

**IROQUOIS
JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**



**2023–2024
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

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Introduction

If you are reading this handbook, then you are an athlete of Iroquois Junior-Senior High School.

Joining an athletic team will be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. Athletic participation teaches teamwork, leadership, time management, sportsmanship, and dedication. The most important part of being a student-athlete is the memories that will stay with you for a lifetime. You have made the determination to be a student-athlete, and for that alone, you should be proud.

School Board Policy 123 states, *"The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all district students and as a conduit for community involvement. The program fosters the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and stimulates community interest. The game, activities, and practice sessions provide opportunities to teach the values of competition, sportsmanship, and teamwork."*

Take pride in receiving this handbook because you are one of a select few in our school that has made the commitment to be a part of something bigger than the individual. Whether you are competing on a field, a court, or in the pool, you now stand as one of the elite. Many have gone before you, but you are now about to share in your part of Iroquois history. Once you graduate, most of you will never have the opportunity to play an organized sport again. Embrace your sport and create your own memories.

The goal of Iroquois athletics is to create well-rounded student-athletes. The lessons taught from involving yourself in athletic competition will be some of the hardest but most satisfying lessons of your entire life. While your team may not always be successful, you will learn from the taste of defeat. However, you should keep in mind that nothing is more satisfying than giving one hundred percent of yourself in achieving a hard fought victory.

Remember...

**The name on the front of the jersey represents your school. The name on the back represents your family.
Make both proud.**

MANY ARE STRONG, BUT FEW ARE BRAVES . . .

Athletic Guidelines

Purpose

This Handbook is for your personal use to assist you in understanding the purpose of our interscholastic athletic program. Iroquois Junior-Senior High School has endeavored to provide what you should know about the conditions set forth by school and the PIAA as well as your responsibility to yourself, your team, and your school. Any situations not covered in this handbook may be resolved by the Coach, Athletic Director or Building Principal.

Athletics

The primary purpose of the athletic program in the Iroquois School District is to promote the physical, social, and emotional wellbeing of the participants. Iroquois High School is a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA).

The athletic program is an important and integral part of the total school program and is open to participation by all students regardless of individual differences. Through voluntary participation, the athletes give time, energy, and loyalty to the program. They also accept the training rules, regulations, and responsibilities, which are unique to an athletic program. In order to contribute to the welfare of the group, the athlete must willingly assume these obligations because the role demands that the individual make sacrifices not required of others.

Student-athletes must keep in mind that they are always in the public eye, and their personal conduct will always be subject to the scrutiny of their fellow students, fans, opponents, and the media. They, therefore, have an obligation to serve as positive role models by subscribing to the following:

1. Showing respect for authority and property.
2. Maintaining academic eligibility and training rules.
3. Emphasizing the ideals of sportsmanship, loyalty, ethical conduct and fair play.
4. Understanding that striving to win is important to success in athletics just as in every facet of life.

Any display of unsportsmanlike behavior toward an opponent, official, coach, spectator or school personnel during the season will not be tolerated.

Attendance at Practice and Contests

Each member of any team is required to make a commitment to that sport during the season. Part of that commitment involves being at every scheduled practice and contest throughout the season. Unexcused absence from scheduled practices/contests will result in:

1. Counseling by the Head Coach and notification of parents, if necessary.
2. Suspension from the team and possible dismissal for the remainder of the season if subsequent violations occur. Suspension is at the discretion of the Coach. Dismissal requires administrative knowledge and approval.

Eligibility

Students who participate in extra-curricular activities, including sports or school-sponsored academic teams, are subject to **The No F Rule** on a weekly basis. Eligibility will be determined each week on Friday. All teachers are responsible for submitting accurate weekly grades before the start of school (7:48 a.m.) on Friday. Teacher grades may not be changed once submitted. Students determined to be ineligible or in need of tutoring will have from the following Monday to Friday to schedule and complete the required tutoring.

Eligibility – (continued)

For Junior and Senior High students, the first two (2) weeks of the grading period, eligibility will be kept, but not enforced. PIAA requirements must be met during this 2-week period.

- A student with 1 “F” can still play, practice, and participate with their team or activity. However, s/he must attend a 50-minute tutoring session before or after school with a subject area teacher the week of the eligibility period.
- Students who have 2 “F”s must attend two (2) after-school tutoring sessions during the week, one for each class. Students are permitted to practice with two “F”s. If a student fails to attend tutoring for all subjects, s/he is ineligible for the following week.
- Students who have 3 “F”s must attend two (2) tutoring sessions to become eligible for the following week. These athletes are expected to attend all team practices as non-participants. They will not dress for practice. Instead, they will be required to complete schoolwork on the sidelines or serve as a manager for the team. For games, the student will travel with the team, but the student will not dress or participate in the competition. Instead, s/he will serve as a team manager or maintain statistics, etc. during the event.
- Students who have more than 3 “F”s will attend tutoring but are not permitted to play, practice, or travel with the team under PIAA guidelines.
- Students who frequently fail to meet the academic standards set forth may be removed from the team with administrative approval.
- Students will not be held to the “F” standard in a class for which no grades were entered by the teacher for two (2) consecutive weeks.

Students who fail to meet their tutoring obligation will be suspended from practice and competition based on the number of sessions they failed to attend. The terms of the suspension will be sent to coaches at the end of each eligibility week. It is the coaches obligation to inform the player and parent of the suspension.

- **Failing to attend 1 tutoring session → suspension from gameplay for 1 week.**
- **Failing to attend 2 tutoring session → suspended from gameplay and practice for 1 week.**

Tutoring:

- Tutoring for major subject areas will be offered twice each week, whenever possible.
- Non-core subject area tutoring will have to be worked out with individual teachers.
- Students unable to meet with the subject area teacher during their scheduled tutorial must attend before or after school tutoring.
- This tutoring must be for a period of fifty (50) minutes before or after normal school hours (7:48 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.).
- It is up to the individual student to confirm when and where the tutoring will occur during that week.

If there is a shortened week due to a holiday, weather cancellation, or other unforeseen circumstance, the Principal and Athletic Director may allow for alterations to the tutoring procedures

Athletic Uniforms

Equipment and uniforms are issued to students on a loan basis and are to be worn only when authorized by the Coach. Students who are issued school athletic uniforms are responsible for returning them in clean condition at the end of the season to their respective coach. If any of the equipment is not personally returned at the conclusion of the season, an obligation will be issued to the student for the fair

Athletic Uniform– *(Continued)*

cost of the replacement. The student will not be eligible for athletic awards and will not be permitted to participate in any future athletic season until the obligation is resolved to the satisfaction of the athletic department. If monetary obligations are not met for the equipment or uniform, the Iroquois School District retains the right to withhold a student's diploma until all obligations are satisfied.

Attendance and Tardiness

Tardy students, who are involved in athletics, will not be permitted to participate in an athletic contest, practice, or activity on the day that their tardiness took place. A student must be in his/her first period classroom on time and remain in school for the balance of the day in order to actively participate in an athletic contest/practice on that same day. If the student has an approved medical appointment, s/he is excused from this requirement. The student must present a signed statement from the doctor to the Principal and a copy to the Athletic Director regarding the absence. Any student wishing to play or practice must be in school for a minimum of three (3) periods. College visitations, funerals, and other extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.

If a student is absent on the last school day of the week, and the competition is on the following non-school day, the student must have administrative and parental permission to participate. It is also recommended that the Coach call the parent regarding the absence.

Any student who has been injured and has had medical treatment cannot participate until medical clearance has been granted in writing by the parent and the physician.

Coaching Rules

Two weeks prior to the PIAA determined start of the season, the Principal and Athletic Director must approve any additional disciplinary rules and regulations developed by the Head Coach of any sport. These additional rules and regulations must be in writing and on file in the athletic office.

General Regulations

Student-athletes should leave all valuables at home or with coaches, not in the locker room. Student-athletes should be neatly groomed and properly dressed when traveling to any contest. No athlete may quit one sport and try out for another after the season has begun without mutual consent of both coaches and the Athletic Director. Any civil law infraction or conduct by a student-athlete that occurs during a sport season that is determined by the Administration to be detrimental to the athletic program or the school district will result in counseling by the School Administration and Head Coach and possible suspension/dismissal from the team.

Student-Athlete Conduct

Violations of the Iroquois School District Code of Student Conduct that require administrative action will be handled in accordance with the provisions of the code. For example, if a violation involves in-school suspension (ISS) or out-of-school suspension (OSS), then said athlete will be suspended from active participation (attendance required) in practice/contests throughout the suspension period. Student-athletes may return to practice or competition on the day the entire suspension is completed. Student-athletes assigned detention may participate in scheduled practices or events at the Coach's discretion. It should be clearly understood that the same standard of behavior and discipline for the regular student shall be the minimum acceptable level for the student-athlete, and any violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in forfeiture of the privilege to participate on an Iroquois athletic team.

The Administration of Iroquois High School reserves the right to investigate and impose disciplinary actions against any student-athlete in violation of an appropriate code of conduct during a sporting event or practice both home and away.

Transportation to/from Athletic Events

Student-athletes and extra-curricular participants must ride the bus to and from all events unless permission is granted by the Head Coach/Advisor for the student to be transported by his/her parent or guardian. Students are not permitted to drive themselves to and from events unless approved by the building principal with written parental consent. Students are not permitted to transport other students. The request forms are available from the Coach/Advisor or in the high school office and a parent must complete a request form and submit it to the Head Coach/Advisor prior to the event.

A note from a player/student is unacceptable. Alternate transportation requests may be accepted by the Coach/Advisor at away events at their discretion. A parent/guardian can only be responsible for his/her son/daughter. A parent or guardian cannot drive an athlete who is not his or her son or daughter home from an event. (This is not permitted even with a note from the other student's parent.) Students are not to be released from the away event by the Head Coach or Advisor without "face-to-face" confirmation that the student is leaving with their parent or guardian.

Students are not to ride with coaches or representatives of the school to practice or events either in or out of the regularly scheduled sporting season.

Team Captains

In most circumstances, student-athletes displaying dedication and leadership may be named as a team captain. Criteria for the selection of team captains will rest solely with the coaching staff. Captains will be selected based on merit and will be named weekly or seasonally by the Coach. The selection of team captains may be limited to seniors, but the grade level of a captain is also at the discretion of the Coach or coaching staff.

Initiations/Hazing

It is the goal of the athletic department to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational beliefs of the District and must be reported immediately to the Administration.

Hazing is defined as, any action that endangers the well-being or safety of a student-athlete for the purpose of initiation or involvement on any team recognized by the Board of Education.

No student, coach, volunteer or District employee shall condone any hazing activity. The Administration will investigate all complaints of hazing and take an appropriate action for any actions determined to be a form of hazing or initiation.

Early Dismissal

Early dismissal for afternoon contests is based on travel time and proper warm-up time needed prior to the start of the contest.

1. Any scheduled athletic event may result in a student-athlete missing part, or all, of some classes.
2. Student-athletes are responsible to see the assigned teacher for any missed work, lectures, or assignments.
3. No student-athlete will be academically punished for missing a class due to athletic competition.
4. Student-athletes, who leave class prior to the announced departure time, will be regarded as skipping class and will be subject to disciplinary actions as determined by the Principal.
5. Occasionally students are held back from afternoon sessions at ECTS due to athletic competition. These students must report immediately to the library and are not permitted under any circumstances from leaving school property. If a student athlete leaves the school prior to dismissal, that student will not participate in the afterschool contest and will be assigned ISS.

Parental Contact

Parents are encouraged to speak directly to the Coach or coaching staff regarding issues involving their student-athlete. It is recommended that, in all cases, the parents follow an established chain of command: (Coach → Athletic Director → Building Principal → Superintendent → Board Member). In most cases, if the proper chain of command is not followed for a complaint, the parent will be directed to speak to the appropriate personnel. Parents expressing any questions or concerns are asked not to approach the Coach immediately following an event. It is encouraged that an appointment is made at a later date to discuss any concerns.

Appropriate concerns parents may wish to discuss with a Coach:

- Management of their child
- Ways to help their child improve
- Concerns about their child's behavior

Issues not appropriate to discuss with Coaches:

- Team strategy & play calling
- Playing time
- Other student-athletes

Playing Time

Playing time is at the discretion of the coaching staff. The Administration of Iroquois High School will not intervene in the decisions made by the Coach unless undue discrimination can be proven beyond a shadow of a doubt.

Student-Athlete Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco/Nicotine Policy - Policy 227.1

The Board considers participation in athletic competition to be a privilege and not a right. Students choosing to participate in athletics are expected to accept the responsibilities that accompany the privilege. Among these responsibilities is the obligation to be drug, alcohol and tobacco/nicotine-free on a year-round basis. Toward this end, students participating in District athletics are required to cooperate with and agree to be tested for drugs in accordance with this policy. As an athlete, a student is a representative of the District and the community at large. The District recognizes athletes as role models for younger students who frequently model their own conduct and lifestyle on that of the student-athlete. Thus, when a student chooses to participate in athletics, s/he has also chosen to accept the responsibility of modeling a drug, alcohol and tobacco/nicotine-free standard.

The District recognizes that drugs, alcohol and tobacco/nicotine products have a serious and deleterious effect on motivation, memory, judgment, reaction time, coordination and performance, and that continued or long-term usage of these substances can compound these problems and negatively affect the user academically, physically, and emotionally. In addition, impaired athletes could injure themselves and/or others while engaged in the athletic program.

The primary purpose of this policy is to provide students with motivation and reason to refrain from the use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco/nicotine products and to provide assistance for those who have a problem with substance abuse.

It is not the intention of this policy to punish students nor to penalize a student who is taking a medication pre-scribed by a licensed physician for treatment of a medical condition. It is not the intention of this policy for District officials to report any positive test results to law enforcement without a subpoena, which the District will not initiate.

- ❖ Proof of drug usage by a student-athlete may include but is not limited to drug testing, possession of drugs, admission of usage, being under the influence, or documentation of usage through social media.

Student-Athlete Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco/Nicotine Policy – (Continued)

Athlete - Any student choosing to participate on an athletic team or cheerleading squad (including managers, student trainers, student aides, etc.).

Athletic Year - The athletic year begins the date of the first PIAA approved practice for that sport and continues for 365 days thereafter. Each student participating in athletics agrees to be tested at any time, or any number of times, during the athletic year.

Distribution - Giving, selling, passing to another person, or otherwise facilitating transfer.

Drug - Shall mean controlled substance as defined in Pennsylvania under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, 35 P.S. Section 780-101 et. seq. as; (i) substances recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, or official National Formulary or any supplement to either of them; and (ii) substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in man or other animals; and (iii) substances (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the human body or other animal body; and (iv) substances intended for use as a component of any article specified in clause (i), (ii), or (iii), but not including devices or their components, parts or accessories. For purposes of this policy, this definition includes steroids.

Drug Paraphernalia - Shall mean paraphernalia as defined in Pennsylvania under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, 35 P.S. Section 780-101 et. seq. as; all equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance.

Misrepresented Substance - A substance which has been inaccurately described or implied to another individual as a drug or controlled substance, or has been implied to have a value other than its actual value (i.e. "look-a-likes").

MRO -The Medical Review Officer (MRO) is a licensed physician hired by the District to review and analyze drug test results.

In-Season Athletic Days - First legal day of practice through the conclusion of the regular season unless the athlete is selected for post-season competition.

Possession - Keeping or carrying in hands, pockets, wallets, purses or anywhere about the body, as well as in lockers or personal automobiles, or in books, papers, or any other mediums or containers which a student may carry or transport.

Consent - Prior to any student being permitted to practice or participate in the athletic program, both the student and his/her parent/guardian must sign a consent form agreeing for the student to participate in drug testing at any time during the athletic year as defined in this policy. If any student or parent/guardian declines to sign the form, then the student shall not be permitted to participate in the activity. If a student moves into the District after the first practice begins and wishes to participate in an activity, the student shall be required to provide a properly executed consent before being allowed to practice or participate.

Drug Testing

Testing will be done without prior notification to the student. The District, in its sole discretion, shall determine the dates of testing and the number of tests to be performed. The identity of the students to be tested shall be determined randomly by a district-approved program. The testing may be performed at any time during the athletic year.

Student-Athlete Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco/Nicotine Policy – (Continued)

Students to be tested will be notified by a representative of the administration, the athletic director, a coach, or the school nurse and shall proceed directly to the testing site. The student will be provided with a facility affording privacy, but which has been prepared to preclude tampering with the sample.

The student shall provide the requested urine sample and shall return it directly to the test administrator without tampering with or diluting the sample. All costs of collection, testing, and interpretation shall be paid by the District.

The sample shall be marked with a number or bar code to preserve the student's anonymity outside the District. The key to the number or bar code connecting the identity of the student to a particular sample shall be maintained by a member of the administration and shall be kept confidential from the public. Appropriate members of the administration or District and the Medical Review Officer (MRO) shall be made aware of the results.

The appropriately labeled urine samples shall be maintained to prevent contamination and shall be delivered directly into the possession of a representative of the testing laboratory in a manner to preclude any possibility of contamination of the samples. A split sample shall be maintained so that repeat testing can be done on the same sample in the event of a positive result on the first test.

Once the laboratory prepares the results of the testing, the results shall be sent directly to a MRO, a licensed physician hired by the District to review and analyze the test results. The MRO shall then notify the designated administrator of the results of the testing. Any negative test results shall result in a congratulatory letter being sent to the student and parents/guardians.

If any tests prove positive, then the testing laboratory shall repeat the test on the remaining split sample and, if the result is negative, the test shall be regarded as a negative test. If the second test confirms a positive result, then the MRO shall contact the parents/guardians of the student and the designated administrator shall advise the student of the test result. The student and parents/guardians shall be given an opportunity to respond to the test result, but unless some objective evidence proves that the test results were wrong or were due to properly prescribed and administered prescription medication, then sanctions will apply. Confidentiality shall be maintained with regard to any positive test results.

Violation

1. The use, unauthorized possession, or distribution of drugs, drug paraphernalia, misrepresented substance, alcohol or tobacco/nicotine products on school property, school buses, traveling to or from school, or during activities under school jurisdiction is prohibited and shall constitute a violation of this policy and result in sanctions as outlined in this policy. Additional disciplinary sanctions outlined in District policy and student handbooks shall also apply.
2. A positive random drug test shall constitute a violation of this policy and result in sanctions as outlined in this policy.
3. Student refusal to take a test upon request shall constitute a violation of this policy and result in sanctions as outlined in this policy.
4. Students caught cheating or helping another student to mislead the accurate results of the test will be held to all sanctions.

Sanctions - Sanctions apply to participation in PIAA-sanctioned interscholastic sports and to any district-sponsored or sanctioned sports activity.

Student-Athlete Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco/Nicotine Policy – (Continued)First Violation –

1. The student shall be suspended from the athletic competition for a period of thirty (30) athletic in-season days including post-season activity if applicable. Suspended students must continue to practice but are not permitted to compete or travel.
 - a. Suspension will commence after the student and parents/guardians have been notified by the Administration and have had an opportunity to respond to the violation notification.
 - b. If a student cannot complete the in-season athletic program suspension prior to the conclusion of the current season in which they are involved; or, if the student is not currently participating in an athletic season, the balance of the suspension must be served during the next successfully completed athletic season in which the student chooses to participate, excluding pre-season conditioning.
2. The student shall be required to undergo drug counseling, with a counselor or program approved by the District at the parent's/guardian's expense. The student is required to comply with all recommendations of the counselor to gain reinstatement in the athletic program.
3. The student will be tested at the discretion of the school district as specified by the Medical Review Officer and test drug-free prior to being readmitted to the athletic program. The student will not be randomly tested sooner than 30 days following the initial violation notification.

Subsequent Drug or Alcohol Violations –

1. The student shall be suspended from the athletic program for a period of one calendar year. Suspension will commence after the student and parents/guardians have been notified by the administration and have had an opportunity to respond to the violation notification.
2. The student shall be required to undergo drug counseling, with a counselor or program approved by the district at the parent/guardian's expense. The student is required to comply with all recommendations of the counselor to gain reinstatement in the athletic program.
3. To be considered for reinstatement to the athletic program, the student must continue to participate in the random testing program as described and consented to in this policy for the duration of the athletic program suspension. The student will not be randomly tested sooner than 30 days following the initial violation notification.
4. Refusal to comply with requested random testing during the suspension period will constitute another subsequent violation and extend the suspension period for one (1) calendar year from the test refusal date.
5. The student will be tested at the discretion of the school district as specified by the Medical Review Officer and test drug-free prior to being readmitted to the athletic program.

Tobacco/Nicotine Violation(s) -

1. The student shall be suspended from the athletic program for a period of thirty (30) athletic in-season days including post-season activity if applicable.
 - a. Suspension will commence after the student and parents/guardians have been notified by the administration and have had an opportunity to respond to the violation notification.

Student-Athlete Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco/Nicotine Policy – (Continued)

- b. If a student cannot complete the in-season athletic program suspension prior to the conclusion of the current season in which they are involved; or, if the student is not currently participating in an athletic season, the balance of the suspension must be served during the next successfully completed athletic season in which the student chooses to participate, excluding pre-season conditioning.
- 2. If the student chooses to enter a tobacco cessation program recommended by the District, but at the expense of the student, and comply with any issued disciplinary measures, s/he may be reinstated to the athletic program prior to the conclusion of the athletic program suspension.

Violation Documentation

A record of the positive test as well as the student's subsequent compliance with counseling, retesting, etc. shall be maintained at school, but shall not be included with information provided to colleges, employers, the armed services, etc. and shall remain in an envelope within that file marked confidential.

Student Residence

Any student participating for an Iroquois team must reside in the District. Coaches are to notify the Principal immediately if it is determined that an athlete does not live in the attendance area. That student will be removed from the team immediately.

Varsity Lettering

The requirements for varsity letters cover all sports grades 9-12. The presentation of all varsity letters and awards will be at the discretion of the Head Coach.

- The student-athlete must be in good athletic and academic standing, complete the season and be eligible academically.
- Injured players may receive a letter if, in the opinion of the Head Coach, s/he would have participated enough if they had not been injured, and also served the team in some capacity while injured.
- The student-athlete must show marked improvement during the season and from the previous season.
- The student-athlete must be of good character, a teammate, and team player.
- The student-athlete must attend all practices, games, meets or matches unless excused by the Coach, parent, or doctor.
- The student-athlete must contribute to the team's success.
- The student-athlete cannot fail the random drug test during the athletic season.
- All lettering decisions are at the discretion of the Head Coach, only with the approval of the Athletic Director.

In addition to the general letter requirements, the following sport requirements will also contribute to the varsity letter awarding:

- **Baseball and Softball** — Play in at least one-third of the total number of innings during the regular season.
- **Basketball** — Play in one-third of the total number of quarters during the regular season.
- **Bocce** — Participate in all 4 regular season matches.

- **Cheer** — Participate in every event required by the Coach.
- **Cross Country** — Place within the top seven (7) in over one-half of all scheduled meets or qualify for Districts.
- **Football** — Compete in one-half of total season's quarters of varsity football.
- **Golf** — Participate in one-half of the varsity matches or qualify for Districts
- **Soccer and Volleyball** — Compete in one half of every regular season contest.
- **Swimming** — Swim one event at every meet and accumulate at least 40 points.
- **Track & Field** — Accumulate a minimum of twenty (20) points during the season in regularly scheduled meets including the tournament series. Points will be awarded: One-half point per event participation in each meet. Must be an event in which you regularly compete or train for.
- **Wrestling** — Accumulate a minimum of twenty-five (25) points during a wrestling season in regular scheduled meets. Points are awarded on the following basis: One (1) point for weigh-in. Four (4) points for a win. Six (6) points for a pin.

Varsity Lettering for Disabled Students

The Iroquois School District recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all District students and as a conduit for community involvement. The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs offered in the schools regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.

The Iroquois School District values the contributions of disabled students participating in athletic events outside of the sanctioned PIAA competitions. It is the school's goal to honor those students who cannot participate in Board-approved athletic events by awarding them a one-time only high school varsity letter during their junior or senior year as an endorsement of their accomplishments.

Requirements:

1. The student must attend Iroquois High School regularly as a full-time student.
2. The student must make known to School Administration their intention to participate in outside athletics and the desire to be awarded a varsity letter prior to competition.
3. The student must have permanent disability that limits normal athletic participation.
4. A statement of disability must be on file with the School Nurse or designated personnel responsible for student health issues verifying the student's disability.
5. The student must have record on file with the school in the form of an IEP or 504 Plan.
6. The student must participate in events outside of the Special Olympics that are sanctioned by non-affiliated school athletics such as the Empire State Games or the Shriner's Hospital.
7. The student must compete in recognized competition for a minimum of two (2) years between grades 9 and 12.
8. The student must meet the requirements for academic eligibility.
9. The student must apply in writing to the Principal during their junior year stating that they would like to be awarded a varsity letter.
10. If the above conditions are met, the student must also be a member of a sanctioned varsity team during either their junior or senior year.

Athletic Acknowledgement

Student Acknowledgement at Iroquois High School

It is the belief of the Administration that success in athletics, as well as other competitions that are academically or performance-based, should be viewed as a triumph for the school as a whole. The Administration will plan times to acknowledge students while attempting not to distract from daily instructional time. With the expanded playoff system, more teams are admitted into the playoffs. It is the goal of Iroquois High School to make special recognition in a school-wide activity that reflects the level of success reached by teams and individuals. These guidelines will maintain the level of high success without the celebration of mediocrity that would take away from the accomplishment of winning District 10 or State Championship titles.

- District 10 Championship Assembly - A school-wide assembly to acknowledge any team participating for a District 10 Championship. Students will be called to the stage to be introduced by their Coaches or Advisors.
- D10 Walkthrough - A school-wide walkthrough for any team winning the District 10 Championship on the first school day after the event.
- State Championship Send-Off - A school-wide walkthrough for any team or individual competing for a state title.
- State Championship Assembly - A school-wide assembly (with community members invited) to celebrate any team or individual state title.

All forms of recognition will still be at the discretion of the Head Coach, Athletic Director, and the Building Administration.

**MANY ARE STRONG,
BUT FEW ARE BRAVES . . .**

Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Athletic Director

1. Coordinates the 7-12 athletic program in collaboration with Principals and coaches to ascertain programmatic needs on an annual basis, as well as prior to each season to insure consistency of program.
2. Represent Iroquois High School at meetings and other special or public events.
3. Collects and analyzes athletic statistics and data and prepare and distribute reports as appropriate.
4. Initiates the recruitment and selection of coaches and makes employment recommendations with the Principal and to the Superintendent.
5. Supervises and evaluates all coaches at the high school level in conjunction with the Principal.
6. Schedules all high school athletic contests, issues contracts for the contest, and maintains the proper and necessary records.
7. Monitors strict observances of equality of opportunity in men's and women's athletics.
8. Arranges transportation for all away high school contests.
9. Supervises the preparation and verifies all athletic eligibility lists.
10. Supervises high school athletic contests and acts as the host to officials and visiting schools. Oversees the supervision of contest employees and volunteers who work the athletic contest. Arranges for personnel to supervise contests as needed.
11. Supervises athletic funds, prepares and administers a detailed operating budget for the athletic program and submits it to the Building Principal. Orders all equipment and maintains a current inventory of all athletic equipment.
12. Advises and ensures all coaches conform with Board, PIAA, league policies and regulations and with state and federal laws. Attends league and district meetings. Ensures all coaches have successfully completed required in-service and health related trainings.
13. Supervises and is responsible of preparation for home contests.
14. Other duties as assigned by the Superintendent and/or his/her designee.

Responsibilities of the Principal

1. To sanction all contests in which his/her school participates.
2. To have such powers concerning interscholastic athletics within his/her school as are in keeping with the growth and needs of the school and By-Laws of the PIAA.
3. To be responsible for certifying in writing the eligibility of all contestants in accordance with the By-Laws of the PIAA.
4. To exclude any athlete, coach, or spectator who violates the proper code of conduct at events or practices.
5. To evaluate the Athletic Director annually.

Responsibilities

(Continued)

Responsibilities of the Head Coach

1. Attend PIAA Mandatory Rules meetings prior to the start of each season as directed by the Athletic Director. Failure to attend will result in the Coach being responsible for any associated fines.
2. Attend building level meetings scheduled by the Athletic Director and Principal.
3. Have a firm understanding of, and abide by, the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of the Iroquois School District, and PIAA.
4. Have assistant coaches and volunteers in place prior to the first practice of the season. The Head Coach will help in recommending a staff for School Board approval.
5. Prepare and submit updated team rosters to the Athletic Director prior to the start of the scheduled season.
6. Ensure that every student-athlete has had a documented physical from a licensed physician.
7. In the absences of a designated game manager, the Head Coach is the acting authority (game manager) of the event.
8. Head Coaches are responsible for the behavior, safety, and sportsmanship of the players. All incidents violating the athletic code of conduct must be reported to the Athletic Director and Administration.
9. Ensure that all student-athletes have transportation to and from practices and events.
10. The Head Coach or designee must ride the bus to and from athletic practices or competitions.
11. Ensure that no bullying, intimidation, hazing, harassment, and initiations takes place on the team. Any violations must be reported immediately to the Administration.
12. Work collaboratively with the trainer or other medical professional to ensure the health and safety of all student-athletes. Head Coaches will complete the appropriate forms after a student injury.
13. Although the Head Coach is contractually obligated for one season, the Coach is a representative of the Iroquois School District and must act according to all policies and procedures prior, during, and after each sporting season.
14. The Head Coach must attend all practices or games unless approved by the Athletic Director or Principal.
15. The Head Coach must ensure that no coaches or volunteers transport students in their personal vehicles.
16. The Head Coach must ensure that no student-athlete participates in any social events that are held at a coaching staff member's residence.
17. The Head Coach will collaborate and communicate with district to ensure scores, results, and statistics are reported to the school as well as local media outlets.

Iroquois Athletic Teams



FALL SEASON

Sport	Level	Grade
Golf (Co-ed)	Varsity	9 - 12
Football (Boys)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
	Jr. High	7-8
Volleyball (Girls)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
Basketball (Girls)	Jr. High	7-8
Soccer (Boys)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
Soccer (Girls)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
Cross Country (Co-ed)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. High	7-8

WINTER SEASON

Sport	Level	Grade
Basketball (Boys)	Varsity	10-12
	Jr. Varsity	10-11
	Jr. High	9
	Jr. High	7-8
Basketball (Girls)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
Swimming (Boys)	Varsity	9-12
Swimming (Girls)	Varsity	9-12
Wrestling (Boys)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. High	7-8
Unified Bocce (Co-ed)	Varsity	9-12

SPRING SEASON

Sport	Level	Grade
Softball (Girls)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
Baseball (Boys)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. Varsity	9-11
Volleyball (Girls)	Jr. High	7-8
Track & Field (Co-ed)	Varsity	9-12
	Jr. High	7-8
Soccer (Co-ed)	Jr. High	7-8

Iroquois Junior-Senior High School

4301 Main Street Erie, PA 16511
(814) 899-7643

2023-2024 Athletic Handbook Signature Page



The mission of the Iroquois School District, in partnership with family and community, is to prepare students for an ever-changing world and promote responsible citizenship by providing diverse educational opportunities and effective learning techniques.

I.H.S. also provides students the opportunity to participate as an athlete on a wide variety of sporting teams. As student-athletes of the Iroquois Junior-Senior High School, you are expected to maintain a positive approach to athletics by demonstrating the highest ideals of sportsmanship and competition. As an athlete, you are the most visible representative of our high school. This handbook outlines expectations that will support your success this season in athletic competition. Go BRAVES!!!

As an athlete of Iroquois High School, you and your parent/guardian will be required to sign this page for each sport and return it to your Coach prior to the first contest of the season. By signing this page, both you and your parents have received and read this handbook and that you were made aware of the guidelines adopted by the Board of Education for athletics. Failure to sign and return this page will result in the student not participating in his or her chosen sport.

Athlete's Signature

Printed Name

Sport

Grade Level

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Printed Name

Date

It is the policy of the Iroquois School District not to discriminate on the basis of age, religion, sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, or non-job related disability in the admission or access to, or in the provision of services, programs, or employment in compliance with Title VI, Title IX, Section 504. For information regarding civil rights, grievance procedures, or services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact the Iroquois School District Business Manager at 899-7643, ext. 4003.

All procedures contained in this handbook are subject to change by the approval of the Superintendent, Principal, or Athletic Director.