



Cassadaga Valley Central School

Extracurricular Code of Conduct

(Revised July, 2023)

I. Introduction

The Board of Education ("Board") is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive and district personnel may deliver quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal. It is the mission of the Cassadaga Valley Central School District to promote participation and achievement with our students; to be able to achieve this and have a successful environment for extra-curricular activities and athletics; the Code of Conduct must be adhered to and enforced when necessary.

The district has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship. The school has broad discretionary authority to intervene on any words, actions and/or dress in order to maintain safety, order and discipline.

The Board recognizes the need to clearly define these expectations for acceptable conduct on school property, to identify the possible consequences of unacceptable conduct, and to ensure that discipline when necessary is administered promptly and fairly. To this end, the Board adopts this Code of Conduct ("Code").

Unless otherwise indicated, this Code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school function.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this Code is to inform students and parents of the Cassadaga Valley Extracurricular program, its goals, requirements, and expectations. Extracurricular programs include athletics, clubs, organizations, and any other non-credit bearing school group.

First, this document defines the positive expectations that we have for participants(students), parents, and coaches, advisors, and spectators. We shall simply tell our participants what is expected from them behaviorally, if they are to be afforded the privilege of representing this community. The common values in our program need to reflect the shared goals, a framework of principles agreed upon by the immediate stakeholders (athletes, student-participants, parents, coaches) and a need for active support from other stakeholders, such as the school board, school administration, other school staff and the community.



Second, as in a clearly laid out playing field, it defines how we as a school will establish and maintain a healthy environment in which student participants in athletics or extracurriculars can mature in, through participation, while considering the responsibilities of all stakeholders.

Third, this Extracurricular Code is meant to be a usable, dynamic document to guide the educational process through our school's extracurricular program. It defines the mission, philosophy, goals and parameters of the program, and the priority activities.

Fourth, it spells out the consequences for behavioral issues, academic issues and violations of the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.

Fifth, extracurricular codes and athletic codes of conduct are governed by the New York State Department of Education and SAVE Legislation.

III. Philosophy

Our Goal:

Extracurricular activities, which include any school-related activities (including sports), are an integral part of the total education program. The experience of participation in extracurricular activities and athletic contests should reflect the total educational experience of Cassadaga Valley Central School.

Specific Objectives:

1. To develop an understanding and appreciation of the place which extracurricular activities and interscholastic sports occupy in American culture by developing sound educational attitudes toward them.
2. To educate the student body in the appreciation of sports and activities and the best way to enjoy them from the point of view of good sportsmanship or welcoming environment.
3. To serve as a focal point for the morale, spirit and loyalty of students by providing a common meeting ground and enthusiasm which is shared by all.
4. To allow for the development of physical growth, mental awareness, and emotional stability through participation in activities or athletics.
5. To provide the opportunity for a student to learn to handle various situations that arise by participating in extracurricular activities or athletics such as: critical thinking, teamwork, decision making, sportsmanship, acceptance, etc.
6. To learn to develop through hard work and dedication, a feeling of self-confidence and self-esteem in all participants.



Specific to Athletics:

NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. (NYSPHSAA)

CODE OF ETHICS

IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL CONCERNED WITH HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
2. To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
5. To establish a happy relationship between visitors and host.
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials.
7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
8. To encourage leadership, use of initiative and good judgment by players on the team.
9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote physical, mental, moral, social and emotional well-being of the individual players.
10. To remember that an athletic contest is only a game.

IV. Eligibility

Each athlete will participate under the eligibility requirements, rules and regulations set forth by the New York State Commissioner of Education and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, as well as the Cassadaga Valley Central School District Board of Education. Each student-athlete and his/her parents/guardians will be required to sign and submit to the respective coach an "Extracurricular Code of Conduct" authorization form, as well as sign up for their respective sport using FamilyID. A student-athlete will not be permitted to participate until this requirement is completed.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY

1. **WARNING:** Participation in athletics does involve some risks. Physical injury can occur in any type of sports activity. By volunteering to participate in a school sponsored athletic activity, a student and his/her parents/guardians acknowledge the potential risk for physical injury to occur.
2. Sports physicals are scheduled at various times during the school year. Every student-athlete must pass a physical exam and be approved by the school district physician prior to practice or participation in any interscholastic sport. The student is responsible for reporting for the physical examination at the scheduled time. 7th and 8th grade students must successfully complete the Athletic placement Process prior to tryouts for a JV or Varsity sport.



3. The athlete is to report all injuries, no matter how minor, to the coach. The athlete must see the school nurse on the next school day after the injury occurred. The coach must contact the school nurse within 24 hours of injury and must complete an incident report to be filed with the school nurse.

4. If a student-athlete has a physician-attended injury or is absent from attendance in school or at practice sessions due to illness for five or more consecutive days, he/she must have the approval of the school physician, or a medical release form from the attending physician, before participating in practice, scrimmage or a game. This release must be filed with our school nurse. If a student-athlete goes to an emergency room for care, he/she must obtain a written release statement from the attending physician before leaving the hospital.

5. Medical expenses resulting from any athletic injury must first be submitted to the parents/guardians insurance carrier. Any remaining balance may then be submitted to the school district's insurance carrier by processing a claim form that can be obtained from the school medical office. The school district's insurance provides only supplemental coverage according to a schedule of benefits.

6. If a student-athlete is in the school nurse's office for more than one (1) period due to illness or is sent home due to illness he/she cannot practice or participate in any interscholastic sport on that given day.

7. If a student-athlete misses more than 1 period (8:30 AM arrival or later) they will not be able to practice or participate in any interscholastic sporting event on that given day, unless for an excused absence reason (See Student Handbook for reasons).

8. After a concussion, students must successfully complete the "return to play" protocol. The school nurse will work with the athlete and family to make sure all tenets of the protocol are followed.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

1. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain passing grades. It is the responsibility of the teacher to keep accurate records. To that end, athlete's grades will be checked two weeks into their season and then monitored weekly. Students participating in extracurricular clubs and activities will have their grades checked every five (5) weeks.
 - a. Students with at least two failing grades will be given an eligibility card to fill out completely and obtain all required signatures.
 - b. Students will still be able to participate in their sport, club, or activity as long as they continue to show engagement in classes and complete steps towards increasing their average.
 - c. When a student brings their grades above a failing mark, they will no longer have to get an eligibility card signed.
 - d. Students should work with their teacher, counselor, Asst. Principal, Dean of Students, or Principal to devise a plan to raise their grades if necessary.



2. A student may appeal a failing grade directly to the teacher. The teacher may allow a student to participate if:
 - a. The student's class assignments are up to date.
 - b. The student stays after school for help with the course they are failing and works satisfactorily with that teacher.
 - c. The student demonstrates an attitude and effort that indicates a sincere desire to raise the grade in question.
3. If a teacher grants a student's appeal, the teacher shall notify the Main Office and/or sign the eligibility card for that week. The Dean of Students/Asst. Principal and Principal will be responsible for keeping and updating the list of ineligible students and promptly informing advisors, coaches, and the Athletic Director.
4. A review committee composed of the Principal, Asst. Principal/Dean of Students, the Athletic Director, and/or individual in charge of the extracurricular activity will consider unusual appeals or unique circumstances. While the Principal has the authority to reinstate a suspended student at any time, it will be the work of this review committee to consider the following on a case by case basis:
 - a. If the student's work assignments are up to date.
 - b. If the student stays after school for help with the course(s) they are failing and works satisfactorily with that teacher.
 - c. If the student demonstrates an attitude and effort that indicate a sincere desire to raise the grade(s) in question.
 - d. If there are extenuating circumstances that should be a factor as reinstatement is considered.

Expectations listed on the Eligibility Card:

One of our top priorities is to support student academic achievement. Grades will be checked each week. Students falling below a 65% average in a given course will be required to meet the following criteria in order to be able to participate.

- Each grade below a 65% will require a teacher's signature and additional documented time spent with that teacher.
- If a student's grade remains below a 65%, they may still participate as long as the teacher provides a signature signifying the necessary coursework is completed and appropriate effort has been put forth by the student.
- Coach's/Advisor's signature
- Office signature

A completed card makes the student eligible to participate. The main office will communicate with the coach.

Study hall teachers must also sign to indicate appropriate student conduct according to study hall expectations.

Additional Expectation and Guidelines

- Cassadaga Valley students are expected to uphold the high ideals and strong moral attributes on which our school system depends for its positive reputation.



- Rules and expectations for each specific team and/or activity should be communicated to each student participating in the activity or sport. As such, Coaches are expected to communicate and uphold this COC along with any other specific team rules communicated.
- If social probation or suspension from school occurs, the student is prohibited from participation in the extracurricular or athletic program during the social probation or suspension period.
- If a student is suspended (in or out of school), they are ineligible to participate on the day(s) of the suspension.
- Students participating in an athletic program or extracurricular activity are participating in a school-sponsored activity. As such, they are expected to follow the rules set forth by our Student Handbook and the Cassadaga Valley Code of Conduct. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action based on the Student Handbook and/or the District Code of Conduct.
- Students and/or athletes that are participating in a school-sponsored activity or sport that are found to be in violation of our District Code of Conduct or our Student Handbook will be held accountable for their actions. Any student removed from an activity by a school representative or by a game official for an egregious action will be investigated. These actions can include, but are not limited to: Fighting, swearing at opposing players, swearing at opposing fans, inappropriate gestures toward opposing fans/team, etc. Consequences for such actions may be suspension from upcoming games/activities, suspension from school, or removal from the team.

Rules and Regulations and the New York State Law

- The possession or use of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21 years of age is against New York State Law.
- Marijuana and all classified street drugs and controlled substances are illegal for all on school premises, and punishable by criminal arrest and prosecution.
- Prescription drug possession or use without medical authorization on school premises is against the law and punishable by criminal arrest and prosecution.
- Possession and use of tobacco products or tobacco related devices (vape products, chewing tobacco, etc.) by student athletes shall be a violation of the district Code of Conduct because of the well-known health risks associated with use and the detrimental effect on physical performance, including vaping in all forms.

NYS Use Possession Laws

- A person under the age of 21 is guilty of a minor in possession, a misdemeanor, if that person attempts to purchase, purchases, or is found in possession of alcohol.
- Our message to Student Athletes is loud and clear, and should be understood by all Stakeholders: There will be NO USE of alcohol, marijuana, illegal drugs, or tobacco and vape products.



Athletes/Extracurricular Participants Who Host Lose the Most

Student ringleaders in parties: There shall be greater consequences for any student athlete or member of a club or activity (such as the musical or band), if it is determined that they were involved in the organization, facilitation, promotion, or hosting of any gathering or social event where alcohol or drugs are available or use has occurred.

Parties / Presence At Parties With Alcohol and/or Drugs (In the presence of...)

If a student-athlete attends a party/gathering where alcohol or drugs are being illegally dispensed, the student-athlete should leave the party/gathering immediately* (LEAVING MEANS LEAVING IMMEDIATELY *) and could report their attendance to a coach or administrator before the end of the next school day. Because possession and use of alcohol or drugs by youth under age 21 is against NY State law, it is our intent to prevent any community youth, including athletes, from being in an environment which greatly increases the risk of use, danger and nearly all youth negative behaviors of concern. Upon investigation into any attendance at a party, students/athletes can evade severe consequences if the correct decisions were made to leave a party/gathering where illegal activities were happening.

Video or photo evidence of attendance at a party where alcohol or drugs were present without reporting may lead to assumptions of student/athlete use. Such reports will be treated as a breaking of this Extracurricular Code of Conduct, and be investigated as such. Consequences for alcohol, tobacco, or drug use are listed later in this document.

If we allow our athletes to be present in this illegal environment, we promote and allow the possibility for them to be involved in this illegal culture and we must assume some will partake in the use of these substances.

Possession or Use of Illegal Substances on School Property (DRUG FREE ZONE) or at/during school sponsored events.

- Possession or use of ILLEGAL DRUGS on school property in conjunction with a school activity or sponsored event, including use or possession during transport to or from any event or activity may result in immediate suspension from school and the activity.
- Participation in a contest or practice session while under the influence of an illegal substance may result in immediate suspension from school and the activity.
- Distribution, dispensing or sale of any such drugs to any other student or student-athlete shall result in immediate suspension. (This may warrant notification of law enforcement and the School Safety Officer)

Cooperation During Investigation

It is important for all student-athletes and members of clubs/activities to understand that involvement in our athletic programs and extracurriculars is a privilege. With the



responsibility of being an athlete comes a commitment, which is the conditions of this code of conduct. In the event that a student-athlete or member of a club/activity comes under investigation for possible violations to the provisions of this code, it is expected that:

- The student-athlete or club/activity member shall be truthful.
- That the student-athlete or club/activity member be forthcoming with information.
- That the student-athlete or club/activity member not be deceptive or untruthful.
- That the student-athlete or club/activity member must be cooperative.

During the investigation of any student-athlete or club/activity member violation the student-athlete or club/activity member must be truthful and forthcoming with information. The Athletic Director or principal has within his/her power to impose a greater level of consequence if it is determined that the student-athlete or club/activity member has lied, been deceptive or untruthful, prior to, or after the determination of guilt and or consequences. Great importance must be placed on the privilege of representing our community outside the confines of our district, and any athlete or club/activity member that would fail to be truthful and/or cooperative would jeopardize the perceived character of our programs.

Consequences:

Student athletes or club/activity members caught breaking the extracurricular code, including possession and/or use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes or vapes, or other drugs, and proven to the satisfaction of the appropriate school officials (the principal, coach or activity advisor, and athletic director) during the athletic seasons or when club or activity is part of the school year will be treated in accordance with the extracurricular code as follows: (Extracurricular Code infractions will accumulate throughout an athlete's career at Cassadaga Valley Central School.) Students caught using any of the above items will also be subject to school consequences as well, based on the Student Handbook (Page 19).

1st Level Offense (Caught First Time):

- Student will be suspended from team contests for up to 30 days.
- Student is required to attend all practices during the 30-day suspension.
- Parents/guardians and student may be asked to follow an education component for chemical health violations as outlined in this Extracurricular Code of Conduct document.
- After completing that education component, the 30-day suspension may be reduced by agreement of the principal, coach or activity advisor, and the athletic director, and upon the written recommendation of the qualified chemical health specialist.
- Students may be asked to work with Chautauqua County PreventionWorks, which can shorten suspension time. Students can see a counselor up to three times, each time reducing their suspension three days.

2nd Level Offense (Caught Second Time):

- Student suspended from team contests and practices for 50 calendar days.
- Suspension will carry over from one season or school year to the next.
- Should this be the first offense by the student, but whose 1st offense carries a stronger penalty, then the parents/guardians and athlete may be asked to follow the education component for chemical health violations as outlined in this Extracurricular Code of Conduct document, including a statement from the qualified chemical health specialist.



- Student may be asked to participate and work with Chautauqua County PreventionWorks in order to learn about chemical dependency.

3rd Level Offense (Caught Third Time and Beyond):

- Student suspended from team contests and practices for a period of one calendar year.
- Suspension will carry over into the next school year.

Student athletes or club/activity members involved in criminal conduct (i.e., theft, vandalism, assault, fighting, etc.) proven to the satisfaction of school officials (the principal, coach, and athletic director) while in the course of school-related activities acting as representatives of the school will follow the same consequences as outlined in the student handbook and District Code of Conduct for such violations. These same offenses may lead to the same consequences as listed above.

Educational Component for Chemical Health Violations

If a violation occurs, the Code requires immediate administrative action and involves a student assistance process. The student athlete or club/activity member and a parent or guardian should attend and/or be aware of this process. Parents/Guardians must take parental responsibility for their child and be involved with this process. This helps ensure that they are informed and aware of the nature of the violation and in full understanding that any future violations will result in greater consequences. The parent can also come to understand their role in helping their child learn a valuable lesson. Every incident or violation must be documented. It is the first time the student has been caught in a violation but not likely the first time they have used these substances.

Failure by a parent or guardian to comply will result in the athlete or club/activity member being able to practice but not compete, provided the athlete completes the process. This process is educationally based and is patterned after the restorative justice model. This process shall include provisions that the student-athlete or club/activity member and parent/guardian shall receive the following:

EDUCATION:

- The parent and student-athlete may see a qualified Chemical Health specialist and/or work with PreventionWorks of Chautauqua County. The parent/guardian and student-athlete or club/activity member may attend informative intervention seminars concerning the implications of use and the effect on physiological, psychological, social development and learning as well as discussion of harm reduction issues and personal and collective responsibility. The education must address the effect on athletic performance, brain development, learning and development of the student as a young adult.
- The process may ask the parent/guardian and student-athlete or club/activity member to see the Safety Advisor to discuss the legal ramifications of the behavior of concern and to discuss the law and youth risk behaviors such as drinking and driving.
- The process may ask the parent/guardian and student-athlete or club/activity member to visit with a counselor or social worker to discuss the magnitude and status of the chemical health of the individual.



CORRECTIVE:

- The student-athlete and parent/guardian must come to an understanding that corrective measures are necessary in order to resume the athletic career or to practice and compete again. This may include a document, signed by the student-athlete and parent/guardian, which clearly states agreed to changes and conditions. This document acknowledges that a violation has occurred, that they (parent/guardian and student-athlete) are willing to make changes in order to resume/continue athletic participation and that they will adhere to the code standards. It also indicates that the parent/guardian and student-athlete are aware of the next level of consequence that would result, should another violation occur.

RESTORATIVE:

- The student-athlete may be asked to address their teammates and coaches and admit to the violation, show remorse, ask to come back to the team and recommit to provisions of the Extracurricular Code.

Other Policies/Procedures Related to Extracurriculars

Attendance Policy:

Athletes and/or activity participants (such as those in the musical) should be in attendance for the entirety of the school day, unless legally absent, in order to participate in their game, practice, rehearsal, or activity. The following conditions would prevent an individual from participating in that day's/evening's activity:

- Absent that day due to an illegal absence
- Going home early during the day due to illness and not returning
- Truancy or participation in a "skip day."

All students should be in school on time - and stay for the entire day. If for any reason a student comes late to school without a legal excuse, they ***must be in school by 8:15AM*** in order to participate in their sport or activity for that day. See the Student Handbook for explanation of Legal and Illegal excuses for missing school (See Student Handbook, Page 10-11 #5).

* Students that have a delayed start time (2nd or 3rd period) will adhere to the same guidelines but with their start time in mind

Transportation Policy:

Student Athletes or Activity Participants traveling to an event, game, or practice should do so only with the group, team, coaches, or advisors unless arrangements have been made with the Athletic Director or Middle/High School Principal in advance. They may be released after the game or event to a parent or guardian - or to an adult other than a parent/guardian if the alternate transportation arrangement was made in advance with the Middle/High School Principal. If a parent/guardian intends to give their child a ride home from an event taking place in a location other than our 'home' school, the parent/guardian should be sure to put their name on the sign-out sheet with the coach/advisor.



Cell Phone Usage:

As stated in the Student Handbook, cell phone use is NOT PERMITTED in bathrooms and locker rooms. This is also in effect while participating in athletic or extracurricular activities at Cassadaga Valley. Please also note the following, taken directly from the Student Handbook:

PLEASE NOTE: Taking photo or video of any other person in this school without their knowledge or consent is prohibited at all times. Doing so will result in imposed consequences such as detention, suspension, and/or loss of cell phone privilege during the school day.

Athletic Placement Policy

New York State Interscholastic athletic participation is generally limited to students in grades 9-12 who have attained the age of 14. However, there exists early participation procedures based on the passing of an APP (Athletic Placement Process) test. This process is designed for the "exceptional" athlete. Certain physical dexterities and abilities along with physical maturity must be determined in accordance with a predetermined set of standards. Approval must first be secured from the school physician. If all criteria are met, the exceptional student-athlete in grades 7 and 8 may be eligible to compete on junior varsity or varsity sports teams at the discretion of the Athletic Director. The APP criteria differ for each sport.

Team Uniforms and School Issued Equipment:

Care and Maintenance

Maintaining athletic programs during high school has become very costly. Athletic uniforms and equipment are purchased through and are the property of Cassadaga Valley Central School. Care and maintenance of the uniform and equipment is the responsibility of the athlete and parent. Please take note of washing instructions prior to laundering. Garments and/or equipment that are damaged, lost or not returned in appropriate condition will need to be replaced at the cost of the athlete and parent.

Return of School Issued Uniforms and Equipment

Each student who elects to be part of an athletic team accepts the responsibility to use this clothing and equipment for a given time. Equipment and uniforms are expected to be returned to the coach directly at the end of the season. Athletes should never give their uniform or school issued equipment to anyone else to return for them. They should not return it to the office. Athletes are not permitted to keep their uniforms at the end of the season. Parents are asked to support our inventory policies and make every effort to ensure all uniforms and equipment is returned to the coach. Failure to return uniforms or equipment or returning uniforms or equipment that has been damaged will result in the student being placed on a list of indebtedness until the obligation has been resolved. The athlete will not be issued any



subsequent uniform and/or equipment until either returning the items or paying the outstanding balance.

***Seniors may not be issued their diploma until all outstanding equipment/uniforms have been returned or monetarily reimbursed.**

Sportsmanship and Conduct - Expectations for Parents, Coaches, and Spectators

Parents:

If you believe that an issue arises with a parent/as a parent, please address the issue by following this line of communication:

- *Communicate concerns with the coach of the team.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the district athletic director.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the building principal.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the district superintendent.*

The parents/guardians of Cassadaga Valley Central School students participating in athletics and extracurriculars will communicate fairly and openly with coaches by:

- Communicating openly, honestly, and with respect
- Communicating issues and concerns in an appropriate and timely manner. (For example: Coaches are not to be approached immediately preceding, during or immediately following competition. Please try to use the 24 hour rule prior to addressing a situation)
- Following an appropriate chain of communication such as:
 - Team Coach - The team coach is the best source of information. The parent/guardian should address concerns directly with the student-athlete's team coach.
 - Athletic Director - If, after speaking with the coach one is not satisfied, the next step would be for the parent/guardian to speak to the athletic director. Please be advised that anonymous concerns may not be addressed.
 - High School Principal – If, after speaking with both Team Coach and the Athletic Director, the next step would be for the parent/guardian to arrange a meeting with the High School Principal.



- Attending parent/guardian meetings and reading information disseminated by the school and coaching staff.

The parents/guardians of Cassadaga Valley Central School student-athletes will demonstrate good sportsmanship by:

- Providing support for coaches and officials in order to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all student-athletes.
- Understanding the game is for the student-athletes and not for the adults.
- Recognizing that student participation in athletics is a privilege.
- Using good sportsmanship as a spectator and conducting themselves in a manner that reflects well on both the team and the school.
- Promoting the team by being supportive and helpful of the school athletic program.
- Refraining from coaching their student-athlete from the stands or the sidelines.
- Expecting consistent student-athlete attendance at practices and games.
- Cheering at sporting events, but never becoming demeaning towards players, coaches, opponents or officials.

The parents/guardians of Cassadaga Valley Central School student-athletes will create a positive and supportive environment to promote their student-athlete's well-being by:

- Being positive and letting their student-athlete know that something good is being accomplished simply by being part of a team.
- Expecting their student-athlete to play in a safe and healthy environment.
- Insisting on an academic commitment from their student-athlete while providing supporting planning how to meet their academic responsibilities given the demands of training and practice.
- Encouraging their student-athlete to work hard and to do their best while not criticizing coaches or offering excuses if their student-athlete is not playing.
- Supporting good conditioning and healthy lifestyle habits.
- Placing the emotional and physical well-being of their student-athlete ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Being a role model for other parents/guardians by remaining positive at sporting events.
- Assisting their student-athlete in adhering to all policies and rules set by the school and team.

Coaches:

If you believe that an issue arises with a coach please address the issue by following this line of communication:

- *Communicate concerns with the coach of the team.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the district athletic director.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the building principal.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the district superintendent.*

The coaches of Cassadaga Valley Central School will maintain a role of coach as professional and will keep the role of coach in proper perspective by:

- Creating a safe, secure, and well-supervised environment for all student-athletes.



- Establishing high expectations while developing and communicating clear and specific goals for the team and individual players.
- Maintaining open and honest communication with students, parents/guardians, faculty, staff and other coaches.
- Providing leadership that includes discipline, respect, and praise.
- Supporting student-athlete academic expectations, responsibilities, and achievements.
- Developing and demonstrating a good knowledge base of best practice specific to their coaching arena.
- Supporting and collaborating with coaches in other athletic programs – encouraging student-athletes to participate in as many athletic activities as they may desire. No student-athlete will be encouraged to participate in one sport over another.
- Taking advantage of any professional development opportunity when school funds are available for such.
- Developing the knowledge and understanding of all policies and rules set by the school.

The coaches of Cassadaga Valley Central School will be positive role models in personal management, appearance, ethics and behavior by:

- Instilling an enthusiastic commitment to excellence.
- Being a living example of sound personal values and good sportsmanship both on and off the playing arena.
- Leading with dignity. Being modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Not using, or allowing the use by others, of profanity, abusive language or gestures.
- Avoiding behavior in game situations that will incite players, opponents or spectators.
- Understanding and abiding by the rules and regulations of the game and respecting the integrity and judgment of the officials.
- Promoting and teaching only ethical, aggressive and fair play, while stressing good sportsmanship at all times.
- Providing an atmosphere of teamwork and collaboration among coaches and players.
- Properly using and caring for school owned equipment associated with their sport.
- Becoming an integral part of, and developing rapport with, the Cassadaga Valley Central School community including administration, faculty, staff, coaches, parents/guardians, and students.
- Creating and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for student-athletes.
- Understanding their leadership style and its impact on student-athletes.
- Following the appropriate purchasing procedures to procure goods and services for their program.

* Coaches that are removed from a game by an official may be subject to further disciplinary action based on circumstances with Section VI, and information gathered by the school.

Fans and Spectators:

If you believe that an issue arises with a spectator (either home or away), please address the issue by following this line of communication:

- *Communicate concerns with the chaperone at the event.*
- *Communicate concerns with the coach of the team.*



- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the district athletic director.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the building principal.*
- *If that does not resolve the issue or that can't happen, communicate concerns with the district superintendent.*

The fans/spectators of Cassadaga Central School will be an example of positive encouragement while supporting our student-athletes' coaches and officials by:

- Knowing and demonstrating the fundamentals of sportsmanship and good behavior.
- Respecting, cooperating and responding enthusiastically to the cheerleaders, coaches and student-athletes of all teams.
- Censuring fellow spectators whose behavior is inappropriate.
- Being positive toward players and coaches regardless of the outcome of the contest.
- Respecting the judgment and the professionalism of the officials, coaches and players and extending all courtesies to them.
- Refraining from disrespectful remarks/chants/signs, and the use of noisemakers.
- Being respectful when players need total concentration such as a free throw in basketball or a serve in tennis/volleyball.
- Obeying the regulations of the school. Those who do not conform will be brought to the attention of the school authorities.
- Understanding that schools are responsible for the conduct of their respective spectators, whether at home or away.

* Spectators that are removed from the stands by a game official or school personnel, upon first infraction in a school year, will be required to miss the following game as well. Further infractions will result in further, and perhaps, lengthier disciplinary action as decided upon by Section VI and school personnel.

Taken From NYSPHSAA Handbook:

c. Spectator:

1. Expectation Statement: Officials, just like student athletes and coaches, are critical to interscholastic sports programs. Without officials, NYSPHSAA and its member schools would not be able to provide interscholastic sports in the manner that is desired and expected by student athletes, coaches, and parents. Spectators are expected to "Be Loud, Be Proud, and Be Positive." Negative comments and inappropriate behaviors by spectators are required to be addressed by all and any school supervisors and administrators, as a member of NYSPHSAA. Spectators may be prohibited from attending current and future interscholastic contests based on their behavior. (Oct. 2022)

2. Spectator Regulation: Any negative, inappropriate, derogatory comments or actions that draw the direct attention of a supervisor or school administrator by a spectator or group of spectators are required to be addressed by the host school, Sectional or NYSPHSAA representative in the following non-sequential order depending on the comments or behavior:

- First warning – Directing the spectator or group of spectators to refrain from any negative comments or actions.



- Second warning – A personal discussion with the spectators or group of spectators on the above NYSPHSAA expectations and reminding the spectators or group of spectators of the next step, removal of the game or event, will be utilized if the behavior continues.
- Removal from the contest – The spectator or group of spectators will be directed to leave the facility for the remainder of the game or event. If spectators or group of spectators refuse to leave the game or event, play will be stopped until they vacate the premise.

Penalty for being removed from a game or event: Any spectator removed from a game or event will have a minimum penalty of completing the NFHS Parent Credential course or a one game suspension before they are allowed to attend any interscholastic event. Once the course is completed the spectator will provide a certificate of completion to the athletic department office. Schools are required to communicate with the offending spectator on the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Expectations.

- Depending on the severity of the behavior/comments or future disqualifications by the offending spectator NYSPHSAA and the Section may get directly involved in the situation. (May 2023)

Interval Health History for Athletics		
Student Name:		DOB:
School Name:		Age:
Grade (check): <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12		Limitations: <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES
Sport:		Date of last Health Exam:
Sport Level: <input type="checkbox"/> Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh <input type="checkbox"/> JV <input type="checkbox"/> Varsity		Date form completed:
MUST be completed and signed by Parent/Guardian - Give details to any YES answers on the last page.		

SINCE YOUR CHILD'S LAST HEALTH EXAM – HAS YOUR CHILD?		
GENERAL HEALTH	No	Yes
Been restricted by a health care provider from sports participation for any reason?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had surgery?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spent the night in a hospital?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Been diagnosed with mononucleosis within the last month?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has only one functioning kidney?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has or had a bleeding disorder?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having problems with hearing or have congenital deafness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having problems with vision or only have vision in one eye?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Been diagnosed with a new medical condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, check all that apply:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Seizures <input type="checkbox"/> Sickle cell trait or disease <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Developed Allergies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, check all that apply		
<input type="checkbox"/> Food <input type="checkbox"/> Insect Bite <input type="checkbox"/> Latex <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Pollen		
Had anaphylaxis?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carry an epinephrine auto-injector?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had or has groin pain, a bulge, or a hernia?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEVICES / ACCOMMODATIONS	No	Yes
Uses a brace, orthotic, or another device?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has special devices or prostheses (insulin pump, glucose sensor, ostomy bag, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wears protective eyewear, such as goggles or a face shield?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wears a hearing aid or cochlear implant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Let the coach/school nurse know of any device used. Not required for contact lenses or eyeglasses.		

SINCE YOUR CHILD'S LAST HEALTH EXAM – HAS YOUR CHILD?		
BRAIN/HEAD INJURY HISTORY	No	Yes
Has or had a hit to the head that caused headache, dizziness, nausea, or confusion, or been told they had a concussion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Received treatment for a seizure disorder or epilepsy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has or had headaches with exercise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has or had migraines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREATHING	No	Yes
Complained of getting extremely tired or short of breath during exercise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Used or carries an inhaler or nebulizer?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has or had wheezing or coughing frequently during or after exercise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Been told by a health care provider they have asthma or exercise-induced asthma?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DIGESTIVE (GI) HEALTH	No	Yes
Has or had stomach or other GI problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an eating disorder?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a special diet or need to avoid certain foods?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have concerns about your child's weight?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
INJURY HISTORY	No	Yes
Been unable to move their arms or legs or had tingling, numbness, or weakness after being hit or falling?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had an injury, pain, or joint swelling caused them to miss practice or a game?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has or had a bone, muscle, or joint that bothers them?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has or had joints that become painful, swollen, warm, or red with use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Been diagnosed with a stress fracture?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FEMALES ONLY	No	Yes
Change in period frequency related to female athlete triad?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONCUSSION INFORMATION SHEET



HEADS UP
CONCUSSION

This sheet has information to help protect your children or teens from concussion or other serious brain injury. Use this information at your children's or teens' games and practices to learn how to spot a concussion and what to do if a concussion occurs.

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury—or TBI—caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. This fast movement can cause the brain to bounce around or twist in the skull, creating chemical changes in the brain and sometimes stretching and damaging the brain cells.

HOW CAN I SPOT A POSSIBLE CONCUSSION?

Children and teens who show or report one or more of the signs and symptoms listed below—or simply say they just “don’t feel right” after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body—may have a concussion or other serious brain injury.

SIGNS OBSERVED BY PARENTS OR COACHES

- Appears dazed or stunned.
- Forgets an instruction, is confused about an assignment or position, or is unsure of the game, score, or opponent.
- Moves clumsily.
- Answers questions slowly.
- Loses consciousness (even briefly).
- Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes.
- Can’t recall events prior to or after a hit or fall.

SYMPTOMS REPORTED BY CHILDREN AND TEENS

- Headache or “pressure” in head.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Balance problems or dizziness, or double or blurry vision.
- Bothered by light or noise.
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy.
- Confusion, or concentration or memory problems.
- Just not “feeling right,” or “feeling down.”



CASSADAGA VALLEY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

5935 Rt. 60/PO Box 540 Sinclairville, NY 14782
(716) 962-8581

Ronald Tonelli
Middle/High School Principal

Kelly Sedlak
Assistant Principal

Marcy Sweetman
Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Rebecca Donnelly
Director of Special Education

PARENTAL PERMISSION / RELEASE FOR PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION

I certify that I am the parent / guardian of (print student name) _____ who is participating in (name of sport) _____ with the Cassadaga Valley / Falconer School District.

I hereby grant the following: (Please check all that apply.)

- ☐ I will be providing transportation to/from Falconer Central School.
- ☐ My child has permission for him/her to drive the following vehicle in order to attend practices/events at Falconer Central School. This permission is valid only from ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ . He/She is not to drive others to and from this program without riding permission being granted and on file in the main office.

_____ Year	_____ Make	_____ Model	_____ Color	_____ License Plate #
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- ☐ My has permission to ride with one of the following students:
(This permission is valid only from ___/___/___ to ___/___/___.)
1. _____
 2. _____
- ☐ My child has to transport the following students in order to attend practices/events at Falconer Central School. This permission is valid only from ___/___/___ to ___/___/___ . Students listed must also have a completed/signed permission from parent/guardian on file in the main office.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

I hereby release the Cassadaga Valley / Falconer Central School Districts from any and all claims and causes of action of any nature (including those based on negligence) in connection with the transportation of my child during participation in this activity, and I agree I will not initiate legal action in any forum against either District in connection with any and all aspects of the transportation of my child during participation in this activity. I understand that by operation of this document, I agree to assume any and all risk and liability which arises during and/or association with the transportation of my child during participation in this activity.

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand and have voluntarily agreed to all of the terms of this document.

Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

CASSADAGA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
PARENTAL PERMISSION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

NOTE: This form must be filed with the person responsible for the activity (advisor or coach) *before* the candidate is permitted to practice, participate or receive any equipment.

My son/daughter, _____, has my permission to engage in the activity of _____ for the _____ school year and to take such trips as may be desired by the coach or supervisor in charge.

I understand that the district carries a non-duplicating type insurance policy whereby no benefits will be paid to the extent that benefits are payable therefore under any other policy or prepayment plan and that any cost the scheduled payments of this policy will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian. In case of emergency, I authorize the coach or school official to call an ambulance for my son's/daughter's transportation to the hospital and to authorize emergency treatment at my expense.

While not all extra-curricular activities present the same level of risk, I am aware that playing or practicing to play/participate in any sport or extra-curricular activity can be dangerous in nature and involves the risk of injury. I understand that the dangers and risks of playing or practicing to play/participate in a sport may result not only in serious injury, but in a serious impairment of future abilities to earn a living, to engage in business, social and recreational activities, and generally enjoy life. Because of the dangers of participating in any sport, I recognize the importance of following coaches' instructions regarding playing techniques, training and other team rules, etc. and agree to obey such instructions.

I am aware of the cyber image policy, attendance policy, transportation policy included in this Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and the consequences faced by a student in violation of the Code.

In case of emergency, the advisor or coach shall attempt to call:

The parent first: (phone #) _____

Second contact: _____ (phone #) _____

The following Doctor: _____ (phone#) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

By signing this document, I _____ (parent/guardian) indicate that I understand and agree with the information or policies provided in the Extra-Curricular Code of conduct, set forth in order for my son/daughter _____ to be afforded the privilege of representing Cassadaga Valley Central School.

Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

CASSADAGA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AND MEDICAL CONSENT FORM

Student: _____ Sex: _____ Grade: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Emergency Phone: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian Name: *(Printed)* _____

In the event that your child becomes sick, or receives an injury during athletic participation, all reasonable efforts will be made to contact you and obtain any required consents for medical care. In situations where you cannot be contacted for specific consent to treatment, and such delay creates risk to your child's life or health, the district representative will use the authority you grant them by this form to obtain appropriate medical care and treatment for your child.

PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT:

I/We _____, the parent(s)/guardians of _____
Hereby acknowledge that I/we may not be available to provide a consent for medical treatment in the event our child becomes sick or is injured during the athletic participation authorized above. In the event I/we are not available for such consent it is my/our desire to have the best available medical treatment for my/our child. This form hereby authorizes the district professional(s) named below to act on my/our behalf with respect to any required medical treatment decisions and consents, until such time as I/we are able to provide these items. Notice is hereby given to any qualified medical personnel that this authorization is currently in effect, and such personnel are directed to act upon such authorization without delay.

Designated District Agents: (Coaches) Cassadaga Valley Central School 716-962-5155

Name	Position	Address/Phone
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Name	Position	Address/ Phone
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Parent(s)/Guardian Signature(s)	Date
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THIS FORM MUST BE TURNED IN BEFORE THE FIRST PRACTICE DATE