



## TEX HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS ATHLETICS 2017-2018

Tex Hill Middle School provides an athletic program for the benefit of students in this school district. Participation in a competitive athletic program can provide students an opportunity to learn responsibility, dedication, leadership, good work ethic, self-discipline, and respect for rules and authority. Any student who accepts the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must recognize that he is a representative of the school and district and will be held to a higher standard of conduct.

### 1. EXPECTATIONS

- Regulations have been established to promote appropriate behavior of students in athletics. These regulations are outlined in this, the Tex Hill MS Athletic Code of Conduct, and the North East Athletic Participation Form. There are expectations outlined for the students in athletics that may exceed those of the general student body. Violation of those expectations will result in opportunities for the student to receive corrective actions in order to remain in the athletic program.
- What your Coaches expect from you:
  - Participate in two of the three major sports (football, basketball, and track).  
*\*Note: One of the two sports must be football (due to staffing restraints).*
  - Get an education.
  - Be on time & Give 100% every day.
  - Put your team before yourself.
  - Be honest, courteous, and prompt.
  - Be loyal to your school, teammates, family, and friends.
  - Be emotional, enthusiastic, and appreciative.
- What you can expect from your Coaches:
  - To make all decisions predicated on what is best for the team, and then what is best for the individual.
  - Total honesty and loyalty.
  - To provide leadership and training.
  - To work/challenge you beyond conceived limits.
  - To assist you in any way possible, even into high school.
  - To help you make your goals a reality.

### 2. ACADEMICS

- A student/athlete's first priority at Tex Hill MS is to receive the best education possible.
- An athlete must maintain eligibility throughout the school year.
  - **Failure to maintain eligibility through the school year is grounds for removal from the program/athletic period.**
  - **Athletes who are ineligible for two grading periods will be removed from the Athletic Period.**
  - **All athletes are subject to disciplinary action for failing grades including, but not limited to, removal from the Athletic Program.**

- The following rules will help you in this endeavor:
  - Athletes will always be on time (*To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late.*).
  - Be a leader in the classroom.
  - Remember that the teacher is the absolute authority.
  - DO NOT violate the dress code.
  - Be prepared for class.
  - Turn in all work assigned, on time and fully completed. There are no excuses.
  - Tutoring may not take place during athletics or team time.
  - NEVER be afraid to ask for help.

### 3. ATTENDANCE

- Do not miss athletic period.
- Excused/Unexcused absences (athletic period/practice/game) are determined by the coaching staff. Communication prior to absence is essential.
- Absences deemed excusable may result in reduced playing time or withheld from upcoming game.
- Unexcused absences may result in 1 or more game suspension.
- Three unexcused absences may result in dismissal from team.
- Please contact the coaches' office PRIOR to missing a practice/game. **(210) 356-8035**
- Football season: 7th & 8th by 1pm
- Basketball season:
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade by 6:00 am
  - 8th grade by 1:00 pm
- Coaches will expect a parent or doctor's note for absences due to illness or injury. Athletes under a doctor's note will not be allowed to participate until the athlete is released by a doctor's note or a date given on the note. A parent note is only effective for three days. Once the three days have expired, the athlete must have a doctor's note in order to be exempt from participation.
- Injured/ill athletes are expected to stay and observe practice during a doctor/parent note exemption. **PLEASE SEE A COACH, FIRST, IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR CHILD HAS AN INJURY DUE TO THE SPORT HE IS PLAYING. WE HAVE ACCESS TO HIGHLY TRAINED/SKILLED ATHLETIC TRAINERS AT JOHNSON WHO CAN EVALUATE YOUR CHILD BEFORE SEEING A DOCTOR.**

### 4. PROMPTNESS

- ALWAYS be on time. *To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late.* Tardiness will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

### 5. RESPECT/PROPER CONDUCT

- Tex Hill will be known for our clean and competitive play.
- Tex Hill athletes will show respect for teammates, opponents, and referees.
- Taunting the opponent will not be tolerated. Tex Hill athletes will praise opponents.
- Athletes should hold themselves to a higher standard and model the positive behaviors associated with good citizenship regardless of their environment.
- Athletes should establish eye contact with coaches and teammates.
- Coaches expect "Yes, Sir" or "No, Sir" responses from players.
- Coaches will respect all players. Coaches may raise their voice during practice or in games for instruction or redirection. It is **NOT** personal.
- Athletes will respect facilities and equipment. Adhesive materials (i.e. stickers, double-sided tape, etc...) will **NOT** be allowed on the lockers.

## 6. DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, STEALING, AND PROFANITY

- Association with any of these offenses will not be tolerated.
- Failure to comply with this policy will result in dismissal from the athletic program for the remainder season and possibly, year... as per NEISD/UIIL policy.

## 7. GAMES

- (Football)- Each grade level is comprised of two teams
  - A Team and B Team (Players are required to remain on team sideline during each game.)
    - A Team game time- 4:30 p.m.
    - B Team game time- 5:30 p.m. (This is an approximate time; game will begin about 10 minutes after the completion of the A Team game.)
- (Basketball)- Each grade level is comprised of three teams.
  - Go Team, B Team, and A Team
    - Go Team game time—4:30 p.m.
    - B Team game time—5:30 p.m.
    - A Team game time—6:30 p.m.
- A and B Team players are required to attend all games. B Team players must stay for A Team games. A Team players must be present for Go and B Team games. Go Team players will have to be signed out by a parent before leaving early. Failure to commit to this team policy could result in a change in team placement.
- Athletes are required to sit together and support the team that is playing.
- Athletes are to clean up their area after games.
- Athletes are not allowed to walk around our campus or away campuses without permission. Always use the buddy system.
- Athletes who lose their focus (pre-game, game, or post-game) by distractions in the stands will have reduced playing time or other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the coach.
- ATHLETES WILL NOT RECEIVE EQUAL PLAYING TIME. Fair doesn't always mean equal.
- (Track)- Three athletes (per grade level) are taken for each event based on participation and performance.

## 8. GAME ETIQUETTE

- Any item(s) that need to be delivered to an athlete should be done so through the coach. No soda or candy before a game. In case of emergency, please contact the coach.
- Team time begins when warm up for the first game begins no matter what team the athlete is on. Please do not put your child in a difficult position by trying to get his attention before, during, or after a game (what we call "team time") until he has been released by his coach.
- We ask that Parents, please do not coach your child from the bleachers/stands.
  - Be an enthusiastic Tex Hill fan. Always display the class and pride for which we are known. Degrading of any player or referee/official is not representative of the Tex Hill tradition. Referees/officials may penalize any team for spectator behavior.
  - During the year, you may not always agree with a decision we make or an offense or defense that we are running. Your children love you and look up to you. What you say to your child will not change the coach's decision, but only cause doubt in your child's mind and may cause dissension within the team. We would hope that if you have concerns you would contact the appropriate coach for a conference. Please be aware that we are under the leadership of the Johnson High School programs and follow their direction within our programs.

- Please do not approach a coach after a game. We all have conference periods and are more than willing to sit down and speak with you. To address concerns, please make an appointment by calling **(210) 356-8035**.

## 9. TRANSPORTATION

- Athletes must ride the school bus to off-campus games, track meets, and tournaments.
  - Athletes will have parental consent to travel to and/or from each event participated in by Tex Hill MS in which their name is carried upon the roster during this school year including all errands and activities related to duties of and assignments made to members of the Tex Hill MS Athletic Program. The mode of transportation may be NEISD or commercial bus, or a private vehicle driven by school personnel, a parent, or another member of the Tex Hill Coaching Staff.
- If an athlete must be taken home by a parent or guardian (for any reason) from a contest the coaches must have written permission BEFORE leaving the off-campus event. Please send emails by 2pm the day of the competition. There must be parent/coach contact before an athlete will be released.
- Football- all team members are required to travel to and from games with teammates/coaches on district-provided buses.
  - A Team players MAY NOT leave before B Team games are finished.
- Basketball- B Team players MAY NOT leave before A Team games are finished.
- Track—Athletes will travel to meets with teammates/coaches on district-provided buses. Parents and athletes are responsible for arranging transportation from meets
- Parents and athletes are responsible for arranging transportation to/from practice.
- **PARENTS, PLEASE PICK UP YOUR SON PROMPTLY AFTER THE BUS RETURNS FROM GAMES, AFTER HOME GAMES, AND AFTER AFTERNOON PRACTICES. Failure to consistently pick up your son on time may result in his dismissal from the team.**

## 10. UNIFORMS/APPEARANCE

- Regulations are established to promote and establish a positive appearance of athletes. It is recognized that some expectations for athletes may exceed the expectations for the general student body.
  - No jewelry of any kind during a practice or a game... this includes athletic period.
  - No earrings worn on campus or at any district event/contest.
  - No painted fingernails or ink marks on hands or body.
  - No colored, excessively spiked, large, designs (cut into the hair) or long hair (hair below eye-level, below collar, Mohawks, and excessively large afros). Caps and headwear are not allowed.
  - No facial hair of any kind.
  - No portion of the eyebrows will be shaved.
  - No rubber bands or strings around the wrists or ankles.
  - Practice/Athletic period attire will be as follows: Tex Hill athletic shirt (tucked in), Tex Hill athletic shorts, socks, and athletic shoes.
  - School issued uniforms should be worn only during practices and games. This includes basketball/track sweats.
    - Wearing these items at any other time is a violation of UIL and NEISD policy.
  - Uniforms will be returned within three days after the last game or track meet.
  - Lost uniforms will cost the athlete \$40. (\$20 for top and \$20 for bottoms) An athlete may not participate in the next sport until all his uniform is turned in.

## 11. COACHES' OFFICE

- The coaches' office welcomes athletes.
- Athletes should remember to knock and respect the privacy of a coach who may be in a conference, using the telephone, or changing.
- Parents—To address concerns, please make an appointment by calling **(210) 356-8035**.

## 12. DECISIONS

- Decisions will always be based on what is best for the team and then what is best for the individual.

## 13. BULLYING, HAZING, INITIATION, OR ANY "RITE OF PASSAGE" WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

- The administration and athletic department according to NEISD Board Policy will discipline any athlete involved in such actions.

## 14. QUITTING

- Quitting is discouraged.
- Any athlete who wishes to quit must visit with the coach and turn in all equipment.
- A note from a parent or guardian must be provided stating an awareness of the athlete's decision.
- Quitting a sport will result in missing equal number of games during next sport season.  
Grace period: Quitting before 1<sup>st</sup> scheduled game/meet.

## 15. DISCIPLINE

- The Tex Hill Athletic Program follows all North East policies (including dress code).
- All athletes are subject to disciplinary action for misbehavior outside of athletics.
- Coaches will hold athletes to a higher standard than the average student.
- Any coach has the right to discipline any athlete—regardless of the team the athlete is on. Tex Hill coaches are a team.
- We expect athletes to communicate with their parents/guardians of their misbehavior and all disciplinary action taken.
- All athletes will be required to follow the discipline plan:
  - NON-OFFICE REFERRAL OFFENSES:**
    - 1<sup>st</sup> offense: Athlete is subject to loss of playing time/Opportunity for Improvement Session (OFI).
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Parent contact and loss of game-time/OFI.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: Parent contact and possible suspension/OFI.
    - 4<sup>th</sup> offense: Parent contact and possible multiple game suspension/OFI.
  - OFFICE REFERRAL OFFENSES:**
    - 1<sup>st</sup> offense: loss of game time or full game suspension/OFI.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: full game suspension or multiple game suspension/OFI.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: multiple game suspension or possible removal from team and possible removal from athletic program.
    - ISS placement on the day of a game/competition is an automatic suspension of said game/competition.
    - **AMS placement.**
- IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM TEAM AND POSSIBLE REMOVAL FROM ATHLETIC PROGRAM**



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Attached, please find copies of the Athletic Guidelines for Tex Hill Middle School.

This information you are about to read reflects our philosophy as we begin developing student/athletes at Tex Hill MS into responsible and productive young men. Please read and review this information with your child so that he clearly understands the expectations of the athletic department. Our guidelines will govern ALL athletes for the entire school year.

I certify and acknowledge that I have read and understand the following forms and presentations:

- Tex Hill MS Athletic Policy
- Concussion Acknowledgement Form
- UIL Rules Acknowledgement Form
- Sudden Cardiac Awareness Form
- Steroid Use Agreement
- UIL Safety Program

I further understand and agree that failure to abide by the guidelines set in accordance to the Tex Hill MS Boys Athletic Policy and UIL Guidelines may result in removal from the Tex Hill Athletic Program.

Grade Level (2016-2017) \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_