

ATHLETIC CONTRACT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

PURPOSE:

This athletic contract is designed to explain and to inform athletes, parents, and coaches of certain expectations relative to participation in interscholastic athletics at Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons. Please always refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for all other rules, regulations, and policies.

CONDUCT

All ND-BG student-athletes are expected to adhere to all rules and responsibilities as outlined by the school and coach. Athletes are expected to understand that incidents of misconduct in or out of school may have a definite effect on participation on the athletic team. Areas of concern, such as, but not all inclusive are:

- (1) tobacco use in any form,
- (2) alcohol use in any form,
- (3) use of drugs, depressants, stimulants, or any controlled substance,
- (4) use of performance enhancing drugs,
- (5) verbal harassment,
- (6) sexual harassment,
- (7) theft and vandalism

An athlete may be suspended for all or part of a sports season for demonstrating behavior that is detrimental to the team. Suspensions will be dealt with on an individual basis. What is best for the team, first and foremost, and then what is best for the individual athlete will be the approach of the Athletic Department.

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS

The student athlete is expected to keep all equipment clean and/or in good repair. It is important to maintain the good condition of the equipment for the athlete's safety. ALL EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS MUST BE RETURNED CLEAN AND IN GOOD REPAIR NO LATER THAN (1) WEEK AFTER THE LAST CONTEST.

-The student athlete is financially responsible for all equipment issued. Should he/she fail to return issued items(s), the athlete must reimburse the school for the reimbursement cost. THE STUDENT WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE SPORTS PROGRAM UNTIL THE ITEM(S) IS RETURNED OR REIMBURSEMENT IS MADE.

PROTOCOL TO DISCUSS CONCERNS WITH YOUR COACH

We are here to serve you and your child. The following is the protocol we expect each parent to abide by:

- 1.** Have student-athlete discuss issue with the coach. Most of the time this will resolve the problem. If not, proceed to #2.
- 2.** Parent may call the coach directly to set up a meeting. Please **DO NOT** approach the coach before, during, or after a game/practice to discuss a concern unless the concern is an immediate emergency to the team. Complaints are usually emotional in nature at first.
- 3.** If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your meeting please contact the Athletic Director.

RIDING HOME WITH PARENTS

All ND-BG athletes will ride to and from all athletic contests on the team bus/vans unless prior approval has been given by the Athletic Director (or in any emergency situation as per coach discretion) to ride home with a parent/s or legal guardian.

In the event a student-athlete needs to ride home with their parents advanced planning is recommended. A written note must be given in person to the Athletic Director at least 24 hours in advance of the event. The Athletic Director will approve the note and make a copy for the coach's records.

Student-athletes will be released to their parent/legal guardian **ONLY!!!** In the event an emergency occurs where advanced permission is not granted the coach will use his or her discretion and judgment as whether to release the student-athlete or not. Forgetting to use advanced permission does not constitute an emergency.

SPORT PARTICIPATION & COMMITMENT

When playing a sport you are making a commitment to yourself, your family, your school and most importantly your team. All participants are to fulfill this commitment for the entire season. The season can be a long and grueling one but it is your commitment and dedication that will get you through it. In certain situations a student-athlete may feel that he or she wants to quit. We encounter many challenges in our adult lives and learning how to deal with adversity builds and shapes our character. Athletic participation can be a great tool in helping us deal with different types of adversity. Every athlete is encouraged to finish what

has been started. Athletes that quit are also "giving up" on themselves and those that depend on them.

Commitment to being a Knight or Lady Knight is one of the most valuable lessons learned in athletics. Concerns and frustrations can usually be worked out with proper communication between the athlete and coach.

-Once a commitment to a school team has been made, a player must follow through with this commitment. It is also unfair to other aspiring players who have failed to earn a place on the team.

1. Any athlete wishing to quit a sport must notify the head coach in writing by completing a Request to Quit form. A conference will be scheduled and the Athlete, Parent, Coach, and Athletic Director must all sign this form.
2. If an athlete quits a sport or is dismissed from the sport at any time without justifiable cause (academics, injury, or family hardship) as determined by the athletic director and head coach, **the athlete will not be allowed to participate in the following season sport.**

- The athlete will be allowed the first 25% of the season from the time of the first tryout to remove him or herself safely from a sport without consequence. The deadlines are as follows:
 - i. September 8th for fall sports
 - ii. December 1st for winter sports
 - iii. March 22nd for spring sports

Please sign the following and acknowledge that you have read this Athletic Contract and agree to make a firm commitment to your teammates, your coach, your school and most importantly yourself.

Student-Athlete

Date

Parent/Guardian

Date

Coach

Date

Athletic Director

Date