

# **Escalon High School**

## **Department of Athletics**



# **Athletic Handbook**

## **ARTICLE I. PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS**

### **1. Mission**

Escalon High School's athletic department exists to enhance the educational experience for its student-athletes.

### **2. Vision**

Escalon High School's athletic department consistently provides positive experiences which contribute to the personal development of its student-athletes, while striving to compete at a high level in interscholastic athletic competition.

## **ARTICLE II. GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1. Governing Bodies**

- a. Escalon High School engages in interscholastic athletics and shall be governed by the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) constitution and bylaws, Trans-Valley League (TVL) constitution, Escalon Unified School District (EUSD) school board policies and bylaws, and Escalon High School (EHS) policies.

### **2. Participation**

Student-athlete participation in interscholastic athletics is voluntary and a privilege. All participants shall provide the following **before** they are allowed to try-out for a sport.

- a. Evidence of individual medical insurance coverage.
- b. A physical examination from a licensed physician within the last calendar year. The signed physical must be given to the athletic director.
- c. Signature by the student-athlete and parent/guardian acknowledging review of the Athletic Handbook.
- d. Meet minimum CIF eligibility standards.
- e. Meet EUSD/EHS minimum academic and behavioral standards.
- f. Zero fees owed to Escalon High School.

## **ARTICLE III. CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION INFORMATION**

1. The CIF Sac-Joaquin Section has a constitution and bylaws available for review at [http://www.cifsjs.org/about\\_cif-sjs/constitutions\\_and\\_bylaws](http://www.cifsjs.org/about_cif-sjs/constitutions_and_bylaws). Please see the athletic director with any questions.

2. A student whose 19th birthday is attained prior to June 15th shall not participate or practice on any athletic team in the following school year.
3. Student-athletes must be enrolled full-time (minimum 20 units) at the school in which they are competing and maintaining minimum progress toward high school graduation requirements.
4. Beginning in a student-athlete's 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, they are eligible for athletic competition for a maximum of 8 consecutive semesters (4 years).
5. A student-athlete establishes residential eligibility at Escalon High School upon initial enrollment in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
6. If a student transfers to Escalon High School after attending another high school, they are required to get clearance by the CIF before they can participate in interscholastic athletics at EHS. Not all transfer students are automatically eligible to participate in athletics. Please see the athletic director for transfer eligibility questions and to receive the proper paperwork.
7. Any student whose address or name has been falsified, in order to achieve residential eligibility, will be ineligible for all interscholastic athletic competition for a period of one year from the date of infraction.
8. The use of undue influence by any person or persons to secure or retain a student or to secure one or both parents, guardians or caregiver of a student as residents may cause the student to be ineligible for interscholastic athletics for a period of one year and shall jeopardize Escalon High School's standing in the CIF.
9. Any student-athlete ejected from an athletic contest, for any reason, will be suspended from participation in the next scheduled contest. They may not be in attendance at the event in which they are suspended. In addition, any student-athlete who physically assaults a game or event official shall be banned from interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's interscholastic eligibility.
10. As stated by the CIF, a student-athlete on a high school team becomes ineligible to compete if the student-athlete competes in a contest on an "outside" team in the same sport, during that sport's high school season of sport.

#### **ARTICLE IV: PURSUING VICTORY WITH HONOR: THE OPERATING PRINCIPLES OF THE CIF**

1. Participation in school sports programs is a privilege, not a right. To earn that privilege, student-athletes must abide by the rules and they must conduct themselves, on and off the field, as positive role models who exemplify good behavior.
2. All participants in high school sports must consistently demonstrate and demand scrupulous integrity and observe and enforce the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.

3. The importance of character, ethics, and sportsmanship should be emphasized in all communications directed to student-athletes and their parents.
4. School Boards, superintendents, school administrators, parents, and school sports leadership must ensure that the first priority of their student-athletes is a serious commitment to getting an education and developing the academic skills and character to succeed.
5. School Boards, superintendents, principals, school administrators, and everyone involved at any level of governance in the CIF must maintain ultimate responsibility for the quality and integrity of CIF programs. Such individuals must assure that education and character development responsibilities are not compromised to achieve performance goals and that academic, social, emotional, physical, and ethical well-being of student-athletes is placed above desires and pressures to win.
6. Everyone involved in competition, including parents, spectators, associated student-body leaders, and all auxiliary groups have a duty to honor the traditions of the sport and to treat other participants with respect. Coaches have a special responsibility to model respectful behavior and the duty to demand that their student-athletes refrain from disrespectful conduct including verbal abuse of opponents and officials, profane or belligerent trash talking, taunting and inappropriate celebrations.
7. To safeguard the health of athletes and the integrity of the sport, school sports programs must actively prohibit the use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and performance enhancing substances, as well as demand compliance with all laws and regulations, including those related to gambling and the use of drugs.

## **ARTICLE V. CIF CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETES**

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship. It should promote development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship (the “Six Pillars of Character”). This code applies to all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in California. In order for student-athletes to participate in high school athletes, their behavior must be in alignment with the following standards of conduct, which include:

1. Trustworthiness: be worthy of trust in all situations.
  - a. *Integrity*: live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; do what is right even when it is unpopular or personally costly.
  - b. *Honesty*: live and compete honorably; do not lie, cheat, steal, or engage in any other dishonest, unsportsmanlike conduct.
  - c. *Reliability*: fulfill commitments; athletes will do what they say they will do; be on time to practices and games.

- d. *Loyalty*: be loyal to the school and team; put the team above personal glory.

## 2. Respect

- a. *Respect*: treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of other student-athletes.
- b. *Class*: live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help; compliment extraordinary performance; show sincere respect in pre and post-game rituals.
- c. *Disrespectful Conduct*: do not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort, including, profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or racial nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- d. *Respect Officials*: treat contest officials with respect; do not complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

## 3. Responsibility

- a. *Importance of Education*: be a student first and commit to getting the best education possible; be honest about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level and remember that many of the universities will not recruit student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.
- b. *Role Modeling*: remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right, and that student-athletes are expected to represent their school, coach, and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct themselves as a positive role model. **Suspensions or terminations of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the Athletic Review Council.**
- c. *Self-Control*: exercise self-control; do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.
- d. *Healthy Lifestyle*: safeguard your health; do not use any illegal or unhealthy substances, including alcohol, tobacco, and drugs and engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.
- e. *Integrity of the Game*: to protect the integrity of the game; do not gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

## 4. Fairness

- a. *Be Fair*: live up to the high standards of fair play; be open minded; always be

willing to listen and learn.

5. Caring

- a. *Concern for Others*: demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to others or themselves.
- b. *Teammates*: help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

6. Citizenship

- a. *Play the Rules*: maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.
- b. *Spirit of the Rules*: honor the spirit and the letter of the rules; avoid temptations to gain a competitive advantage through improper sportsmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

## **ARTICLE VI. CIF SAC-JOQUIN SECTION SPORTSMANSHIP RESOLUTION**

The Sac-Joaquin Section will distribute a contract to each of its member schools requesting that appropriate administrator(s) distribute, review, and discuss the enclosed recommendations of the State CIF Federated Council with all members of each school's administrative staff, coaching staffs, athletic squads, spirit squads, booster clubs, drill team, marching band, faculty, and any other school entity concerned or involved with interscholastic athletics.

**Code of Ethics:** It is the duty of all concerned with high school athletics:

- 1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
- 2. To eliminate anything which tends to destroy the best values of the game.
- 3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
- 4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
- 5. To establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts.
- 6. To respect the integrity and judgment of sport officials.
- 7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of rules of the games and the standards of eligibility.
- 8. To encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by players on the team.
- 9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social,

and emotional well-being of the individual players.

10. To remember that an athletic contest is only a game-not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, officials, fan, community, state, or nation.

## **ARTICLE VII. ATHLETIC REVIEW COUNCIL**

1. The Athletic Review Council will be composed of the Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, and the head coach of the student-athlete being reviewed. Additional staff may be included as deemed necessary by the Principal.
2. When necessary, the Athletic Review Council will meet for approving rules and regulations for participation in athletic activities, reviewing cases involving student-athletes, and advising the principal.
3. The principal determines the eligibility of each student-athlete using the recommendation of the Athletic Review Council.
4. Student-athletes reviewed by the Athletic Review Council may be placed on probation. During probation, the student-athlete will be under observation of all activities, including academic performance, behavior at school, as a participant in athletics, and behavior in the community. Discipline that might normally result in a light reprimand can be treated more seriously while under probation.

## **ARTICLE VIII. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

1. Escalon High School has six separate grading periods. Each grading period is 6 weeks (30 school days) in length.
2. Athletic eligibility will be based on the total weighted grade point average that is earned each grading period. Students are academically eligible to participate in athletics following a grading period if they have earned a minimum weighted 2.0 GPA. Students that earn below a 2.0 GPA in a given grading period are not eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic events during the following grading period.
3. If a student-athlete is ineligible at the beginning of a season of sport, the head varsity coach of that sport may decide to allow the ineligible student-athlete to practice with the team. If the ineligible student-athlete becomes academically eligible the next grading period, they may then participate in athletic contests at the discretion of the head varsity coach.
4. Students that earn two or more failing grades (F's) in a grading period are ineligible to participate in interscholastic contests. They may still practice at the discretion of the head varsity coach.
5. Students that earn two or more Unsatisfactory Citizenship grades (U's) in a grading period are ineligible to participate in interscholastic contests. They may still practice at the discretion of the head varsity coach.

6. Students may take summer school courses in order to improve their grade point average.
7. Course schedule changes or dropping of a course should not occur without first consulting with the principal, counselor and/or athletic director to determine if a change will affect academic eligibility.
8. Students entering Escalon High School as 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will be held to the same academic eligibility requirements as the rest of the students at EHS. The GPA from the last grading period during their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year will be used to determine academic eligibility.

## **ARTICLE IX. ACADEMIC PROBATIONARY PERIOD**

1. Student-athletes that do not meet the above mentioned minimum academic/citizenship requirements during a grading period in order to establish athletic eligibility may remain eligible to continue participation in a season of sport during an academic probationary period.
2. Student-athletes have the option to utilize one academic probationary period during their time at Escalon High School.
3. During the academic probationary period, the student-athlete will be required to do weekly grade/citizenship checks to determine athletic eligibility from week to week during the probationary period. These weekly grade/citizenship checks must demonstrate that the student-athlete on probation is meeting the established minimum academic/citizenship requirements to establish athletic eligibility. The logistics/details of these weekly grade/citizenship checks will be set forth by the Athletic Review Council.
4. The academic probationary period may not exceed one grading period (6 weeks; 30 school days) in length.
5. The student-athlete that does not meet the established minimum academic/citizenship requirements at any point during the academic probationary period will be deemed ineligible for the rest of that season of sport. If a student-athlete attempts to use an academic probationary period, but is unsuccessful, they will not be granted subsequent opportunities at academic probationary periods.
6. A student-athlete on academic probation that becomes athletically ineligible may still gain athletic eligibility for a subsequent season of sport if they meet the established minimum academic requirements by the end of the grading period that precedes the next season of sport.
7. Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students may use their one academic probationary period during the beginning of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade fall season of sport.



## ARTICLE X. ESCALON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Student participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege. Student-athletes are expected to demonstrate conduct that is of the highest character at all times. All student-athletes must sign the CIF's Athlete's Code of Conduct to participate in a sport.
2. Sportsmanship will be the top priority of interscholastic athletics. Student-athletes will be expected to consistently demonstrate fair play, integrity and a genuine empathy for others during all athletic activity.
3. Student-athletes that receive two "Unsatisfactory Citizenship (U)" comments at the grading period will be ineligible for participation in athletic events for one grading period (6 weeks; 30 school days). They will be eligible to practice at the head varsity coach's discretion.
4. Student-athletes that receive any California Ed-Code suspension from school will not be eligible to practice or compete in any athletic event during the duration of the suspension. All five day suspensions will result in an automatic 6-week ineligibility (30 school days) from athletic participation starting on the first day of school suspension. Student-athletes may or may not be allowed to return to the team after the suspension. Each case will be reviewed by the Athletic Review Council.
5. Student-athletes with habitual academic, attendance, and/or behavioral issues may be ruled ineligible to participate in athletic practice and competition as determined by the Athletic Review Council.
6. Alcohol, Marijuana, Other Drugs, etc.
  - a. Any student-athlete who has been found to have been in possession or under the influence (consumed, smoked, vaped etc.) of alcohol, marijuana and/or other drugs while on EUSD school grounds, involved in an EUSD school activity, traveling to or from an EUSD school activity, during lunch, on or off of an EUSD campus, will become ineligible for athletic participation (practice and competition) for the length of one grading period (6 weeks; 30 school days) starting on the first day of school suspension.
  - b. The Athletic Review Council will review all cases at the end of the 6 weeks to determine further eligibility. The criteria for evaluation include the student-athlete's cooperation, honesty and attitude at the time of the incident, prior history, grades and conduct while previously eligible.
7. Possession or use of Tobacco Products
  - a. The Escalon Unified School District has been designated a tobacco free area. There is to be no use of tobacco or possession of tobacco products (vape) on school grounds at any time, including all athletic contests. By CIF rule, a student-athlete caught using tobacco products (vape) during an athletic event will be ejected from the contest and be suspended from the next scheduled event. Student-athletes in possession or found to be using tobacco or any

products containing tobacco or nicotine products (including vape) during school events or on school campus will be reviewed by the Athletic Review Council. (E.C. 48900, sub-section h)

8. Narcotics, Substance Abuse and Major Crimes, etc.
  - a. Any student-athlete who has been found guilty by a court of law to have used, sold, or possessed narcotics or a controlled substance or committed any major crime reportable to schools such as murder, arson, rape, kidnapping, assault, etc., (see Welfare Institution Code Section 707 (b) and 887 (b) (2) for a complete list of offenses) will be ineligible for athletic participation (practice and competition) for a minimum of the length of one grading period (6 weeks; 30 school days) starting on the first day of school suspension.
  - b. The Athletic Review Council will review all cases at the end of the 6 weeks to determine further eligibility. The criteria for evaluation include the student-athlete's cooperation, honesty and attitude at the time of the incident, prior history, grades and conduct while previously eligible.

#### **ARTICLE XI. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN STUDENT-ATHLETE/COACH AND PARENTS/COACH**

1. Communication that student-athletes should expect from coaches.
  - a. Coaching philosophy and team rules.
  - b. Expectations specific to the student-athlete's role on the team.
  - c. Location and times of all practices and games.
  - d. Team requirements (may include, but not limited to attendance, equipment, uniforms, off-season training, etc.).
  - e. Transportation requirements.
  - f. Procedures to follow should an injury occur during athletic participation.
  - g. Discipline that may result in reduction of athletic participation.
2. Communication that coaches should expect from student-athletes.
  - a. Instances when there may be attendance issues for practice/athletic events.
  - b. Personal situations that may be impacting participation/performance.
  - c. Issues that may be occurring between players on the team.
  - d. Requests for clarification of role on the team or how to improve performance.

3. Communication that coaches should expect from parents of student-athletes.
  - a. Notification of any extended illness or injury that may impact the student-athlete's attendance (This should also be communicated by the student-athlete).
  - b. Notification of any issues going on at home that may impact the performance of the student-athlete.
  - c. Discussion regarding concerns about their own child's behavior.
  - d. Requests from coaches on how their student-athlete can improve athletic performance.
4. Coaches make judgment decisions based on a variety of factors that they feel are best for the team in each given situation. Issues that are not appropriate to discuss with the coach (or administration).
  - a. Student-athletes playing time or role on the team.
  - b. Coaching philosophy.
  - c. Coach's tactical or technical strategies.
  - d. Coach's play calling or schematic decision making.
  - e. Other student-athletes.
5. If there is a concern or an issue, the process for discussion should be:
  - a. The student-athlete should first approach the coach.
  - b. If the issue is not resolved, the parents have the option of requesting a phone call or meeting with the coach.
  - c. If the issue is still not resolved, the parents have the option of contacting the athletic director, who will attempt to mediate and find a resolution.
6. There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parents of a student-athlete. The student-athlete will be required to be in attendance during these meetings unless the meeting is about issues not pertaining to their involvement.
7. Athletic events can be highly emotional times. Issues and concerns do not get resolved when emotions are high. Student-athletes and parents of student-athletes should adhere to the "24-Hour Rule", which means they should wait until the day after an athletic event to have a conversation about an issue or concern.
  - a. Student-athletes should not request a conversation regarding roll on the team before or after an athletic event.

- b. Parents of student-athletes should not request a conversation with the coach before or after an athletic event.
- c. It is appropriate for a student-athlete to request a conversation with a coach before or after a practice. The coach reserves the right to delay this conversation to a more appropriate time.

## **ARTICLE XII. ATTENDANCE**

1. All student-athletes must be in school ALL DAY on the day of an athletic event to be eligible to participate in that day's event.
2. Student-athletes with a funeral, doctor or dentist appointment (or other special circumstance) must come to school before and after the appointment to be eligible to participate. They must be able to produce a signed note from the doctor or dentist verifying the absence. **It is strongly encouraged that these absences are pre-arranged with the office staff and coach beforehand to ensure eligibility.**
3. If, for some reason, prior to participation in an athletic event, this is not caught by the office staff, administration or coach, the student-athlete will be ineligible for the next scheduled athletic event.
4. Student-athletes may practice if they attend at least half of their school day. Student-athletes are not allowed to participate in practice if any portion of their absence on that day is unexcused. Student-athletes that have cleared, excused absences due to appointments, family matters, etc. may still participate in practice.
5. Student-athletes are expected to attend all athletic team events, including, but not limited to practices, scrimmages, tournaments, games, and other team functions, as required by the head coach. Student-athletes that don't maintain an expected level of attendance, at the discretion of the head coach, can be held accountable by the head coach.
6. Student-athletes are expected to communicate with their head coach when they are unable to attend an athletic team function.

## **ARTICLE XIII. TRANSPORTATION**

1. Escalon Unified School District and Escalon High School will provide transportation to and from the majority of road athletic events. In rare situations, transportation may not be available because of a shortage of qualified drivers and/or modes of transportation.
2. Student-athletes are expected to ride to road athletic events by a mode of transportation that is approved by the head coach.
3. Student-athletes are allowed to ride to and from athletic events with their own parents/guardians.

4. Student-athletes are not allowed to drive themselves to and from road athletic events in which they are participating.
5. Student-athletes are not allowed to ride to and from road athletic events with non-EUSD approved drivers. Adults can apply to become a district approved driver through the EUSD transportation department, thus giving them permission to drive student-athletes that are not their own children.
6. Student-athletes may ride home from a road athletic event with their own parent/guardian given that the parent/guardian has signed-out on the EUSD check-out form provided by the head coach.
7. In extenuating circumstances, student-athletes may be transported home from road athletic events by other adults, given that the adult has been granted permission by EHS administration at least 24 hours prior to the event. See the EHS office for the required form.

#### **ARTICLE XIV. UNIFORMS AND ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT**

1. Student-athletes will be issued school-issued uniforms and equipment that is necessary to participate in a given sport.
2. School-issued uniforms and equipment is the property of Escalon High School and must be returned at the end of a season of sport in a similar condition as to when it was issued, unless otherwise specified by the head varsity coach.
3. Student-athletes that do not return school-issued uniforms and/or equipment at the end of a season or if it is returned in poor condition at the discretion of the head varsity coach will have to pay a replacement fee as established by the Athletic Review Council.
4. Failure to return the school-issued uniforms and/or equipment or pay the fine will result in the student-athlete not being able to participate in extracurricular school functions (dances, field trips, graduation, etc.) and diplomas and transcripts will be held until everything is returned or paid for.

#### **ARTICLE XV. DROPPING A SPORT/REMOVAL FROM A TEAM**

1. If a student-athlete quits a sport or is removed from a team for disciplinary reasons, he/she is ineligible to participate in another sport until the end of that season of sport.
2. If a student-athlete quits a sport or is removed from a team for disciplinary reasons, he/she must return all school-issued uniforms and/or equipment in good condition.
3. Failure to return the school-issued uniforms and/or equipment will result in fine as established by the Athletic Review Council.
4. Failure to return the school-issued uniforms and/or equipment or pay the fine will result in the student-athlete not being able to participate in extracurricular school functions (dances, field trips, graduation, etc.) and diplomas and transcripts will be held until

everything is returned or paid for.

## **ARTICLE XVI. ATHLETIC PHYSICAL EDUCATION CREDIT**

Student-athletes completing a season of sport, in good standing, will be given one semesters worth of credit, and grade, for Physical Education. Criteria for credit is outlined below:

1. Freshmen are not eligible for this credit.
2. Seniors that are behind in Physical Education credits for graduation will be required to take a Physical Education class to insure graduation.
3. Student-athletes choosing to take a Physical Education class will not receive credit for athletic participation. Student-athletes taking a regular Physical Education class will receive credits and grades for the class as they do all other classes. Students will not be allowed to take a semester of Physical Education and receive credit for one sport participation. Students signing up for Physical Education will complete the entire, year-long, course.
4. Each completed sport season will count for a semester's credit in Physical Education. For credit, a student-athlete must finish the season in good standing. Student-athletes that are removed from a team for academic or disciplinary reasons will receive no Physical Education credit. Student-athletes that quit part way through a season will receive no Physical Education credit. Student-athletes that are injured during the season, having already made the team, will be given credit for completion of the season in good standing. Injured student-athletes will be asked to support their team in a manner deemed appropriate by their coach.
5. A student-athlete can receive no fewer than five units and no more than ten units of P.E. credit each year. This means that three sport student-athletes will receive two semesters of Physical Education credit per year.
6. Grades for athletic participation will be given. The athletic director will supervise grading with input from coaches. Grading will ultimately be the responsibility of the athletic director. A student-athlete that practices every day, and is present for all events, will receive an "A" grade for participation unless coach has contacted parents and athletic director and made it clear why the grade is being lowered. Effort by student-athlete in practice can be a factor. Problems in this area must be brought to the attention of the parents, by phone call or notice, and athletic director, prior to an athlete's grade being lowered.
7. Credits and grades will not be registered until the season for a team is finished. At that time, credits and grades for each grading period of participation will be given. Fall sports will be given credits and grades for grading period one, two, and three, winter and spring sports for grading periods four, five and six. This means that the grade for a student-athlete's participation will not be factored into their overall grade point average until their sport is done and, therefore, not help the student-athlete in terms of eligibility for the first grading period of their sport.

8. Student-athletes competing in two consecutive sports (i.e. fall, winter or winter, spring) will be given credits and grades for two consecutive semesters.
9. Any student-athlete in grades 10 through 12 who did not pass 5 of 6 Physical Fitness Standards are not eligible for athletic PE credit and must enroll in a Physical Education course to satisfy the 2-year PE requirement.

## **ARTICLE XVII. LETTERING AND AWARDS**

1. All student-athletes that finish a season in good standing (academically or behaviorally) will be eligible to receive a letter and/or individual award for their participation in a given sport.
2. Any student-athlete that quits a team or is removed from the team by the head coach will not be eligible to receive a letter and/or an individual award.
3. Any student-athlete that is suspended for the remainder of the season for athletic code violations will not be eligible to receive a letter and/or an individual award.
4. Letters and/or individual awards are awarded to players at the discretion of the varsity head coach of each given sport.

## **ARTICLE XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. All students are given a ten-day trial period in which they may decide that he/she does or does not wish to participate in a sport. During those ten practice days, there will be no penalty for dropping the sport.
2. Varsity head coaches reserve the right to hold players in their athletic program to a higher standard than what is outlined in this handbook (academics, behavior, attendance, etc.) when it comes to determining playing time and role on the team. These expectations will be communicated to the student-athletes in a given sport at the beginning of the season of sport.
3. Any student or spectator who steps onto the court or playing field to start or join a fight or behave in a manner that is any way inappropriate in an educational setting, is to be automatically ejected from the gym or playing field. Escalon High School administration is expected to take disciplinary action as soon as reasonably possible. Suspension from school and denial from future opportunities to participate as a spectator at athletic contests involving Escalon High School are but two of the penalties which can be imposed.
4. Dress/Personal Grooming
  - a. Student-athletes will follow the school's dress code at all times. More specific grooming and dress codes may be established by individual sports at the discretion of the varsity head coach of that sport.

## 5. Social Media

- a. Student-athletes are responsible for the content they post on social media.
- b. Any content on social media that puts Escalon High School in a negative light is strictly prohibited. This includes the posts displaying the use of or the promotion of tobacco, drugs or alcohol.
- c. The use of social media for the purpose of bullying will not be tolerated.
- d. Student-athletes that are found to be posting inappropriate content on social media will held accountable and consequences will be decided on by the Athletic Review Council, which may include suspension from participation in athletic events or complete removal from the team.

## 6. Gambling and Wagering

- a. Gambling and wagering, or habitually being present where gambling and wagering are taking place (EC 48900, sub-section k) is not allowed. The Athletic Review Council will review all cases.

## 7. Student Vehicles

- a. Student-athletes are expected to drive vehicles in a safe manner. Failure to do so will result in loss of driving privileges on the Escalon High School campus, suspension and/or other disciplinary action.
- b. Student-athletes shall not ride in vehicles during school hours or during the lunch break. Student-athletes riding and/or offering rides to others will be subject to disciplinary action and/or loss of driving/parking privileges on the Escalon High School campus.
- c. All student-athletes that drive to school are required to have a parking permit and park only in areas designated for student parking.
- d. If continual problems occur, the Athletic Review Council will review such cases.