply with the program's stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If I observe any unusual significant concern in my child/ward's readiness for participation and/or in the program itself, I will remove my child/ward from the participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,

4. I for myself, my spouse, my child/ward, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assign, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS The South Carolina Independent School Association, this school (Beaufort Academy) and its directors, officers, officials, agents, employees, volunteers, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the Event, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property incident to my child/ward's involvement or participation in these programs, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

5. I, for myself, my spouse, my child's/ward, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS all the above Releases from any and all liabilities incident to my child's/ward involvement or participation in these programs, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE) Date Signed:

**UNDERSTANDING OF RISK**

I understand the seriousness of the risks involved in participating in this program, my personal Responsibilities for adhering to rules and regulation, and accept them as a participant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE) Date Signed

**SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
***Pre-Participation Health Assessment***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Person to Notify for Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

Their Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

*History to be completed by student and parents*

Yes No (Check One)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Did your grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters under the age of 50 have heart problems or high blood pressure?

*Have You Ever Had Or Do You Presently Have:*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Heart murmur, high blood pressure, extra heart beats, heart abnormality?

3. \_\_\_\_\_ The need for using medications? name: \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Concussion or problem "passing out"?

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Medicine allergy? name: \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Any illness, condition, or injury that lasted longer than a week? name: \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitalization or surgery? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_ Dental appliance?

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Contacts or eye glasses?

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Need to stop while running around a 1/4 mile track twice?

11. \_\_\_\_\_ An illness or injury that caused you to miss a game or practice? \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_ Congenital absence or loss of function of one organ (eye, ear...)?

13. \_\_\_\_\_ Headaches (frequent)?

14. \_\_\_\_\_ Asthma?

15. \_\_\_\_\_ Convulsions (seizures)? \_\_\_\_\_ How many? \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_ Neck or Spine injury? \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_ Broken bones? \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_ Sprains or dislocations? \_\_\_\_\_

19. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of last tetanus shot? \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_ Females: Have you had a period in the last six months?

21. \_\_\_\_\_ Females: Do menstrual cramps keep you from your regular activity?

***Parent's Permission for Son or Daughter to Participate in Athletics***

As the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I give my consent for their participation in athletics and the evaluation for that participation. I do not hold the school responsible in any way. I also grant permission for treatment deemed necessary for a condition arising during participation in these activities, including medical or surgical treatment recommended by a medical doctor, I understand that every effort will be made to contact me prior to treatment. I certify that the medical history is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_