

Arlington Public Schools Athletics
1439 North Quincy Street Arlington, Virginia 22207

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Acknowledgment and Assumption of Risk: We, the student athlete and parents or guardians who have signed the form below if the student athlete is under the age of eighteen (18), consent to the student athlete's athletic participation and transport through Arlington Public Schools. We agree to follow the rules and instructions of the student athlete's school, the coaching staff, athletic trainers and the Virginia High School League (VHSL) and to abide by their administrative decisions. We agree to and understand the many risks involved in athletic participation. We understand that injuries requiring medical attention, serious injuries, permanent disability or death can result from such participation. Further, because athletic participation involves shared facilities, equipment and physical contact, student athletes are at increased risk for exposure to communicable diseases and skin infections. I choose to voluntarily accept all such risks. With the full understanding of the risks involved, we agree and accept all responsibility for the student athlete's safety, health and welfare while participating in athletics.

Skin infections and communicable diseases: Risks for exposure to these conditions can be minimized by good hygiene, showering, daily washing of athletic clothing and not sharing personal use items.

Consent to release health information: We hereby authorize the use or disclosure of the student athlete's personally identifiable health information (PHI) should, in the opinion of APS staff, treatment for illness or injury become necessary. We understand that it is the parent or guardian's sole responsibility to provide health insurance and/or to assume financial responsibility for any medical bills arising from any accident, illness or injury to the student athlete, including any ambulance fee. We understand that we have the right to withdraw this consent to release medical information at anytime upon written notice to the Athletic Director at the school.

Proper Use and Fitting of Equipment: Athletic participation may require the use of equipment, pads, helmets, life vests and other safety equipment. We understand that the proper and consistent use of such equipment is mandatory. We further agree to follow manufacturer instructions and all appropriate training and rules regarding safe conduct and proper equipment use and fitting during athletic participation. We further understand that the use of such equipment does not avoid or necessarily diminish the risk of injury, including paralysis, disability or death.

If using a helmet, the student athlete agrees not to use this helmet to ram, spear or butt an opposing player or teammate. This is violation of the rules and can result in injury, paralysis or death to you or others. Football players must exercise good tackle, blocking, contact and other skills.

Good Sportsmanship Pledge: We acknowledge that as parents, guardians or as a student athlete that we each are role models. We will remember that school athletics is an extension of the APS learning environment, offering learning experiences for all students. We must show respect for all players, coaches, other student athletes, referees/umpires and spectators. We understand the spirit of fair play and the good sportsmanship expected by APS, our conference and VHSL. We hereby accept our individual responsibilities to be a model of good sportsmanship.

Transportation for Athletic Events: APS makes every effort to provide transportation to its student athletes. If transportation is by private vehicle, the vehicle owner's liability coverage is applicable to any vehicular accident. Parent or adult drivers should be aware that they may be held responsible for property damage or any injuries to any individuals they are transporting. All drivers must certify that

any private vehicle used is covered by at least the Virginia State required insurance coverage and must hold a valid drivers license. We agree and understand that APS is not responsible for, nor accepts any liability for, transportation provided by private vehicle. APS does not insure any operator of a private vehicle, even if such vehicle is used to transport persons or equipment to or from a school-sanctioned event.

Concussions and Students: Concussions can occur in any sport. An athlete who is identified as having, or is suspected of having, a brain injury will be removed from practice/game and not allowed to return unless cleared by a licensed health care provider. An athlete should not return to physical activity while still experiencing symptoms since the brain is particularly vulnerable to further injury and more permanent damage or even death. Concussions are managed best by a multi-disciplinary approach that includes the student-athlete, parent, school and medical personnel. By our signatures below, we (the student-athlete and his/her parent or guardian) acknowledge receipt of, and certify that we have read in its entirety and understand, "Concussion Fact Sheet" provided by the Arlington Public Schools which is also found at the secondary schools web site. We further understand that if we have any questions about the information we can contact the high school athletic trainer or director of student activities, or the middle school student activity coordinator.

This form should be signed by both parents and/or guardians. In the event that the signature of one of the parents or guardians cannot be provided in time for the student athlete to tryout or participate, the signing parent certifies that he or she is signing on behalf of both parents and/or guardians and gives permission for the student athlete to tryout and participate in the APS athletic program.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I STATE THAT THIS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN CAREFULLY READ AND UNDERSTOOD BY ME. I ACKNOWLEDGE ITS TERMS AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THEM.

Student Athlete

Date

Parent or legal guardian

Date

Parent or legal guardian

Date