

**PHILOSOPHY AND POLICIES**  
**TEAM = ATHLETE + COACH + PARENT**

This form is intended to give a brief overview of our athletic policy and philosophy at this School and also the expectations of each individual on the teams that represent our school.

**PHILOSOPHY**

- Teams in all divisions are to compete at the highest level possible
- Encourage full participation and dedication from our student athletes
- Improve knowledge and teaching methods of our coaches through training and mentorship
- Encourage participation and full commitment from parents, administration, and teachers in the Athletic Program
- Promote the idea that having fun in athletics comes from hard work and commitment, which, in turn will lead to success.

**POLICIES**

1. Any student who participates in an extra-curricular activity shall adhere to all the rules and regulations as set out by the Richmond Secondary Schools Athletics' Association (RSSAA), which is the governing body of all extra-curricular athletic activities in Richmond.
2. Any athlete observed by the coaching staff or teacher sponsor to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while involved in a school---sponsored event will be:
  - a. Sent home immediately with parental notification at the athlete's expense
  - b. Reported to the Principal or Principal Designate with possible police involvement and suspension from school.
  - c. Suspended from athletic competition for that year.
3. In accepting the terms of team sportsmanship, players are subject to obey all reasonable directions of the coach and teacher sponsor. Failure to do so can result in suspension from the team.
4. Athletes will exemplify the true spirit of sportsmanship towards officials, opponents, spectators and fellow team members.
5. Athletes are to be prompt for every practice, game and meeting. Prior to an activity, coaches must be notified by the athlete of an upcoming absence.
6. Students who are issued a uniform at the beginning of the season are required to maintain it, keep it in good condition and return it at the end of the season, clean and in good condition. A charge will be issued for any damaged or unreturned uniforms. Uniforms that have been damaged, destroyed or lost are the responsibility of the student who is issued the uniform.
7. In all environments (home, away, trips) athletes are expected to be polite and courteous to everyone with whom they are in contact. Any complaint of a serious nature may result in being sent home immediately and suspension from the team.
8. On all school---sponsored functions, athletes should dress neatly and appropriately as representatives of our school.
9. It is the athlete's responsibility to let subject teachers know in advance of absences from class so that work will not be missed. Early dismissals are at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Teachers are asked to communicate to the Athletic Director if there are issues.
10. A student participating in one activity or sport may not participate in another until his/her commitment to the first activity has been fulfilled.
11. Once selected to a school team, a student is expected to maintain a level of academic achievement, effort and behaviour consistent with the expectations of the school and consistent with the ability of the student.
12. Once a student and parent have signed this form they are committed to that sport for the season. If a student decides to quit a team before the season is over, the player should be aware that they may not be allowed to take part in any other school team for the remainder of the school year, due to a lack of commitment on their part.

13. A student who has an unexcused absence from school on the day of an inter---school competition which their team is competing in, will not be permitted to compete.
14. A student must meet the eligibility requirements of the RSSAA and B.C. School Sports.
15. A student may be suspended from the team if behaviours do not conform to the above policies.
16. Transportation – For many events, parents/guardians/students will be required to act as drivers to transport students to and from school games or tournaments. All volunteer drivers must complete a district Driver Authorization for Volunteer and Staff - Registration and Approval (SA61) and have this signed by the Principal or Principal Designate before transporting any students on a school sponsored field activity.
17. Parent involvement is crucial to the success of the Athletic Program. Therefore, the Athletic Department expects parents to respect the athletes, officials, and coaches at all sporting events. If you have any concern during the season, talk to your child first, and if you are not satisfied please follow the complaint process: athlete – coach – athletic director – Principal or Principal Designate.