

South Lyon Community Schools

Department of Athletics

Code of Conduct

INTRODUCTION

It is the responsibility of student-athletes to become familiar with the specific rules and regulations of each sport as well as the general policies of this Athletic Code of Conduct. The South Lyon Athletic Code of Conduct shall be enforced for the entire calendar year, including summer months and vacation periods. Enforcement of the Athletic Code of Conduct shall apply to any violation that occurs during those time frames. Student-athletes should realize that the **Athletic Code of Conduct rules and regulations apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year and are not just limited to student behavior at school-sponsored activities or on school property.** A student-athlete who violates the Athletic Code of Conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the penalty provisions of the Athletic Code of Conduct. This is in addition to any disciplinary action leveled upon the student by the school itself. Also, each individual coach reserves the right to enact additional rules and regulations for his/her team. It is understood that the Athletic Code of Conduct provides minimum guidelines and any coach may establish rules specific for his/her program consistent with the Athletic Code of Conduct after review with and approval by the Athletic Director. The Athletic Code of Conduct will be reviewed and discussed prior to the start of each season.

PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

The South Lyon Community Schools believe that athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. Not everyone can be a member of a team, but everyone can benefit from the programs offered by the Athletic Department. Our purpose is to provide experiences not otherwise available in the school classroom curriculum. The criteria upon which our programs are judged are as follows:

1. Athletic participation is a privilege not a right.
2. Sportsmanship is our top priority. Since the community as a whole provides the support necessary to operate the athletic program, the student-athletes and coaches should always conduct themselves in a manner that brings only respect and admiration to themselves, the school, and community.
3. Participation is for those who demonstrate outstanding skills in the respective sports.
4. Success is not measured in terms of wins and losses. Rather we hope to develop character, improve skill performance and represent our school and community well.

The main objective of the Athletic Department is to promote a series of athletic contests with other schools for the purpose of developing good sportsmanship, new friendships, improved skills, and better community relations. The athlete will be offered increased opportunities for:

1. Learning sportsmanship and being afforded the opportunity to display good sportsmanship. Student-athletes should recognize that they are in a very visible position and with this increased visibility comes increased responsibility.

Because of this responsibility, student-athletes are expected, through their example, to encourage other students to exhibit acceptable behavior.

2. Improving physical skills and establishing exercise habits that promote good health.
3. Developing strong and lasting friendships.
4. Developing the understanding that the rules of a game are similar to the rules of everyday life.

ATHLETIC CONFERENCE AFFILIATION

KLAA-High School

South Lyon East High Schools is a member of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA) which is composed of the following 24 schools and divided into 4 divisions:

<u>South</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>West</u>
Livonia Churchill	Livonia Stevenson	Lakeland	Brighton
Livonia Franklin	Northville	Walled Lake Central	Grand Blanc
Plymouth	Novi	Walled Lake Northern	Hartland
Canton	Salem	Walled Lake Western	Howell
Wayne Memorial	South Lyon	Waterford Kettering	Milford
Westland John Glenn	South Lyon East	Waterford Mott	Pinckney

KLMSL-Middle School

Centennial & Millennium Middle Schools are members of the Kensington Lakes Middle School League (KLMSL). This league is comprised of the middle schools located in the same school districts as the high schools in the KLAA. The divisional alignment of the KLMSL and the teams each school plays against varies depending on the sport.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM OFFERINGS

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Cheerleading-Sideline	Basketball (Boys) *	Baseball
Cross Country (Boys)*	Basketball (Girls)	Golf (Boys)
Cross Country (Girls)*	Bowling (Boys)	Lacrosse (Boys)
Equestrian	Bowling (Girls)	Lacrosse (Girls)
Football	Cheerleading-Competitive	Soccer (Girls)
Golf (Girls)	Ice Hockey	Softball
Pom Pon	Pom Pon	Tennis (Girls)
Soccer (Boys)	Skiing (Boys)	Track & Field (Boys)*
Swim & Dive (Girls)	Skiing (Girls)	Track & Field (Girls)*
Tennis (Boys)	Swim & Dive (Boys)	
Volleyball*	Swim & Dive MS Co-Ed	
	Wrestling*	

* Denotes MS athletic offerings.

REGULATIONS

In addition to the rules and regulations set forth by the representatives of the South Lyon Community School District, South Lyon Community Schools is also a member of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA) and the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). South Lyon Community Schools, representatives of the district, parents and students are expected to follow and abide by all rules and regulations of these governing entities.

The Kensington Lake Activities Association athletic program, promotions, and athletic support for students will include the following: exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership; exemplify good sportsmanship; respect the integrity and judgment of officials; shows respect for opposing players, coaches, and spectators; recognize and show appreciation for outstanding plays by either team. This includes the following guidelines:

1. Do not use profanity or obscene language. Refrain from cheers which downplay the opponent.
2. Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and in meeting/talking with the media. Confine remarks to game statistics and to the performance of your team.
3. The use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) is strictly prohibited. No smoking on the premises during an event.
4. Finally, a sign shall be posted at every league school that includes the following:
 - a. Unless authorized by school officials, parents or spectators are not allowed on the field or playing area at any time.
 - b. Be positive. Negative or profane language is strictly prohibited.
 - c. Respect the Referees and Game Officials.
 - d. No coaching from the sidelines by parents or spectators.
 - e. At indoor events, including ice rinks, no artificial noise makers allowed.
 - f. At outdoor events, noise makers may be allowable subject to the discretion of the school administration. (No air horns, whistles, or other items which would present an imminent danger will be allowed.
 - g. No alcohol or tobacco is allowed at youth or school activities.
 - h. Help keep the area clean. Please use receptacles.
 - i. Be generous when you win, be graceful when you lose.
 - j. Appropriate shirts must be worn at all times.
 - k. Signs may be allowable subject to the discretion of the school administration.

School officials retain the right to refuse admittance or remove a person(s) from an event due to inappropriate behavior

Enrollment

To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must be enrolled in a high school or middle school not later than the fourth Friday after Labor Day, (1st semester) or the fourth Friday of February, (2nd semester). A student must be enrolled in at least twenty credit hours in the school for which he/she competes.

Age

A student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contests must be under nineteen years of age, except that a student whose nineteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1 or a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Any

student born before September 1, 1989, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan.

Summer Dead Period

Coach and Student Athletes must observe the Summer Dead Period as set forth by the MHSAA. The Summer Dead Period is a period of seven consecutive calendar days after school is out in June and after a school's participation in MHSAA tournaments is completed. This dead period will be the week which includes the July 4th holiday of any given year.

Physical Examinations

No student shall be eligible to tryout, practice or participate without a SIGNED (M.D., D.O. or another authorized professional) current year physical on file with the athletic department certifying that the student has passed a physical examination and is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests. (*A current year physical is interpreted as any physical examination given on or after April 15th of the previous school year.)

Transfers

A student enrolled in grades 9-12 who transfers from one high school or junior high/middle school to another high school is ineligible to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest or scrimmage for one full semester in the school to which the student transfers.

* Ask Athletic Director to refer to MHSAA rules for exceptions relative to transfers.

In addition, a student transferring to South Lyon Community Schools to escape the consequences of his/her actions at a previous school may also be deemed ineligible even if he/she otherwise satisfies the MHSAA transfer regulations.

Limited Team Membership

A student who, after practicing with or participating in an athletic contest or scrimmage as a member of a high school athletic team, participates in any other athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same season, shall become ineligible for a minimum of the next three days of competition and maximum of the remainder of that season in that school year.

* Ask Athletic Director to refer to MHSAA Rules for exceptions to this regulation.

HS Academic Standards & Eligibility

ELIGIBILITY COMPONENT RATIONALE

1	Minimum semester grade point requirement of 1.70 and no end of semester E's establishes eligibility for next semester	When SLCS utilizes pluses and minuses for grading, this GPA represents a C-. We believe that this is a reasonable minimum standard for eligibility.
2	Minimum 1 st , 2 nd , 4 th , and 5 th marking period requirements once eligibility is established = passing 4 classes. 3 rd and 6 th marking period grades are not counted toward eligibility because students receive those grades simultaneously with semester grades.	This allows students to experience difficulty, receive a "warning" and have the opportunity to improve their performance prior to being declared ineligible.
3	Minimum time of ineligibility = marking period as long as student regains eligibility with a 1.7 GPA and no E's	The student should be able to spend a marking period focusing on studies prior to having eligibility restored.
4	Semester incompletes must be eliminated to restore eligibility with a 1.70 GPA and no E's.	Student is in control of the timeframe for making up incompletes. We believe that this will minimize incompletes being utilized to circumvent the purpose for incompletes.
5	Co-curricular activities: defined as the following classes (band, choir, leadership) that require a student to participate in any capacity in a public performance or to serve as a representative of SLCS as a component of the assessment for the class. Participation in co-curricular activities requires compliance with the code of conduct for extra-curricular handbook and the academic standards. If a student is ineligible for public performances due to failure to meet academic or behavioral standards as defined in this handbook, alternative assessments shall be provided. This will allow students to attend class, receive a grade and still adhere to the eligibility requirements.	In an effort to support the performing arts and other co-curricular activities, students enrolled in co-curricular activities may participate in performances at the high school or at other schools within the district during regular school hours (7:30 am to 2:15 pm), in accordance with rationale #10 below.
6	Dual enrollment, summer school and on-line classes will be considered for eligibility.	Classes that substitute for on-site curriculum classes as identified in the student handbook are subject to approval of the building principal.

7	Night school classes will not be considered for eligibility.	Students should not be attending classes both day and night to restore eligibility.
8	Special education students will be required to comply with academic and behavioral standards subject to the individual's IEPC as provided in the state and federal laws.	If a special education student is at risk of a failing grade in a class, the IEPC process may be a suitable course of action.
9	After August 11th of each year, activities that are impacted by eligibility standards are:	Tryouts, practices, and games, events and activities that occur before or after regular hours on home course, field, arena, court, pool (etc) or at away events.
10	Activities not impacted by eligibility standards are:	Summer camp and activities during regular school hours, as long as the activities are not competitions, games, events, festivals or contests 8/20/01

<i>2008-2009 Marking Period Ends</i>	<i>Re-Evaluation of Eligibility Status</i>
10-10-08	10-17-08
11-21-08	11-28-08
1-22-09	1-29-09
3-13-09	3-20-09
5-1-09	5-8-09
6-10-09	

RULES AND CONDUCT

Representing the South Lyon Community Schools in an interscholastic athletic competition is a privilege, not a right. Students who participate in South Lyon's interscholastic athletic program are expected to represent the highest ideals of character by exemplifying good conduct, good citizenship and good sportsmanship. South Lyon student-athletes are also expected to engage in good training habits, which include abstaining from the use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, anabolic steroids and human growth hormone. Separate and apart from a student's performance as an athlete, the student's conduct, citizenship, sportsmanship and training habits reflect at all times on the student-athlete, his or her team, our school and our community. Accordingly, the Board of Education establishes this Athletic Code of Conduct for all students who aspire to participate in interscholastic athletics as representatives of South Lyon Community Schools.

- A. Violations of federal, state or local law/ordinance including felony or misdemeanor acts other than minor traffic offenses.** Conviction of said offenses is not necessary to establish a violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct, which will be determined through an independent school investigation. A conference will be held with the coach, student, student's parents or guardians, the Athletic Director and/or Principal to determine appropriate penalties. Depending upon the severity of the incident penalties will range from restitution, suspension from athletic competition or dismissal from the squad.

- B. Cumulative or gross misconduct, including behavior which school officials consider conduct unbecoming an athlete and a representative of the South Lyon Community Schools.** A conference will be held with the coach, student, student's parents or guardians, the Athletic Director and/or Principal to determine appropriate penalties. Depending upon the severity of the incident penalties will range from suspension from athletic competition to dismissal from the squad.
- C. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and are prohibited at all times.** Hazing is defined as any willful act done by a student, whether individually or in concert with others, to another student for the purpose of subjecting such student to humiliation, physical abuse or threats of abuse, social or other ostracism, shame or disgrace. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition. A conference will be held with the coach, student, student's parents or guardians, the Athletic Director and/or Principal to determine appropriate penalties. Depending upon the severity of the incident penalties will range from suspension from athletic competition to dismissal from the squad.
- D. Violations of the Student Handbook. Penalties are detailed in the student handbook.** Should a fight occur during an athletic practice or competition, penalties as prescribed in the student handbook may also be enforced.
- E. Violation of any team conduct rule as may be established by the team's head coach and approved by the Athletic Director.**
- F. Use, possession, concealment, distribution, sale or being under the influence of those substances listed in Items 1-5 below violates the Athletic Code of Conduct.** For purposes of this section of the Athletic Code of Conduct, the term "distribution" includes the "hosting" of a party at which any of the following substances listed in Items 1-5 are knowingly available:
1. Tobacco or tobacco products in any form;
 2. Alcohol or alcoholic beverages in any form;
 3. Illegal drugs, including but not limited to those substances defined as "controlled substances" pursuant to federal and state statute.
 4. Steroids, human growth hormones, or other performance-enhancing drugs;
 5. Substances purported to be illegal, abusive or performance-enhancing, i.e. "look-alike drugs."
- * It shall not be a violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct for an athlete to use or possess prescription or patient drugs when taken pursuant to a legal prescription issued by a licensed practitioner. An athlete shall notify his/her coach if he/she is taking prescription medicine which could alter the athlete's behavior or affect the athlete's ability to participate in a physical activity.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship Expectations

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association supports good sportsmanship by providing a code of good sportsmanship, educational problems to promote sportsmanship and a system of discipline to enforce appropriate behavior.

Mission Statement

“Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation, Michigan High School Athletic Association and Kensington Lakes Activities Association as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities, which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.”

Sportsmanship Expectations

Local School Board

- Adopt policies (upon recommendation of the administration) which reflect that community’s educational objectives and that promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, ethics and integrity.
- Remain a policy-making body and allow the administration to do its job. The board’s role is to develop policies, which are interpreted and administered by other school officials.
- Support standards for athletic participation which reinforce that activities are a privilege, not a right.
- Attend and enjoy school activities, serving as a positive role model and expecting the same from parents, fan, participants, coaches and other school personnel.
- Support and reward participants, coaches, school administrators and fans that display good sportsmanship.
- Recognize the value of school activities as a vital part of education.

School Administration

- Develop a program for promoting the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship within the school, the league/conference and the Michigan High School Athletic Association. This program should stress that disrespectful behavior, especially taunting, trash talking and intimidation, will not be tolerated.
- Provide appropriate supervisory personnel for each interscholastic event.
- Support participants, coaches and fans that teach and display good sportsmanship.
- Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches and fans.
- Attend events whenever possible and function as a model of good sportsmanship. This includes communicating with spectators during an event what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Coach

- Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership, adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards. Practicing good citizenship is practicing good sportsmanship!
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Describe and define respectful and disrespectful behavior. Stress that disrespectful behavior, especially taunting, trash talking and intimidation, will not be tolerated.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.

- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and in meeting/talking with the media. Please confine your remarks to game statistics and to the performance of your team.
- Instruct participants and spectators in proper sportsmanship responsibilities.
- Acknowledge participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship.
- Be no party to the use of profanity or obscene language or improper actions.

Student Athlete

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility and the privilege of representing your school and community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the basic rules of the game.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated.
- Refrain from taunting, trash talking or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature. Refrain from intimidating behavior.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
- Win with humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity.

Cheerleaders

- Understand the seriousness and responsibility of your role and the privilege of representing your school and community.
- Learn the basic rules of the game.
- Treat opposing cheerleaders the way you would like to be treated.
- Select positive cheers, which praise your team without antagonizing the opponents.
- Encourage a positive crowd alternative when booing or an inappropriate chant begins by starting a popular cheer.
- Use discretion in selecting the times to cheer. Give the opposing school the same amount of time your squad would want in performing cheers.
- Give encouragement to injure players and recognition to outstanding performances for both teams.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.

Other Student Groups

- Establish themselves as leaders in their conduct before, during and after contests and events. Always provide positive support for your team, rather than intimidating or ridiculing the other team.
- Assist cheerleaders with yells, chants, etc., and be a working part of pep assemblies, with preparation, organization and involvement.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups with respect and enthusiasm.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- Conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. Remember that you represent your school both home and away.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.

Spectators

- Remember that you are at a contest to support and yell for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Remember that school athletics are learning experiences for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the basic rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student athlete and appreciate their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before and during games, and afterwards on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment the efforts of school and league administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the benefits of educational athletics and the role of good sportsmanship to that end.
- Be a positive behavior role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you at events whose behavior is unbecoming.

Public Address Announcer

- Be impartial. Announce the contest with no show of favoritism.
- Use proper language at all times.
- Be enthusiastic but calm.
- Do not attempt to “talk over the crowd.”
- Do not anticipate or second-guess calls by the officials or criticize official’s decisions, directly or indirectly.
- Be aware of the entire venue so that calm directions can be given in an emergency. Serious situations can be avoided if the announcer will caution the crowd against coming onto the playing surface, throwing things and the like.
- Permit no one to use the microphone, except those in charge of the event and/or design of those in charge of the event. The announcer is responsible for whatever is said over the public address system.
- Announce convenient routes for spectators to leave the venue and caution the crowd to drive safely on its way home.
- Be aware that good sportsmanship is a very important part of interscholastic activities; reading a public service sportsmanship statement prior to the beginning of an event and at key times during breaks in the action contributes to a positive, educational atmosphere.

Acceptable Behavior

- Applause during introduction of player, coaches and officials.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive yells in a positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for their outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Taunting, trash talk and other intimidating actions.
- Not admonishing those sitting around you who engage in practice of poor sportsmanship.
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands.
- Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing own yells instead of following lead of cheerleaders.

Substance Abuse Penalties and Recommendations

Self-Disclosure-

Any athlete, who by himself/herself or together with his/her parent or legal guardian, voluntarily discloses to an administrator a need for assistance for alcohol or substance abuse *prior* to any reports, charges or complaints under the Athletic Code of Conduct shall be required to follow the chemical assessment/treatment procedures outlined in the Athletic Code of Conduct. Under such circumstances, the athlete will not be charged with a violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct, unless it is determined that the athlete has used this self-disclosure opportunity primarily to avoid a penalty under the Athletic Code of Conduct. This self-disclosure exemption is available to an athlete only *once* during his/her athletic career.

Third Violation -

The athlete shall lose the privilege of participating in interscholastic athletics for the remainder of his/her high school career.

Second Violation -

a. The athlete shall select either option 1 or option 2 as follows:

Option 1 - The athlete shall lose eligibility for one season of completion. The athlete must become involved in an outside treatment program for chemical dependency. Reinstatement after one season is not automatic, the director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification of participation before the athlete will be reinstated.

Option 2 - Athlete suspended for 36 weeks or 36 whichever is greater.

First Violation -

a. The athlete shall select either option 1 or option 2 as follows:

Option 1 - After confirmation of the first violation, the athlete shall lose eligibility for the 25% of the season. The athlete is expected to complete a substance abuse awareness program and will continue to practice but may not dress for a game or contest.

Option 2 - Athlete suspended for 20 events or 20 weeks whichever is greater.

*Please be aware that these athletic penalties will commence immediately following the completion of student's school corrective measure.

Penalties shall be cumulative beginning with and throughout the students' participation as an athlete. The penalties will overlap seasons and the offense will accumulate through the student athletes' career. Middle school students entering high school with one or no violations will begin with no record. Those with two or more violations will begin at the second violation level.

SQUAD CUTS

Interscholastic athletics exist for skilled and advanced athletes. Although "cutting" players from the athletic teams is discouraged, in certain sports maximum student participation levels must be established. If "cutting" of athletes becomes necessary, the coach will explain to the athletes the criteria for gaining membership to the team before practice begins. Those students not making the team will be entitled to have a personal interview with the coach.

CONFLICT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Being a member of an athletic team is an extra-curricular activity for the student. There may be occasions when the athlete will have a conflict of responsibilities. It is suggested that athletes use the prioritized list below when determining their prime responsibility:

1. Home and church responsibilities.
2. Academic responsibilities.

3. Athletic responsibilities.
4. Other school and social responsibilities.

If you are committed to the South Lyon Community Schools Athletic Program and are involved in the Amateur Athletic Union, (AAU) South Lyon Athletic Programs take precedence over AAU. Student-athletes missing South Lyon practices or competitions to attend AAU functions will be suspended from competition or dismissed from the squad.

Despite all scheduling efforts by the administration, conflicts will develop between extra-curricular activities. If a conflict should arise, it is the athlete's responsibility to report the conflict to their coach. The Athletic Department will do what it can to avoid conflicts.

VACATIONS DURING THE SEASON

Attendance at all practices and games is very important. A written notice from the athlete's parents establishing the dates of a vacation must be submitted to the head coach before an absence. Any athlete missing practice must recondition before participation will be permitted. Any absence for a vacation that the coach was not notified of will be considered unexcused. In addition to reconditioning after returning from an unexcused absence, the student-athlete faces additional consequences. For each 3 days of required practice missed, during school scheduled Winter, Mid-Winter and Spring Break the athlete will miss a minimum of one contest.

ATTENDANCE - SCHOOL & PRACTICE

Student-athletes are expected to attend and participate in all practices and team meetings, and carry out the directives of coaches.

In order to participate in any Athletic Department *PRACTICE OR CONTEST*, the athlete must be in attendance the entire school day of the practice or contest. In order to participate in an Athletic Department practice or contest that takes place on a day when school is not in session, the athlete must be in attendance the entire day preceding the day school is not in session. Exceptions would be such things as pre-arranged medical or dental appointments, scheduled court appearances, death in the family or funeral attendance. These must be cleared with the Athletic Director in advance.

Any athlete, who is suspended, (either out of school or in-school suspension) for violation of the policies and regulations of the student handbook, ***WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PARTICIPATION IN CONTESTS OR PRACTICES*** on the day that the suspension is served.

* Failure to attend a practice or competition without a valid excuse, (as outlined above) may result in loss of participation for up to one calendar week from the date of the unexcused absence.

* A second unexcused absence will result in up to two weeks loss of participation.

* A third unexcused absence will result in removal from the squad.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

As a representative of South Lyon Community Schools, exemplary personal appearance is important and is to be encouraged. On the day of a contest, (home or away) males shall wear dress slacks and appropriate dress shirt unless otherwise approved by the coach. Females shall wear dress slacks or skirts and an appropriate top unless otherwise approved by the coach. Hair will be kept neat and well groomed and not interfere with the athlete's ability to perform. During an athletic contest, all parts of the uniform must be worn. Any additional clothing worn during competition must be approved by the coach. Coaches will ask that inappropriate tattoos be covered during practice and competition.

TRAVEL

Transportation to and from away competitions will be by authorized school transportation. Any exception to this regulation will be arranged between the student athlete's parents and the coach in advance via a signed copy of the Athletic Transportation Waiver Form. Should the South Lyon Community Schools be unable to provide transportation, the Athletic Director and coach will work with the parents to arrange "caravans" as approved by the Athletic Director and the Principal. The South Lyon Community Schools Athletic Department promotes the "team concept" therefore no student-athlete will be allowed to leave until his/her team is completely finished with the competition or any post-game meeting. No athlete may leave a competition with any other adult or student.

EQUIPMENT

Any equipment issued to the student-athlete must be returned at the designated time in good order. The replacement costs of any lost or broken equipment must be reconciled or no awards or further participation will follow. Athletes must provide a lock for their personal belongings and equipment while at school.

QUITTING - SWITCHING SPORTS - DUAL PARTICIPATION

Quitting a team is a serious matter. A student-athlete may drop out of a sport only if he/she has personally contacted the coach. Switching from one sport to another after the season has begun is discouraged. If an athlete quits one sport after the season has begun he / she will not be eligible to participate in another sport without the prior consent of both coaches and the Athletic Director. Participation in two sports during the same season is discouraged. However, with the written consent of both coaches and the Athletic Director, a student-athlete may compete on two teams during the same season, (for sports teams where squad cuts are not involved).

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

The parents must understand that participation in athletics involves, in many cases, strenuous physical activity and physical contact. The school assumes the responsibility to provide proper equipment, facilities, and supervision. However, it is the **PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY** to provide the proper medical coverage to pay for any emergency or medical treatment required due to an injury. As a member of the M.H.S.A.A., South Lyon student-athletes are provided up to a maximum of \$250,000 for any one injury for excess medical expenses after a \$25,000 deductible per injury. This policy **DOES NOT** cover any out-of-season activities.

An athlete's parent or guardian must complete & sign the following 3 forms. The forms should be returned to the athlete's coach.

1. ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION/EXPECTATION FORM

2. **ATHLETIC EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM**
3. **MHSAA or DOCTORS PHYSICAL & MHSAA CONSENT FORM.**

PROPER SUPERVISION

Athletes are NOT TO BE IN THE LOCKER ROOMS, THE GYMNASIUM, THE WEIGHTROOM, THE POOL OR OTHER INDOOR ATHLETIC FACILITIES unless properly supervised by their coach. If a practice or game is not scheduled immediately after school, the athletes are to leave the building as soon as possible. Failure to abide by this regulation will result in disciplinary action.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

The following items provide the coach and Athletic Director with corrective measures not previously specified when dealing with violations. Any of the following corrective actions may be used depending upon the frequency and severity of the violation.

1. Coach and athlete meeting.
2. Parent conference with coach and/or athletic director.
3. Suspension from competition. The athlete will be required to participate in all practices and attend all contests, but will not be allowed to dress or participate in the contests.
4. Suspension from the team for the remainder of the season.
5. Suspension from all athletic department programs for the remainder of the semester or school year.

Any athlete not completing a season of competition due to academic ineligibility, disciplinary action or voluntarily quitting the team will not receive an award for that sport, from the Athletic Department, its programs, or coaches.

REVIEW PROCEDURES

Athletes will have the opportunity for review concerning corrective actions taken by a coach or the Athletic Director.

Steps for review:

1. The athlete must have met with the coach involved to try to solve the problem.
2. The athlete may request a review by the Athletic Director. This request must be in writing. This action must take place within 2 school days of the action taken by the coach. At this point the Athletic Director or designee will arrange a meeting with the coach, the athlete, and the parents. This meeting shall take place within 2 school days of the requested review.
3. After step 2, the athlete may request a review before the Building Principal or designee. Such a request must be done in writing within two school days of the Athletic Director's review of the issue. This meeting shall take place within 2 days of the requested review. The decision of the Building Principal or designee is final.

AWARDS

The Athletic Department will give the following awards:

- Student-athletes who maintain a GPA of 3.0 - 3.24 during their season of competition shall receive a bronze Scholar-Athlete Medal.

- Student-athletes who maintain a GPA of 3.25 - 3.74 during their season of competition shall receive a silver Scholar-Athlete Medal.
- Student-athletes who maintain a GP of 3.75 or above during their season of competition shall receive a gold Scholar-Athlete Medal.
- The GPA will be based on the following: For Fall sports, the 1st marking period GPA will be used for Winter Sports, the 3rd marking period GPA will be used. For Spring Sports, the 5th marking period will be used.
- An athlete who successfully completes 3 consecutive seasons, (fall, winter & spring) shall receive a South Lyon Triple-Threat Athlete T-Shirt. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Athletic Office for their award.
- An athlete who successfully completes 12 consecutive seasons, (fall, winter & spring for four consecutive years) shall receive South Lyon's Twelve Seasons Athletic Plaque. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Athletic Office for their award.

Freshmen athletes shall receive graduation year numerals after successfully completing their first season of competition. In addition, these athletes shall receive a freshman award certificate.

Junior Varsity athletes shall receive a junior varsity award certificate. **Note:** Any junior varsity athlete who has not already been awarded freshman numerals shall receive a certificate and numerals.

Varsity Any athlete who successfully completes a first season of varsity level competition, and meets any other requirements determined by the head coach, shall be awarded a varsity letter.

Any athlete, who successfully completes a season of varsity level competition but does not fulfill the requirements determined by the head coach, shall be awarded a participation award certificate.

Any athlete who has already been awarded a varsity letter who then successfully completes another season of varsity competition in a DIFFERENT SPORT shall receive a varsity certificate.

Any athlete, who successfully completes a second season of varsity competition in a PARTICULAR SPORT, shall be awarded a gold varsity medal.

Any athlete, who successfully completes a third season of varsity competition in a PARTICULAR SPORT, shall be awarded a silver varsity medal and a third year varsity plaque.

Any athlete, who successfully completes a fourth season of varsity competition in a PARTICULAR SPORT, shall be awarded a fourth year varsity plaque.

The Athletic Department will honor a senior athlete for each of the following awards: Male Athlete of the Year, Female Athlete of the Year, Male Academic Athlete of the Year and Female Academic Athlete of the Year. Criteria for the awards are available in the Athletic Director's office.