

STUDENT ATHLETE HANDBOOK



Salem County Career and Technical High School

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Overview of Athletics Program

For the 2017-2018 school year the Career and Technical High School will offer high school athletics for the first time. The school is a standing member of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA). For this school year all athletics will be offered on a junior varsity level. All athletic teams will play under the nickname "Chargers". The Chargers will play as an independent for this upcoming athletic year and will also be a member of the New Jersey Technical Athletic Conference (NJTAC).

Fall Season

Boys Cross Country

Girls Cross Country

Girls Volleyball

Winter Season

Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball

Spring Season

Boys Volleyball

All full time students should participate in athletics at the Career and Technical High School. Students are permitted to participate in athletics at their resident high school in sports not offered at the Career and Technical High School. For the 2017-2018 school year students can participate in varsity level athletics at their resident school since not being offered at the Career and Technical High School.

Shared time students must participate in athletics at their home school.

Many of the core academic courses at the Career and Technical High School are approved by the NCAA Clearinghouse for scholarship eligibility.

Conference Participation

For the 2017-2018 school year the Salem County Career and Technical High School will compete as an independent school. As such student athletes will not be eligible for conference awards or recognitions.

The Salem County Career and Technical High School is an active participant in the New Jersey Technical Athletic Conference (NJTAC)

Academic Eligibility

The highest priority of student athletes remains academic performance and attainment of post-secondary pursuits and goals. The school's athletic program serves as an extra-curricular activity provided to support academics while enhancing the high school experience for students. Athletic participation can build and foster important skills of communication, team building, leadership and collaboration. The commitment and dedication to athletics should coincide with the student's academic progress.

In the event the athletic schedule or game conflicts with class work and assignments, student athletes should arrange with their teachers and coaches to make an appointment for extra help before school or after school prior to practice.

1. To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31) a pupil must have passed (40) credits as required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120) and SCVTS (140), during the immediate preceding academic year.
2. To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (February 1 to June 30) a pupil must have passed (20) credits as required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120) and SCVTS (140), during the immediate preceding semester.
3. An athlete becomes ineligible for high school athletics if he/she attains the age of 19 prior to September 1. However, any student attaining the age of 19 after September 1 shall be eligible for the ensuing school year.

No student shall be eligible for high school athletics after the expiration of eight consecutive semesters following their entrance to ninth grade.

Attendance Requirements and Regulations

1. Students are expected to attend all scheduled practices and competitions. Each sport team will provide a schedule before the season gets underway.
2. If an athlete is absent from school, he/she is not permitted to practice or participate in a scheduled event on that day. The exceptions are prearranged appointments as approved by the principal.
3. Attendance at Practice/Game:
 - a. A student must meet the school's "legal attendance" requirement in order to practice or play in a game. This means the student must sign in by 9:00 a.m. and remain in school until the 2:23 p.m. dismissal. The only exceptions are prearranged appointments as approved by the principal.
 - b. Each head coach will verify daily the legal attendance in school of his or her athletes. Those found to be illegally absent and appear for practice or a game will not be allowed to participate.
4. Any athlete who is suspended shall not be allowed to participate in any athletic event during the period of suspension. Interpretation: If a student is serving a suspension on a Friday, he/she is not eligible for participation over the weekend.
5. When school is closed due to inclement weather, there shall be no activities conducted. Exceptions must have the prior approval of the Principal.
6. Once a competition gets underway, all decisions regarding play are within the jurisdiction of the game/meet official(s). Refusal to play could result in probation or suspension and/or fines per NJSIAA rules and regulations.

Insurance for Athletic Activities

All students are covered by the school's insurance policy as secondary coverage. This means that the parent's/guardian's medical insurance will be used first as the primary insurance and any costs beyond the primary carrier's coverage will then be covered by the school's policy. Parents/Guardians must submit the proper paperwork to the school for coverage to be enacted. This paperwork along with the accident report form can be picked up from the school nurse's and/or athletic trainer's office.

Athletic Training Room

The Athletic Training Room was designed to better serve our student-athletes and teams. Please see that all general rules and guidelines are followed when you are utilizing these services.

1. All injuries, no matter how minor, need to be reported immediately to the coach and to the athletic trainer for proper examination.
2. No student or athlete is permitted to be in the training room for any reason without direct supervision by the athletic trainer/coach.
3. All athletes are required to sign-in no matter how insignificant the visit.
4. The use of any therapeutic modality and all supplies must be under constant supervision. Pupils are not permitted to use any therapeutic modality unless the athletic trainer or a faculty member is present.
5. Nothing is to be removed from the training room without advising the athletic trainer.

Cancellation of Athletic Activities

1. When the Career and Technical High School is closed due to inclement weather, there shall be no activities conducted. During days of such closings, students and/or teams shall not participate in any athletic activity scheduled outside of our school. Exceptions must have the prior approval of the Principal.
2. In the event of an emergency closing where the safety of the student body is involved, no activities are to be scheduled for the remainder of the day. In the event of a closing due to partial heat failure, etc., PM activities may continue with approval of the building Principal.
3. Cancellation of school athletic activities on non-school days (holidays and weekends) shall be the responsibility of the Principal. Coaches shall stay in close contact with the Principal on such days. Notification will be made through the school's Connect Ed phone notification system and posted on the school's Facebook page.
4. Cancellation of school athletic activities on school days due to inclement weather shall be the responsibility of the Principal. Notification will be made through the school's Connect Ed phone notification system and posted on the school's Facebook page.

Discipline during Athletic Activities

All coaches are to address discipline and consequences of certain actions in the specific team's rules and regulations. Keep in mind that the school board's policy pertaining to student's rights will supersede all rules. Parents must read and sign off on a form declaring that they have read the team rules, understand them, and will accept the consequences of any infractions as stated in the rules. This must be done before participation is granted to their son or daughter. The key to good discipline is creating an open line of communication and leading by example. Keep in mind that a student may be dismissed from the team for any conduct that brings the person, the team, the school, and/or the community into negative light. The Principal will make these decisions after careful review of each situation.

Sportsmanship – Code of Conduct

Good sportsmanship is one of the key areas of emphasis for all our teams and student-athletes. It is imperative for all student-athletes, parents, coaches and other spectators to understand that the athletic programs coincide with the Career and Technical High School's educational objectives first. The field of play is an extension of the classroom. With this in mind, it is expected that all behavior surrounding our athletic programs reflect the same atmosphere that we demand in all academic classrooms. Spectators should remain positive and not allow their emotions to interfere with the competition in any manner. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated from students, coaches, or spectators. Please be vigilant and proactive in approaching anyone that is not maintaining good sportsmanship. Realize ahead of time that not all officials' calls may go our way. Always turn a negative situation into a positive learning experience. Always model the appropriate respectful behavior. Any person failing to comply with this code or the spirit of these rules may be prohibited from attending further athletic events.

CTHS Parent Athlete Agreement

Purpose

This parent and athlete agreement was developed by the Career and Technical High School administration to provide the parents and student athletes with code of conduct expectations basic information that is important to successfully participate in our interscholastic programs. The intent of this agreement is to ensure all athletic activities and events maintain an atmosphere of respect and safety. We hope that a clear understanding of our athletic goals will make your athletic participation at the Salem County Career and Technical High School a positive and rewarding experience.

Student Athlete

This agreement provides the conditions set forth by this school and the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) rules and regulations, as well as your responsibility to yourself, your team, and the Salem County Career and Technical High School (CTHS).

The purpose of the athletic program is to provide the student athlete with an opportunity to compete in an atmosphere of cooperation with teammates and coaches. Through this experience the student athlete will have opportunities to exhibit self-discipline, responsibility, decision-making, social conscience and awareness.

The CTHS athletic program provides the student athlete with the ability to satisfy a desire to perform in an active and physical manner. It is established to provide a wholesome balance to adolescent life. The athletic program provides student with invaluable life experiences through team work, wellness, good natured competition, and enjoyment.

Participation in the program is considered a privilege extended by the Board of Education to students who choose to participate.

Parents

Parents and coaches should work together to ensure the student athlete has the best experience possible. A student athlete is an individual who is part of a team. The well-being of that student athlete is of paramount concern to his or her parents. The concern of the coach is for all of his or her athletes to be a part of the entire team. It cannot be overemphasized that the only way that can be successful in this effort is to have the parents and coaches work communicate and maintain respect for one another.

Parent Support and Participation During Competition

1. Please do not shout advice during the game

- A steady stream of technique suggestions is distracting to your player and has no value. Your insightful tips may be in conflict with the coach's instructions and game plans.
- Encouragement and support is appropriate at all times.

2. Do not harass or intimidate the officials

- Parents that loudly harass the official(s) are embarrassing to the player and the team. You may disagree with an official's decision, but it is not the parent's place or responsibility to express this to an official
- If an official is being reamed by a parent for a bad call what does the player learn? The player that makes a mistake thinks that he or she is not wrong, but that the official caused the bad call. Nothing is learned.
- One of the benefits of playing sports is learning to accept responsibility, instead of making excuses. Sometimes a bad call is hard to accept. Such times are tests of emotional control. If a player can learn to move on, a parent can learn to sit quietly for a moment and let the emotion to yell pass.
- Learning to cope with disappointment is a valuable life skill.

3. Do not blame the coach

- It is not the coaches' fault for your child's problems or lack of playing time. It is the coaches' decision but not his or her fault.
- Your child's struggles to succeed are your child's problem which can be solved by working through the struggles. Allow your child to work them out without interference.

- Of course the player has every right to ask a coach what needs to be done to earn more playing time. The parent has a right to find out what the coach suggested to the player and then help their child to achieve their goals.

4. Do not speak poorly or in ill will towards the coach

- Remember it is a joint effort.
- The worst thing a parent can do is speak negatively about the coach, criticize decisions, and complain about the coach's leadership. Balance support to your child with support for the coach and stand behind his or her decisions.

5. Do not harass the other teams' players or coaches

- The other team's players are off limits. Yelling at another player is a shameful practice for an adult at a sporting event. How would you like it if someone were yelling at your child? As a parent be involved in a positive way. Attend the games as often as you can. Cheer for all the kids on the teams. If you are able help with fundraisers, team events, and especially being there when your child needs you. If you are not sure how to help ask the coach.

Conclusion

The contents of the Student Athlete are subject to change throughout the school year based on any changes received through NJSIAA. If this occurs student athletes and parents will be appropriately notified.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Career and Technical High School Principal, Mr. Jason Helder at (856) 769-0101 ext. 5374 or by email at jhelder@scvts.org.

GO CHARGERS!!!