

Green Island Union Free School District

# Heatly Hornets

## Athletic Handbook

**Every student will graduate prepared for  
college, career and citizenship.**



## **Philosophy**

It is the philosophy of Heatly Athletics of the Green Island Union Free School District to establish an environment where everyone involved will exhibit characteristics of integrity, sportsmanship, fair play, and equity as they strive for success.

## **Mission**

It is the mission of the Green Island Union Free School District that the number one priority of the district is academics and the education of our students. Interscholastic Athletics for students are an integral part of the district's education program.



## **Affiliations**

Every student athlete

must meet the requirements and follow the rules governed by the

New York Public High School Athletic Association

[www.nysphsaa.org](http://www.nysphsaa.org)

Section 2 Athletics

[www.section2athletics.org](http://www.section2athletics.org)

Central Hudson Valley League

Green Island Union Free School District





## **Academic Eligibility**

Student athletes/participants in need of receiving extra academic support from teachers are encouraged to schedule extra help sessions at times other than when practice for their respective team is scheduled. In the event that this is not possible, student athletes must alert the coach that they will be missing some, or all of practice. Upon entrance to practice or the next scheduled practice, whichever applies, student athletes are required to submit a pass to the coach/advisor with the date, time and teacher's signature, verifying that they were receiving additional academic support during the missed practice. Student athletes/participants should not be penalized by a coach, in manner, for seeking academic extra support.

## **Probationary Period**

Any student who is failing 2 classes at the time of progress reports or report cards will be placed on probation.

- During this probationary period, the participant must attend a mandatory study hall, from 7:00am to 7:40 am daily, in order to continue to play. The fall season will be determined by the Athlete's grades at the end of the previous year.
- Any student who enters study hall after 7:05 will be considered absent from study hall. If the student decides not to attend the study hall for the mandatory time, the student will automatically be ineligible for the next game or next consecutive games.
- If student attends morning study hall and is progressing academically, the student is eligible to participate in games and practices until next grade check at 5 weeks.
- A student athlete that is required to attend academic study hall will be assigned a mentor from the Athletic Review Board.
- During this probationary period, the student athlete will continue to report to academic study hall and complete required "Steps for Academic Improvement".
- If student attends morning study hall and is progressing academically, the student is eligible to participate in games and practices until next grade check at 5 weeks.
- At the conclusion of this probationary period, if the student athlete is still failing 2 classes, the student athlete will meet with the Athletic Review Board to discuss future participation on Heatly Athletic teams. At this meeting it can be determined that the student athlete be suspended from current or future participation on athletic teams.

## **Suspension Period**

Any student that is failing 3 or more classes at the time of progress reports or report cards will be placed on suspension.

- During this suspension period, the student athlete is ineligible to participate in all games and/or scrimmages.
- The student athletes must attend all practices and games in uniform.
- The student athlete may participate in practice sessions.
- The student athlete must follow all of the guidelines stated in the above Probationary Period.

## **Appearance**

Student Athletes/participants should refer to Heatly School's Code of Conduct for guidelines on what is considered appropriate attire. When traveling to another facility, these guidelines remain in effect. On game days, and while traveling, student athletes/participants should not wear clothing with holes or ripped edges. Furthermore, male student athletes/participants are encouraged to wear a button down shirt and tie, with pants other than jeans, on game days. Female student athletes/participants are encouraged to wear skirts/dress pants and collared or button down shirts. As an alternative, it is acceptable for student athletes to wear team apparel or other team coordinated outfits to school on game days. Student athletes/participants that do not comply with these guidelines will receive consequences, including, but not limited to being declared ineligible to play in that day's game.

## **Commitment of Participation/Attendance**

### ***Absence from games***

Student athletes are required to complete a full season of a sport to which they have made a commitment of participation. "Completing a full season" is defined as attending, and being prepared to participate in every scheduled game within the regular season, as well as playoff, sectional, and tournament games.

Students athletes who fail to fulfill a commitment of participation made to any athletic team are subject to a mandatory suspension from further participation in athletic events. Such suspensions will be equal to the amount of games the student athlete failed to attend, or was unprepared to play in.

In the event that an athletic team is eligible to participate in playoff, sectional, or tournament play, however is unable to do so because of a student athlete's or student athletes' failure to fulfill a commitment of participation, said athlete(s) will receive a mandatory two game suspension. All suspensions attributed a student athlete's failure to fulfill their commitment of participation will commence with the first game that the student athlete attends after the absence(s) leading to such a suspension. These suspensions will be served in consecutive games, with no consideration being given to whether they are league or non-league games. In the event a student athlete does not attend a game(s) after he/she has have begun to serve an athletic suspension, additional games of suspension will be added to the initial suspension, equal to the amount of games missed.

In the event that the number of games remaining in a levied athletic suspension is greater than the amount of games remaining in an athletic season, including playoff, sectional, or tournament play, the suspension will be carried over to subsequent athletic seasons. Student athletes may not participate on any athletic team if they have outstanding games of suspension. Listed below are the only instances for which student athletes will be excused from their commitment to participate:

- Illness/Injury
- Quarantine
- Death in the family
- Religious observance
- Court date
- Board of education approved school trip
- Family Vacations that do not result in illegal absences from school\*

\*Please note, individual coaches may have team rules regarding these instances

### **Dropping a sport or activity**

A student, who withdraws himself/herself from a sport or activity after the 5<sup>th</sup> day of practice, will not be eligible to participate in another sport/activity at any level for up to 3 seasons or one year after date of withdrawal. Student athletes/participants, who wish

to drop a sport, must complete the drop form and hand it into the Athletic Director. The form is located in the Principal, Athletic Director's office and website.

### **Detention**

In the event that a student athlete/participant is assigned a school detention on the day of a game, that athlete is ineligible to play in that game. In instances where student athletes/participants receive a detention on a non-game day, consequences for that particular detention will be up to each individual coach and should coincide with that coach's team rules. Additionally, the coach is responsible for making sure that any athlete with detention participates only in the physical conditioning components of practice. This should not include ball work or "role-playing."

### **Absences and tardiness on days following games**

Participants are encouraged to arrive to school every day on time and the school tardy policy will be followed if student is late. All student athletes must be in school attendance by the end of the first period, unless accompanied by a legal excuse, in order to participate in athletics that day. If lateness becomes a chronic problem, a meeting will be held to support student's needs.

Absence or tardiness on days following a game/event is strictly forbidden. In the event that a student athlete is illegally absent or illegally tardy on a day following a game, the chart below will be used to determine the consequence for the infraction.

Soccer	Athlete will not play for 50% of first half of the next scheduled game
Volleyball	Athlete will not play for entire first game of the next match
Basketball / Cheerleading	Athlete/participant will not play/cheer for the entire first quarter
Baseball/Softball	Athlete will not play for the first two (2) innings
Extracurricular Clubs	Discretion of advisor, Principal and Athletic-Extracurricular review Board

Length of suspension may be increased based on coach's discretion.

### **Attitude & Conduct**

During the entire school year, July 1 to June 30, all student athletes/participants must function with a positive attitude, and conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. Any team/club member who brings embarrassment to her/himself, the team/activity or the school will be subject to a meeting with the Athletic-Extracurricular Review Board (AERB). Furthermore, if any student is found to be

participating in an illegal activity, that student will be subjected to a mandatory AERB Meeting, regardless if the event occurred outside of school.

***For Sportsmanship inquires, see Section II Sportsmanship policy at the end of document.***

### **Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco**

The use, sale, distribution and/or possession of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, non-prescription or controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia, will not be tolerated by student-athletes participating in School District interscholastic athletics whether on or off school grounds.

No student-athlete shall knowingly attend any party or other social gathering where underage drinking and illegal drug use is occurring. This rule is intended to apply to gatherings of primarily students where underage drinking is occurring, usually without the knowledge or acquiescence of the students' parents, and shall not apply to any student-athlete attending an event which is hosted by his or her own family, such as a wedding or a family reunion. It shall not be defense to this rule that a gathering of students at which alcohol and drugs are consumed was sanctioned by any parent, or held with parental consent. It is the attendance at such gatherings which is prohibited by this rule. Actual consumption of alcohol or use of drugs is not a prerequisite to establish a violation of this rule. Any student-athlete who has agreed to this Code of Conduct and who is found to have voluntarily remained in the vicinity of a gathering prohibited by this section shall be guilty of a violation of this rule whether he or she consumes or uses any substance at all.

No student-athlete will be deemed to have violated this rule if he or she can show to the satisfaction of the building Principal, Athletic Director and coach that, immediately upon becoming aware that underage drinking and/or drug use is present at a party or social gathering, he/she completely removed himself/herself from the place where the party or social gathering was held, including parking areas.

Student-athletes alleged to be using, selling, distributing and/or possessing tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, non-prescription or controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia on or off school property during the time that the student is participating in interscholastic athletics or at any time during the school year will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and Section 3214 of the Education Law. Such discipline may include suspension or expulsion from any or all extracurricular activities, depending on the circumstances of each case.

Parents/guardians of any such student-athletes who are subject to disciplinary action will be notified by the appropriate coach,

Athletic Director, or building Principal and will be afforded the opportunity to discuss the alleged misconduct, together with the student-athlete charged, with the coach or other appropriate school official within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notice.

***Possible Disciplinary Actions:***

**Offenses are cumulative over a participant's 7 – 12 grade (secondary) careers.**

**First Offense:\***

- a. The participant will be suspended from all extracurricular activities/athletic competitions for up to two weeks or four games.
- b. The participant will be asked to attend up to eight counseling sessions with the school social worker.
- c. The athlete will be required to attend all practices and games during the suspension. At games, the athlete must be seated on the bench with her/his teammates.
- d. Depending on the severity of the incident, dismissal from a team/activity may result.

**Second Offense:\***

The Athletic Review Board has the authority to recommend dismissal of any participant from a team upon the second offense under this category of the Athletic Handbook. The Athletic Review Board may also recommend less of a penalty based on the nature of the offense.

**Third Offense:\***

The Athletic Review Board has the authority to recommend suspension of a participant from the school's Athletic activity for up to one year [three (3) sports seasons]. The Athletic Review Board may also recommend less of a penalty based on the nature of the offense.

**Fourth Offense:\***

The Athletic Review Board has the authority to recommend suspension of a participant from the school's Athletic program for the remainder of her/his secondary school career. The Athletic Review Board may also recommend less of a penalty based on the nature of the offense.

\*The action of suspension or expulsion from a team(s) or the Athletic Program by the ARB and/or Superintendent may not take place until a parent or guardian of the student is notified of the action. If a parent or guardian cannot be reached by phone, a certified letter may be mailed detailing the decision of the Athletic Review Board and the Superintendent's action. In that case, the penalty imposed will commence one day after the letter is mailed.

### **Equipment**

Any lost or damaged equipment is the financial responsibility of the student and/or parent or guardian who has been issued the uniform and/or equipment. Failure to hand in uniform or equipment or compensation will result in denial of future uniform and/or equipment usage.

### **Injuries**

It is extremely important that all injuries are reported to the coach and school nurse. Medical expenses resulting from any injury must first be submitted to your own insurance carrier and then reports to school accident carrier. Any injury resulting in a doctor or hospital visit, must have written documentation releasing student to participate.

### **Hazing/Bullying**

Hazing and Bullying are prohibited. All instances of hazing and bullying will be dealt with immediately by the coach/advisor. The ARB will meet to discuss situation and determine if additional action needs to be taken.

### **Reinstatement to team or activity**

Any student who would like to tryout or participate on a team that he/she was either removed from, or quit, must submit a written request to the ARB to be reinstated. The written request form can be located in the Athletic Director's office. The form must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to the first practice of the sport for which the student athlete is asking consideration for. The ARB will conduct a meeting to gather facts. The student and parents/guardian will be invited. The student will notified of a decision within 3 calendar days of the meeting. If a student or parent/guardian disagrees with the decision of the ARB, he/she may follow the Grievance Procedure.

## **Sports Physicals**

Student Athletes must receive physical on a yearly basis to participate in school athletics. The school physician conducts physicals in the school at least twice a year. These physicals are free of charge to all students. Documentation from private physicians must be handed in prior to the first day of practice. A current health history report is also required at the start of every new season.

## **Transportation**

All student athletes/participants must travel to and from all events on transportation provided by the district. Written request, by a parent or guardian, to take alternate transportation must be handed to coach at least two (2) days prior to a game/event. Student athletes/participants must act responsibly on the bus. Failure to do so will result in an AERB meeting to discuss consequences.

## **Definitions**

**Athletic Review Board** - consists of the School Principal, Athletic Director, coach, an advisor of a club, school social worker, a teacher and a parent. This board will be appointed by the Board of Education. If the ARB coach or advisor is involved on the situation being discussed, a substitute will be appointed.

**Bullying**- Bullying is an act by which an individual tends to torment others, either through verbal harassment or physical assaults, or through more subtle methods of coercion.

**Hazing**- The act of directly or indirectly pressuring a student into participating in activities that may be harmful to himself/herself or others.

## **Grievance Procedure**

An appeal of the decision from the ARB can be made by the student's parents or guardian within three school days of being informed of the decision. The initial decision from the ARB will stand through the appeals process.

Steps in the appeal process:

- 1- The student's parent or guardian may appeal, in writing, the decision made by the ARB to the Principal within three school days.
- 2- Principal will forward the appeal and a meeting with the parent/guardian and Superintendent will be held within three school days of receipt of written appeal.
- 3- After hearing the facts presented by both ARB and the parents/guardians the Superintendent will issue a decision and forward a copy to both parties within two school days.
- 4- The student's parent or guardian may appeal, in writing, to the Board of Education within three school days of receiving decision of Superintendent.
- 5- This matter will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled GIUFSD Board of Education meeting. This decision will be rendered within ten days following BOE meeting.
- 6- A decision of the Board of Education may be appealed to the New York State Commissioner of Education within thirty days.

## **Section 2 Code of Conduct for Spectators**

(Parents and Students)

Spectators are an important part of the game and are expected to conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior. Spectators therefore should comply with the following rules and expectations.

- 1- Spectators should at all time respect officials, visiting coaches, players and cheerleaders as guests in the community and extend all courtesies to them.
- 2- Enthusiastic cheering for one's own team is encouraged.
- 3- Booing, whistling, stamping of the feet, and disrespectful remarks shall be avoided.
- 4- There will be no ringing of bells, sounding of horns, or other noise makers at indoor contests during play. Anyone who does not abide by this rule will be asked to leave the premises.
- 5- Pep bands or school bands, under supervision of school personnel, may play during time outs, between periods, or at half-time. Bands must coordinate their play so as not to interfere with a cheerleading squad on the floor or field.

- 6- The throwing of debris, confetti or other objects from the stands is prohibited. Offending individuals will be asked to leave the premises.
- 7- During a free throw in basketball, all courtesies should be extended.
- 8- Spectators will observe the rules of the local school concerning smoking, food, and drink consumptions, littering and parking procedures.
- 9- Spectators will respect and obey all school officials and supervisors at athletic contests.

## Section II Sportsmanship Policy

In order to promote the fundamentals of good sportsmanship, the member schools of Section 2 of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association have adopted the following policy:

- A. Each school shall educate its athletes, coaches, parents and student body as to the accepted standards of good sportsmanship as defined herein.
- B. Each school shall prominently display the Code of Behavior for Spectators outlined in Section III.
- C. Each school shall send a designated chaperone with teams playing at neutral or away site for sectional, regional, or state competition, in the sports of football, boys' and girls' basketball, and boys' and girls' soccer. This person, who shall be responsible for crowd control, shall report to the site chairperson upon arrival.  
In other sports, the coach and staff must assume some of the responsibility for control of their spectators.
- D. Each school shall provide adequate chaperone coverage at home contests.
- E. For boys' and girls' soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse, it is mandated that the players' benches be placed on the opposite side of the field as the spectators, if site conditions permit. (Exception – stadium with fixed bleachers and a protective barrier.)
- F. Players and coaches who are disqualified from a contest for unsportsmanlike behavior are prohibited from playing or coaching in the next regularly scheduled contest.
- G. Players or coaches who strike or otherwise physically assault an official will be subject to suspension for a greater period of time.
- H. Officials' organizations shall be made aware of this policy and their assistance solicited in its enforcement.
- I. This policy has been revised and updated in accordance with the newly adopted NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Standard.

## “Steps for Academic Improvement”

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday																											
Mentor Log-  Mentor Signature																																
Teacher Comment Signature        Required-  One contact with classroom teacher regarding current progress in class. Please note topic and teacher must sign.					<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%;">Teacher</th> <th style="width: 10%;">P/F</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Teacher	P/F	1			2			3			4			5			6			7			8		
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## “Steps for Academic Improvement” Guidelines

- ✓ Each student athlete assigned to morning study hall will be assigned a Mentor by the Athletic Director.
- ✓ The student athlete is responsible for coordinating at least **one meeting per week with their assigned Mentor.** These meetings can occur during lunch, after school or agreed time between Mentor and Student.
- ✓ Weekly meetings with Mentor must consist of
  - Discussing current progress in classes.
  - Navigating grades on School Tools.
  - Discussing any other issues that would hinder student academic growth in classes.
  - Mentor and Student Athlete must record their interactions on the “Steps for Academic Improvement “ log and student athlete must return completed log to the Athletic Director every Friday.
- ✓ In addition to meeting with Mentor on Weekly basis, students will need to make **contact with one classroom teacher per day.**
  - These contacts can be a brief discussion of progress in class.
  - They also can be help session with classroom teacher.
  - Teacher must sign off on the “Steps for Academic Improvement” Log.

If the Student Athlete fails to complete the above requirements on a weekly basis, they will be ineligible to play until the Athletic Review Board reviews their case.

At the conclusion of the 5 weeks if the student is still failing 2 or more classes they will automatically meet with the Athletic Review Board. At this time the ARB will determine eligibility.