

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

The administration of the Bedford County Department of Education believes that student athletic participation is a privilege, not a right. Student athletes must earn this privilege through dedication, desire, discipline and commitment. In order to avoid unnecessary conflicts concerning expectations and responsibilities as well as to achieve a determined course of action for the pursuit of athletic achievement and character training the following items are understood and agreed to between the student athlete, parents, and school.

Athletes will attend all scheduled practices, games, and/or matches after school hours, weekends, and during school vacations as determined necessary by the coaching staff. Private transportation to and from practices, contests, and events is the responsibility/liability of the parent(s). Bus transportation is under the jurisdiction of the school administration which will determine when bus transportation will be provided.

An athlete is constantly in the eye of the public and thereby serves as a representative of the school. It is essential for a student athlete to exhibit an appropriate personal appearance as well as to conduct themselves with integrity and by accepted codes of behavior. Therefore, legal and/or school-based disciplinary actions will affect athletic eligibility. Poor personal appearance and behavior are a reflection of the standards of parents and school administration and will not be tolerated.

Student athletes are required to meet all academic and attendance eligibility requirements. Grades may be monitored and voluntary tutoring made available if deemed necessary by the coaching staff and/or school administration. All high school athletes must meet the TSSAA grade requirement of earning five full credits the previous academic year or earn five half-credits in the fall semester of the current academic year for spring sport eligibility. In addition, upon enrollment at Community High School, athletes must continually progress toward graduation by passing a minimum of five classes each grade reporting period. Students who pass more than half of their classes, but less than the mandatory five classes, will be placed on probation and suspended from playing one week of contests - defined by TSSAA as one game for football and two games for other sports. Grades are official as posted on the report card date listed on the school calendar. Suspensions will be served the contest(s) immediately following official grade reporting. Students must pass a minimum of five classes the next grading period to remain eligible. Students who fail one half or more of their classes will become immediately ineligible without a probation period. Once ineligible, students remain ineligible to participate in any sport until the minimum of five classes are passed. A student may be restored to the current team in-season only at the discretion of the coach and the administration. Unless approved by the principal, students must attend at least one-half of the day's academic schedule to be eligible for game/contest participation after school.

Every attempt will be made to work together harmoniously with student athletes and parents. However, it shall be understood that coaches make decisions using their best judgments based on established criteria, expertise, and experience. Student athletes will adhere to all guidelines and rules as set forth by the coaching staff with the understanding that such are made in the best interest of the individual athlete, team, and school.

Some athletic equipment and attire are the property of the school. Individual student athletes are responsible for the use and condition of school property and may be subject to replacement costs for damaged, lost, or stolen property.

Student athletes may be subject to participation and/or random drug testing as prescribed by Board of Education policy.

Eligibility may be revoked at any time for failure to adhere to the above stated terms for student athletic participation.

Signature of Student Athlete _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____