



**Litchfield Community Schools**

**Middle/High School**

**Athletic Handbook**

**2019-2020**

Updated August 6, 2019

## Litchfield Middle/High School Athletic Code of Conduct

\*\* The policies and procedures contained in the Code of Conduct are in addition to all policies, rules, regulations and guidelines outlined in the Litchfield High School Student Handbook. Athletics at Litchfield will not tolerate bullying and will fully adhere to the bullying policy for the district both during and after sports related events. \*\*

### Litchfield Athletics Mission Statement

- To represent yourself and your community in a respectable fashion on and off the playing field.
- To dedicate one's self to the sport and the team.
- To compete at the highest level possible in practices and games.
- To provide positive support for team members.
- Athletes are encouraged to attend each off-season workout, practice and game within the year.

### *Athletic Philosophy:*

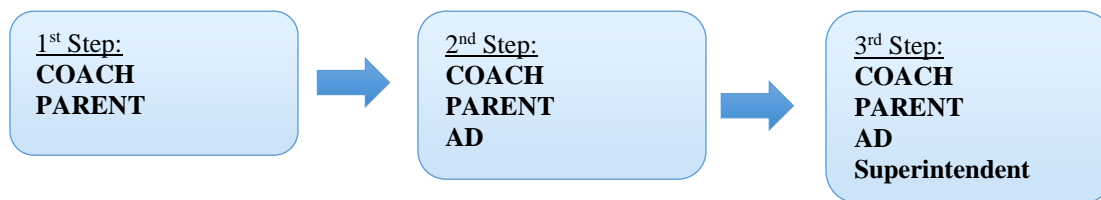
The administration and athletic staff of Litchfield Community Schools considers athletics a privilege and an integral part of the school's program of education which provides experiences that will aid in the physical, mental and emotional development of young athletes. The athletic program shall be so directed that the welfare of all students will be in the guiding principles.

We recognize and encourage the elements of competition and the desire to win as a healthy ingredient in the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. However, it must be controlled to the point that it does not become the overriding goal of the program.

To the degree that physical fitness, social conduct, and moral qualities represent this standard of society it is the purpose of the athletic program, through athletic philosophy, objectives, and athletic code of conduct, to provide direction to accomplish this end.

### 24-HOUR COURTESY

The following sequence is to be followed for any and all complaints:



Sportsmanship is a collaborative effort between coaches, parents, and players. **Please allow a 24-hour cooling off period** before discussing an athletic concern, problem, or occurrence. If a satisfactory resolution is not reached with the coach, then a conference with the Athletic Director, Parent, and Coach will be arranged. If a satisfactory solution is not reached at the conference, a meeting with the Superintendent, Principal, and Athletic Director (if needed) will be scheduled.

It is the expectation of Litchfield Community Schools that participants and spectators exhibit appropriate decorum. Positive support of individual players and the team is encouraged. Negative behavior that detracts from the positive experience athletes can provide is not acceptable. Participants and spectators exhibiting

disruptive and/or negative behavior may be removed from the premises. Persons exhibiting repeated negative behavior could be restricted from attendance at school events.

### **Objectives of the Athletic Program**

1. Educationally sound: to provide a program that is consistent with and integrated into the total educational program.
2. Participation: to provide an opportunity for as many students as possible to participate in interscholastic athletics.
3. Competition: to develop the winning ability, spirit, and sportsmanship in our teams while competing against schools of the same caliber and classification.
4. Athletic skill development: to develop the individual athlete, physically, and fundamentally to their highest potential.
5. Leaders: to develop leadership qualities in all capable athletes.

### **Athletic Regulations**

We, who are vitally concerned with the education development of youth through athletics, feel that a properly controlled and organized program of athletics meets the students' needs for mental, physical, and social growth. It is our hope to maintain a program of athletics that is sound in purpose and never loses sight of the fact that athletics are provided for students to further their educational maturity.

As it is vital to instill a healthy competitive element within each sport, there is a tiered approach in the manner that LCS constructs such growth and development in our athletic programming. The following is how LCS playing time is regulated and the standard for tryouts/cuts.

#### Playing Time for Contests:

Middle School Athletes  
*(All participate as eligible, but not equal playing time)*

Jr. Varsity Athletes  
*(Limited playing time as eligible)*

Varsity Athletes  
*(Playing time based upon proven performance as eligible - some may not receive playing time)*

#### Tryouts/Cuts for Team Membership:

Tryouts will be held for each Varsity sport at LCS, with the exception of cross country and track. The finalists who make the team will be notified by a posting of the player's names outside of the athletic director's office door.

Cuts will be made at the discretion of the head coach and will be based on the desire to have the best players possible. All students are encouraged to practice off season to ensure that they have the best chance to make the team. The following are the numbers permitted per each team for a given sport during regular season play:

- **Football: 30**
- **Volleyball: 12**
- **Cheerleading (football): 10**

- **Cheerleading (basketball): 8**
- **Cross Country: NA**
- **Girls & Boys Basketball: 12**
- **Track: NA**
- **Baseball: 18**
- **Softball: 18**

\*\*\*Note: If enough players are available to form a Jr. Varsity team, per the athletic director and school administration's discretion, players who do not make the varsity team may be invited to participate on the Jr. Varsity team as such opportunities are created.

### **Eligibility Rules**

The school is a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA), and all Litchfield School rules meet or exceed the MHSAA rules.

- a. Age: High school students become ineligible if they reach their nineteenth (19) birthday before September 1, of a current school year.
- b. Previous Semester Record: Transfer students in grades 9-12 who wish to compete in athletics must have passed all credit classes the preceding semester where they previously attended school.
- c. Scholastic Standard for Student Athletes:

**PLEASE NOTE: The grace period (probation) a student may receive for poor academic performance (poor grades) is for failing only one class. There will be no grace period (probation) given to any student who is failing two or more classes. No separate/additional grace period (probation) will be given for failing different courses later in the season. There will be only one grace period (probation) given for failing one class per athletic season.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Teachers will not grade late papers or other late assignments after noon (12:00 p.m.), Thursday, each week, in order to make a student athlete eligible to play a game at the end of the week. It is the responsibility of every student athlete to turn in every late paper and late assignment each week, early enough during the week, as required by a time table (a deadline) set by each teacher, so that each teacher can grade late work before noon (12:00 p.m.) Thursday. However, instead of having late papers and late assignments, student athletes are expected to turn in their assignments and papers to all of their teachers by the original deadlines required by each teacher.**

**PLEASE NOTE: A week for being eligible to play sports runs from Monday through Saturday each week.**

1. The school's electronic grading system will be used to calculate and report back to each student athlete their grades, by approximately 3:30 p.m. each Friday. Each week's grades reported in the electronic grading system must be entered into the system by 11:59 p.m., Thursday.
2. The grade average reported in the electronic grading system each week will determine the eligibility for participating in all athletic games the following week. Any student who has the grade "F" during any week in just one subject area will not participate in an athletic game the next week, but can still participate in practices. Any student athlete failing two or more classes at any time will be ineligible for participating in all sports for the week.

3. The coach will, as soon as possible, communicate to the student athlete and their parents or guardians that the student is “ineligible” for athletic competition (playing games). This communication will be completed primarily by using email, but other forms of communication, as needed, will be used to communicate this to a student and parent/guardian. If the coach is unable to communicate this, then the athletic director or school administrator will communicate this to the student and their parent/guardian.
  4. Each student athlete will be given a grace period (probation) for only one week, and not more than one week, for each sports season. The purpose of the grace period (probation) is to encourage and allow a student athlete to increase (improve) their failing grade, to a passing grade, while still being allowed to participate in practices while serving the grace period (probation). The student athlete will be allowed to participate in future games only after successful completion of their grace period (probation) including the mandatory requirement to once again be receiving only passing grades for all classes. Please note that together the successful completion of the grace period (probation) and obtaining only passing grades (no failing grades whatsoever) is mandatory for participation in future games.
  5. A student athlete in grades 6-12 who is ineligible to participate during any given week will not be allowed to dress in a game uniform or play in a game during the period of ineligibility. A student athlete who has been ineligible for four (4) consecutive weeks will be dropped from the team.
  6. A student athlete who fails the semester in one or more class will be ineligible to participate in sports during the first marking period (9 weeks) of the next semester. However, the student athlete will be allowed to take an online course to correct and pass the class that was failed. If the student athlete completes and passes the failed class (referred to as credit recovery) before the end of the first marking period (9 weeks) of the next semester, the coach of the team has the discretion, but does not have to allow that student athlete who has now passed the failed class, to join the team before the end of the first nine (9) weeks of the next semester.
  7. A student athlete who receives an Incomplete Grade (the grade “I”) will have seven (7) consecutive calendar days to complete all papers and other assignments required to remove the Incomplete Grade from their academic record. Student athletes must receive passing grades for the papers and assignments required for removing the Incomplete Grade from their academic record.
  8. All student athletes must remain active in their sport by participating in practices and games that meets or exceeds the expectations of their coaches and the school.
  9. A student athlete suspended from school cannot participate in any sports practices or games during their period of suspension.
- D. Awards: Students cannot receive money or other valuable consideration for participating in MHSAA sponsored sports or officiating in an interscholastic athletic contest, except as allowed by the MHSAA Handbook.
- E. Students may accept, for participating in MHSAA sponsored events, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a value over \$25.00.
- F. Semesters of Enrollment: Students cannot be eligible for sports in high school for more than eight (8) semesters. The seventh (7) and eighth (8) semester must be consecutive. Students are allowed four first semesters and four second semesters of competition and cannot compete if they have graduated from high school.
- G. Limited Team Membership: After practicing with or participating with high school teams, students cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same

season. Students in individual sports may participate in a maximum of two (2) non-school individual meets or contests during the school season while not representing their school.

### **Two Sport Athletes**

Students electing to participate in two sports during the same season (i.e. Girls Volleyball/Cross Country/Cheerleading/Football; Girls Basketball/Boys Basketball/Cheerleading; Baseball/Softball/Track) shall be required to sign an Athletic Participation Form designating their choice of a primary sport. This form shall be signed by the parent and additional witness and filed with the Athletic Director before the first contest in either sport. If an athlete plays two sports and there are contests scheduled for the same date, it must be approved by both coaches and athletes must have parental consent to ride to the second contest with a parent.

### **Responsibilities to Your School**

Another responsibility you assume as a team member is to your school. You automatically assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic team. The student body, the community and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitudes. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make Litchfield proud of you and your community proud of you by your faithful exemplification of high ideals.

### **Requirements for Athletic Awards**

Any athlete, who quits a sport prior to the end of the sport season, shall not receive an award for that sport.

Varsity Football: Must have participated in  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the games scheduled and/or Coach's discretion.

Varsity Basketball: Must have participated in  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the games scheduled and/or Coach's discretion.

Varsity Volleyball: Must have participated in  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the matches scheduled and/or Coach's discretion.

Varsity Baseball: Must have participated in  $\frac{1}{4}$  of games scheduled and/ or Coach's discretion.

Varsity Softball: Must have participated in  $\frac{1}{4}$  of games scheduled and/ or Coach's discretion.

Cross Country: All athletes must participate in all meets in which they are scheduled to run and/or Coach's discretion.

Varsity Track: Must have scored 10 points per season or scored 1 point in the Conference Meet and/or Coach's discretion.

Cheerleading: Must participate at all events. Awards given at Coach's discretion.

Junior Varsity, Junior High: Any athlete who quits a sport prior to the end of the sport season shall not receive an award for that sport. Athletes will receive a designated award letter if season is completed and/or Coach's discretion.

Any athlete, before receiving any award, must meet the team's responsibilities as handed down from the Head Coach. Quitting a team or being dismissed from the team by a coach will automatically dismiss any consideration for an award. In case of injury or sickness during the season, the Head Coach and the Athletic Director will make the determination.

## **Middle School Awards**

1 <sup>st</sup> Award	Certificate of Participation
2 <sup>nd</sup> Award	Medal insignia of sport, Certificate of Participation

## **Senior High Awards**

1 <sup>st</sup> J.V. Award	4" Round Terrier Patch. All will receive Certificates of Participation
2 <sup>nd</sup> J.V. Award	Medal insignia of sport. All will receive Certificate of Participation
1 <sup>st</sup> Varsity Award	6" 3-D Chenille letter with Varsity down front and a Medal insignia of sport. All will receive Certificates of Participation.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Varsity Award	Medal insert of sport. All will receive Certificate of Participation
Senior Award	Plaque – given only to seniors who have participated in any one sport for 4 years

**All awards will be held until all equipment and school issued clothing are returned.**

## **Transportation of Student Athletes**

A parent must personally sign out their child with the coach to transport them home following an event. If a student is going to ride home from an athletic contest with another parent, it must be prearranged, with a note at the office by 9 a.m. on the day of the event. This gives the office time to call and get verbal approval from the student's parents. It has to be approved by the administration. If this procedure is not followed, the student athlete will not participate in the next contest.

## **Penalties of the Athletic Code (not Academic Code)**

### **ALL STUDENTS MUST BE RELEASED FROM PRACTICE BY 10:00 PM**

Any student having participated in an established sport will be considered a Litchfield athlete covered by the rules and regulations stated in this athletic code.

1. It is important that athletes understand that training rules are in force during the calendar year (January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>). This means that if athletes are guilty of infractions during the calendar year (January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>) "off" season, they will be treated the same as violations during the "in" season.
2. An athlete shall refrain from the following:
  - a. Drinking of/or possession of alcoholic beverages and beverages labeled non-alcoholic.
  - b. Smoking and/or use of tobacco products, including possession.
  - c. Illegal use or possession of drugs and/or controlled substances including inhalants, look-alikes and prescription drugs, and any other substance deemed harmful by school officials.
  - d. Supplements and energy drinks are prohibited during game time.
3. An athlete must be in good standing with the laws of society.
4. Any athlete seen by the school staff, board members, and police officers, or who by the athlete's own admission acknowledges breaking the Athletic Code during the entire year (January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>), whether on school grounds or off, will be referred to the Principal for disciplinary measures. The Principal (or other Administrator), will notify the Athletic Director and coach of the measures taken as soon as possible.
5. All athletes are expected to uphold the traditions of good sportsmanship and fair play at all times.
6. The use of profanity or vulgar gestures is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action.
7. All athletes are expected to keep reasonable hours.
8. **Each athlete will be financially responsible for all equipment checked out. An athlete will not be permitted to participate in the next sport until all equipment is returned or the cost of it has been paid.**

9. The dress and grooming of athletes will always be in accordance with team policy. Remember, you are representing Litchfield Community Schools.
10. Athletes are to wear school issued uniforms when participating in school sponsored events, unless the coach, the athletic director (AD), and the school administration authorize deviation. **Socks will be uniformly white unless a deviation is approved by the coach, AD, and the administration.**
11. **Students must be in attendance all day or have obtained a valid prearranged excuse, approved in advance by the administration in order to practice or play on that date.**
12. Inclement Weather:
  - a. If school is cancelled prior to the start of the school day, no practices may be held until 1:00 pm.
  - b. Should school be closed because of weather, those unable to get to practice because of weather shall be excused.
  - c. If school is dismissed early because of bad weather, all practices will be cancelled.
13. **Dropping out or dismissal of a sport:** Quitting or dismissal from a team is a serious matter. Consultation with the coach and athletic director is mandatory if quitting a sport. The athletic director, along with the coach must consult with a student prior to dismissal. Only with permission from coach, athletic director, and administration with a hearing shall a student who has quit a sport be permitted to participate, practice, or use school facilities for any other sport.
14. The gym, locker room, shower, or weight rooms will not be utilized without adult supervision.

Reports of violations of the Litchfield Middle/High School Athletic Code shall be acted upon by the individual coach of the sport involved according to guidelines under “penalties.”

If suspension from school late in the season and the number of days of competition remaining in the season is less than the number of days of competition required by the suspension, the suspension will extend into the athlete’s next competitive season.

Penalties shall be accumulative during junior high. The student athlete will start with a clean slate at the start of their high school career and penalties will once again be accumulative at the junior varsity and varsity level of participation.

**USE/POSSESSION OF DRUGS, LOOK A-LIKE DRUGS, and PRESCRIPTION DRUGS WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION, ALCOHOL OR MALT BEVERAGES LABELED AS “NON-ALCOHOLIC” AND USE/POSSESSION OF TOBACCO AND/OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS:**

A. First Violation:

1. After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for four 4 consecutive weeks of competitive season: will carry over to next season.  
OR
2. If the student submits to a voluntary screening through the Student Assistance Program and submits to any recommended treatment as a result of that screening, they shall lose eligibility for two (2) weeks of competitive seasons. The school district may offer another district-based option to fulfill this program in collaboration with the AD.

In first violations, the violator shall be immediately suspended from competition, but must remain an active member of the group, and attend practices. The violator will not be allowed to dress in game uniform on contest days during the suspension, but must travel and sit with the team at all contests.

B. Second Violation:

1. After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for any activity for the next calendar year from the date of the second offense.  
OR



2. If the student submits to a voluntary screening through the Student Assistance Program and submits to any recommended treatment as a result of that screening, they shall lose eligibility for six (6) consecutive weeks of competitive season. The school district may offer another district-based option to fulfill this program in collaboration with the AD.

Second violators who choose this option shall be immediately suspended from competition, but must remain an active member of the team and attend practices. The violator will not be allowed to dress in game uniform on contest days during the suspension and the privilege of traveling and sitting with the team at a contest will be denied.

C. Third Violation:

1. After confirmation of the third violation or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for all interscholastic events for the remainder of high school career
2. Referral to a licensed substance abuse assessment program for a screening/assessment should be used in conjunction with all violations of DRUG and ALCOHOL use.

### **Unexcused Practice Attendance Policy**

All student athletes are expected to attend all regularly scheduled practice/training sessions.

- First un-excused absence, student meeting with coach and parent notification by phone
- Second; meeting and/or phone conference with coach, AD and parents, and the student will not be allowed to play the next scheduled competition.
- Third un-excused absence may result in dismissal from the team

#### *SCHOOL ATTENDANCE SAME DAY AS CONTESTS*

- Students must be in attendance for all class periods of the school day, or have obtained a valid prearranged excuse, approved in advance by the administration in order to practice or play on that date. There will be “ONE” grace period for the first hour “ONE” time per season if a student is late. “IF” a second incident or more were to take place then the student athlete will not participate for any reason.

#### *TARDINESS*

- Any 10 minutes tardy or greater late to practice or contest is the same as an absence.

### **Appeals Procedure**

Upon appeal, a violation committee consisting of the Principal, Athletic Director, or his designee, a board member and a teacher shall meet with the accused to determine the actions to be taken. The Athletic Director shall not be a voting member of this committee.

#### *BEHAVIOR*

- OSS/ISS during a given day no practice, no LCS events, no school grounds, during the day of incident, and will not be able to participate or sit on bench during the most immediate contest, this includes anything substantial against code of conduct in-school on the day of a contest/practice, the athlete will not be present during the event at LCS.

### **Fund Raisers**

**Only 1 fund raiser per sport per year is allowed for Varsity sports only and they must be prearranged and approved by the administration.** All monies are to be collected and deposited through the business office, make sure that they are aware of this prior to the fund raising event. Please make sure that any checks are made payable to Litchfield Community Schools.

### **Beliefs, Expectations, and Thoughts From The Athletic Director**

I have a few basic expectations of the participants on our athletic program.

From my coaches I expect:

- a. An emphasis on discipline.
- b. Control of player. I expect them to have control during practices and at contests.
- c. Awareness of their player's school attendance and academic eligibility.
- d. The teaching and stressing of fundamentals at the early level of the game (Jr. Pro, Junior High, and somewhat at the Junior Varsity level) so that players reach the varsity level with a strong foundation of basic skills and can move on to the intricacies of the game.
- e. To come to me with concerns, questions, and problems so that I am never caught unaware.
- f. To have a positive attitude regardless of win/loss record.
- g. To display good sportsmanship.
- h. To be uplifted and represented in a positive way at award ceremonies.

From the players I expect:

- a. To attend all practices and games (unless ill) and to arrive on time.
- b. To use practices as learning times and not time to horse around.
- c. To accept their role on the team and to understand there truly is no "I" in team.
- d. To sit together as a team while watching and supporting the other team (JV supports Varsity and visa versa).
- e. To understand the meaning of making a commitment to their coach and their teammates.
- f. To have a positive attitude regardless of win/loss record.
- g. To display good sportsmanship.

From the fans and spectators I expect:

- a. To display good sportsmanship.
- b. To have a positive attitude regardless of win/loss records.
- c. To not belittle officials, coaches, or athletes (ours or theirs)
- d. To understand that you have not attended every practice, or heard the coaching that is taking place during a game, and that there may, indeed, be a reason for what the coach is doing or not doing
- e. To understand that everyone involved is trying their best; that everyone can have an off night; and that these are still kids involved and it is a game.

My last expectation is to understand that no matter what the outcome of a game, there is always something for us to take pride in.

## BE A FAN, NOT A FANATIC

Litchfield Community Schools in conjunction with the South Central Athletic Association, Michigan High School Athletic Association, and the National Federation of High Schools will help encourage positive citizenship and sportsmanship at all sporting events.

All who enter a Litchfield athletic contest agree to:

- Let officials officiate
- Let coaches coach
- Let players play
- Treat all who are involved with the utmost respect and courtesy
- Accept no taunting, baiting, or trash talking among coaches, players, and fans
- Cheer with pride for accomplishments and ignore mistakes of all participants

### Make Sportsmanship a Priority

In every facet of our lives we have an opportunity to exercise the fundamentals of good sportsmanship. As coaches, athletes, and fans we set the tone and lead the way. Good sportsmanship is both our greatest accomplishment and greatest gift to our middle and high school athletic experiences. Make good sportsmanship a priority in our lives and a staple of Litchfield, SCAA, MHSAA, and NFHS competition.

### 24-hour courtesy

Sportsmanship is a collaborative effort between coaches, parents, and players.

**Please allow a 24- hour cooling off period** before discussing an athletic concern, problem, or occurrence. If a satisfactory resolution is not reached, a conference with the Athletic Director, Parent, and Coach will be arranged. If a satisfactory solution is not reached at the conference, a meeting with the Superintendent, Principal, and Athletic Director (if needed) will be scheduled.

It is the expectation of Litchfield Community Schools that participants and spectators exhibit appropriate decorum. Positive support of individual players and the team is encouraged. Negative behavior that detracts from the positive experience athletes can provide is not acceptable. Participants and spectators exhibiting disruptive and/or negative behavior may be removed from the premises. Persons exhibiting repeated negative behavior could be restricted from attendance at school events.

### **Season passes for Home Athletic Events**

- A family pass may be purchased for \$100 for all seasons. A family pass is for immediate family members only living within the household (including college students).
- A five member (or more) family living in the same household attending one game, without a family pass, will be charged \$15/per family, per game.
- A single adult pass may be purchased for \$50 per all season Athletic pass.
- Student passes for grades 7-12 may be purchased at a cost of \$25.
- Passes do not apply to district, regional, tournament events or away games.

## **Administrative Eligibility/Sports Physical Form**

Before a student can practice with or participate in the athletic programs offered by Litchfield Community Schools, the student must have on file with the Athletic Director, the Medical History/Physical Form and Student/Parent Contract. The Medical History/Physical Form is available with the Athletic Director's secretary located in the administration office.

1. The physical form must state that the student has satisfactorily passed a physical examination for the present school year and be signed by a licensed M.D. or D.O. after April 15<sup>th</sup> preceding the start of the fall season. This form must also be signed and dated by the student and their parent/guardian.
2. The Athlete and Parent/Guardian Contract (attached) must also be signed by the athlete and parent/guardian. Signing implies that the form has been read and understood. Forgery of any of these documents shall make them invalid.

## Dual Sport Contract

Season: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete to A.D. follow up-meeting #1: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*This meeting will take place after the 2<sup>nd</sup> contest has occurred...*

Athlete to A.D. follow up-meeting #2: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*This meeting will only be needed if student fails a class...*

GPA Required for student to be allowed to dual sport.

Practice Outline:

*(This will outline which practice will be attended first and second and the amount of time spent at each practice running, weight lifting, etc.)*

Primary athletic events that will be attended:

Secondary athletic events that will be attended:

Primary Sport Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Sport Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

- Reasons from committee for the decision:

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# LITCHFIELD ATHLETICS

## Code of Ethics – Athletes

All school activities, curricular, and extra-curricular, in the classroom and on the playing field, must be congruent with the school’s stated goals and objectives established for the intellectual, physical, social, and moral development of its students. It is within this context that the following code of ethics is presented. As an athlete, I understand that it is my responsibility to ...

1. Maintain good attendance determined by our Principal.
2. Place academic achievement at the highest priority and be on track for graduation.
3. Proper conduct while on and off the playing field including the classroom.
4. Show respect for teammates, opponents, officials, coaches, and teachers, and other staff.
5. Respect the judgment of officials and exhibit fair play and sportsmanship.
6. Refrain from the use of profanity and other offensive language or gestures.
7. Adhere to the established rules and standards of the game to be played.
8. Respect all equipment and use it safely and appropriately.
9. Refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids, or any substance to increase physical development or performance that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, Surgeon General of the United States, or American Medical Association.
10. Win with character and lose with dignity.
11. The Coach, Principal, or District reserves the right to remove any player or potential player from the current athletic season for breaking any of these rules.

As a condition of participating in any sports at Litchfield Community Schools, students, parents, or legal guardians are expected to know and follow the school’s Athletic Code of Ethics as they pertain to eligibility and sports participation. The number one reason a student comes to Litchfield High School is to graduate not to play on a sports team. Be aware that participation in Litchfield High School’s sports team does affect class attendance as there are home and away games which remove students from class for most or part of their school day. It is the student’s responsibility to make up any assignments or tests that may be missed due to participation in sports. If the Principal or Counselor makes a determination that another class is more important towards graduation of the student, then that decision will prevail over the student playing on the team. By signing below, both the participating student athlete and the parents or legal guardians hereby agree that if any of the Code of Ethics are violated, it will result in the immediate removal from the sports class or team.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Student Athlete

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student Athlete                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Athletic Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Athletic Director                      Date

\*NOTE DISCLAIMER:

DISCLAIMER: By having attended the mandatory orientation meeting at one of the designated dates, I understand that my child may participate by signing below. If I choose not to sign my child will not be able to participate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian                      Date