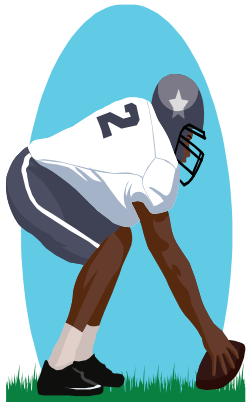
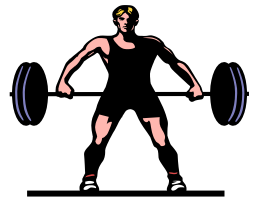


# Calhoun County School District

## ATHLETICS



## STUDENT/PARENT/GUARDIAN

## HANDBOOK

2025-2026

Approved – 7/8/2025



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## Student-Athlete Responsibilities....

Athletic participation is a privilege granted all students who voluntarily accept the rules and regulations outlined hereunder.

**Responsibilities to Yourself...**The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden one's self and to develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your high school experiences. Your studies and your participation in other extra-curricular activities as well as sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.

**Responsibilities to the Calhoun County School District...** As a student-athlete of the Calhoun County School District, you assume the responsibility of always acting as a "representative" of your school. The Calhoun County School District maintains its position as an outstanding district when you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in athletics to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school. You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the community know you. You are on stage with a spotlight on you. The student body, our community and other communities judge our district by your conduct and attitudes on and off the field. You will make the Calhoun County School District, your family and the community proud of you by faithfully upholding these ideals as a representative of your school.

**Responsibilities to Family and Community...**As an athletic team member, you also bear a heavy responsibility to your family and community. If you give yourself and your family actions to be proud of, you have measured up to the ideal. When you know in your heart that you have practiced to the best of your ability every day and that you have played the game all out, you can keep your self-respect and your family can be justly honored. The younger students in the local area schools are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Do not do anything to let them down. Set good examples for all that may see your actions. You never know who may be watching.

**Conduct of an Athlete...** The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in all of the following:

**On the Field...**In the area of athletic competition, the athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics, learns fast that losing is part of the game, and is gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate

the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

**In the Classroom...** In the academic area, a good athlete becomes a good student. A person who disciplines themselves in the classroom is training for the same level of commitment to excellence in their sport, ready to reach their full potential. As a student athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies to ensure acceptable grades. In addition to maintaining good scholarship, all student-athletes should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect to other students and faculty at all times. Horseplay and unnecessary boisterousness are not approved habits of behavior.

# Parent/Guardian and Coach Relationship

Both raising students and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to the student-athlete. As parents/guardians, when your student-athlete become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your student. This begins with clear communication from the coach and/or athletic department.

## **COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR STUDENT'S COACH and/or ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

1. Philosophy of the coach and/or athletic department.
2. Expectations the coach has for the student-athletes on the squad.
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning.
5. Procedures, should your STUDENT be injured during participation.
6. Discipline that may result in the denial of your student's participation.

## **COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM STUDENT-ATHLETE/PARENT (S)/GUARDIAN (S)**

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
4. Medical or physical limitations of the student-athlete.

As your STUDENTS become involved in the athletic programs they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your STUDENT may wish. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

## **APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES**

1. The treatment of your student, both mentally, and physically.
2. Ways to help your student improve.
3. Concerns about your student's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept that your student may not get the playing time you have hoped. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain

things can be and should be discussed with your student's coach. Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

**ISSUES “NOT” APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:**

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require conference between the coach and the parent/guardian. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern. We highly recommend that the above-mentioned items be left for discussion between the student-athlete and said coach.

**IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH, THIS IS THE PROCEDURE YOU SHOULD FOLLOW:**

1. Call to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, he/she will set up the meeting for you.

Please, **do not** attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolutions. Please, **do not** bash the coach.

**WHAT CAN A PARENT/GUARDIAN DO IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DOES NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION:**

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. Discuss with the Athletic Director the appropriate next steps.

Every effort should be made to resolve the problem at the high school before addressing your concerns with any District personnel.

Since research indicates a student involved in extra-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote success after high school. We hope the information provided within this pamphlet makes both you and your student's sports experience less stressful and much more

# CONTACT INFORMATION

**Altha Public School—Home of the Wildcats**

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**Athletic Secretary: Jenny Hill**

**Email: [Jenny.hill@calhounflschools.org](mailto:Jenny.hill@calhounflschools.org)**

POSITION	NAME OF COACH	EMAIL ADDRESS
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR	Jimmy Rogers	<a href="mailto:Jimmy.rogers@calhounflschools.org">Jimmy.rogers@calhounflschools.org</a>
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# CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Athletic Secretary: Jeannine Peacock**

**Email: [jeannine.peacock@calhounflschools.org](mailto:jeannine.peacock@calhounflschools.org)**

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BOYS /GIRLS WEIGHTLIFTING	Brad Waggoner/Michael Scott	<a href="mailto:brad.waggoner@calhounflschools.org/">brad.waggoner@calhounflschools.org/</a> <a href="mailto:michael.scott@calhounflschools.org">michael.scott@calhounflschools.org</a>



GIRLS BASKETBALL	Chris Works	<a href="mailto:chris.works@calhounflschools.org">chris.works@calhounflschools.org</a>
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## ELIGIBILITY STUDENT - GRADES 6—12

CS/HB225 was signed into law on 5/17/2023. The law authorizes traditional public-school students to participate at another public school in the same school district or may develop an agreement to participate at a private school in any sport/activity that is not offered at the zoned public school. The law also authorizes a public-school student who is participating in a sport/activity and who transfers to another school, to continue participating in that sport/activity at the pervious school through the remainder of that school year.

### A. Middle School (Grades 6—8)

Students entering the 6th grade for the first time must be regularly promoted from the fifth grade to be eligible during the fall semester. To be eligible during the spring semester and each semester thereafter, all middle school students must maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or higher for courses taken the previous semester.

### High School (Grades 9 –12)

1. Students entering the ninth grade for the first time must be regularly promoted from the eighth grade to be eligible during the fall semester of the ninth grade. To be eligible during the spring semester of the ninth grade, a student must have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher during the fall semester OR have signed an academic agreement with the zoned school at the beginning of the spring semester with the goal of achieving a 2.0 cumulative grade point average by the end of the year. The agreement will state the student's commitment to conscientiously engage in remedial activities as prescribed by the school's administration for the semester. Students entering the tenth grade for the first time and for each semester thereafter must have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher the previous semester to be eligible. Cumulative grade point average means the grade point average for all semesters in high school, not just for work completed the previous semester. Therefore, it will be possible in future years for a student to earn a 3.0 grade point average for a semester's work, but remain ineligible for the following semester because the cumulative grade point average remains below 2.0. After a grade has been recorded on an eligibility list the grade cannot be changed unless the teacher does it of their own volition.

### B. Attendance (Grades 6—12)

1. A student will attend a minimum of four periods before practicing or participating in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity for that day. (This rule will not apply to those students participating in school related activities during the day). If the

activity falls on a weekend or is held away from school during school hours, the student must have been in attendance for at least 4 periods on the previous day.

2. Students who represent school organizations or trips must have prior approval of the faculty sponsor and the principal at which time they will obtain their assignments. They are responsible for turning in assignments upon returning to the classroom.

#### C. Conduct Rules (Grades 6—12)

A student must maintain acceptable conduct (no grade unsatisfactory) and, if a student is convicted of or is found to have committed, a felony or a delinquent act which would have been a felony, if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon established and published school board policy. (Refer to Student Code of Conduct and Discipline, section VI, B(b). If a student quits a sport after the first official practice of the season, the student will not be eligible to participate in any other sport, until the season for the sport they quit has ended. Students who quit a sport must wait until that sport ends before they can begin playing another sport.

#### D. Debts

Students who have debts will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities (practices, games, meetings, assemblies, etc.) until these debts are paid.

#### E. County Wide Track Meet Requirements (Grades 6—8)

1. A 2.0 GPA for the school year.
2. No "U" in conduct for the year. No more than (one) "N" in conduct for the 3rd nine weeks.
3. Be 15 years of age or under.
4. No more than 3 days suspension during the 2nd semester.

# Calhoun County School District

## ATHLETIC CALENDAR

2025—2026

<b><u>FALL SEASON</u></b>	<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Practice</u></b>	<b><u>District</u></b>
Cross Country	July 28	November 3
Football	July 28 - No Contact August 2 - Contact	October 31 – Last regular season playing date
Volleyball	July 28	October 13
Competitive Cheerleading	September 29	January 8 – Last regular season playing date
<b><u>WINTER SEASON</u></b>	<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Practice</u></b>	<b><u>District</u></b>
Girls Basketball	October 27	February 1
Boys Basketball	October 27	February 1
Girls Weightlifting	October 6	January 17 - Last regular season playing date
Cheerleading	May 1	End of Basketball Season
<b><u>SPRING SEASON</u></b>	<b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Practice</u></b>	<b><u>District</u></b>
Baseball	January 12	April 14
Beach Volleyball	February 2	April 20
Boys Weightlifting	January 12	March 27
Softball	January 19	April 27
Track & Field	January 20	April 16

# Preparing for High School Athletics

## ELIGIBILITY

Student-Athletes must maintain unweighted 2.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) to be eligible to play. This is calculated on a semester basis.

All student-athletes must have a current completed physical (on FHSA form) on file with the school site (Forms EL-2, EL-3, and EL-3CH).

All student-athletes must have a signed HiPPA release form on file with the school site. Parent/Guardian and Student Contract (both sides) signed and on file at the school.

Transfer or New students must have a GA-4 form on file with the school.

All of the above mentioned items must be submitted prior to any student-athlete being eligible to participate in athletics for the Calhoun County School District. There can be other guidelines presented by each program that exceed these basic standards.

Homeschool and virtual school students must follow the same eligibility rules for participation in athletic activities

## TRYOUTS

Sports that require tryouts will have a minimum two day open tryout period.

Tryouts are conducted by coaches and staff. All decisions are at their discretion.

Be prepared to perform at the best of your ability. Do not wait until it's too late.

Some teams will have more than one level of participation; there may be both varsity and junior varsity along with the possibility of a freshman only team.

## GENERAL BEHAVIOR

It is our firm belief that if a student-athlete cannot maintain good and proper behavior with parents/guardian, neighbors, coaches, teachers, and fellow students; the student contributes to family, community, school, team, and himself. We will demand that our student-athletes exhibit **good manners** and **courteous behavior on and off the field**.

We trust that in challenging students to deliver their best, they will do just that.

Our goal is to develop the best young people in the state and nation. We know that this is only possible through discipline. For that reason we call on you who have reared these young people to support us in teaching the values in which you believe. Our training rules are simple.

No use of any tobacco products.

No drinking of any alcoholic beverage.

No drugs or association with anyone associated with drugs.

Observe any curfew established by coaches.

Attend all practices, meetings, and team activities on time.

Any player who puts self above rules could be subject to removal.  
Our student-athletes will be treated firmly but fairly.

#### ELIBILITY IF A STUDENT QUITTS A SPORT

If a student quits a sport after the first official practice of the season, the student will not be eligible to participate in any other sport, until the season for the sport they quit has ended. Students who quit a sport must wait until that sport ends before they can begin playing another sport. For example, if a student athlete quits being a cheerleader then that student athlete cannot participate/play another until that sport ends. Cheer season runs from May until the end of Basketball season in February or until the basketball is eliminated from the playoffs.

## • Good Cause Procedures, Athletics – Eligibility standards for extracurricular activities 2025/26

- 1.) A student not currently suspended from interscholastic or intrascholastic extracurricular activities, or suspended or expelled from school, pursuant to a district school board's suspension or expulsion power provided in law, including ss.1006.07, 1006.08 and 1006.09, is eligible to participate in interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular activities. (Per s.1006.195)
- 2.) All student athletes are to complete and submit the required online athletic packet prior to participating, in any capacity, in school interscholastic or intrascholastic extracurricular activities.
- 3.) A student's eligibility to participate in any interscholastic or intrascholastic extracurricular activity may not be affected by an alleged recruiting violation until final disposition of the allegation pursuant to s.1006.20 (2)(b). (Per s.1006.195)
- 4.) Falsification of any required documents shall result in loss of athletic eligibility for 365 days upon confirmation that documents submitted were falsified.
- 5.) Student discipline violations will be in accordance with the district's Code of Student Conduct.
- 6.) Current FHSAA Bylaws and Policies will be followed and adhered to for athletic eligibility.
- 7.) Non-Traditional students shall participate, in athletics, at the following locations -
  - 1.) Home Education                      Zoned Public School, Charter or Private school (if allowed) or if they attend a minimum of 1 class period, per day, at the choice school for the entire academic school year.
  - 2.) Charter School                      Zoned Public School, Charter or Private school (if allowed)
  - 3.) Special School                      Any Public School within Calhoun County
  - 4.) Non-Member Private                      Any Public school, charter or Private school (if allowed)
  - 5.) FLVS Full time                      Zoned Public School, Charter or Private school (if allowed)
  - 6.) Traditional Public                      Any Public School within Calhoun County or Private school (if allowed)
  - 7.) Public Transfer                      If the student participated in a sport at their previous school, the student could continue to participate in that sport at that school for the remainder of the school year.
- 8.) Any student athlete is subject to show continued evidence of "Residence Verification" if requested by school personnel.

9.) A student may not participate in a sport if the student participated in that same sport at another school during that school year, unless the students meet the criteria in s.1006.15 (3)(h). (Per s.1006.195). Participation is defined as the first day of the sport season as posted by the Florida High School Athletic Association. (FHSA) - \*

Exception to the rule

\* A student may transfer and participate in a sport (mid-season) even if they participated at another school if they

meet one of the following criteria (a-f): Item (g) student(s) shall be ruled ineligible but have the right to appeal.

a. Children of active duty military whose move resulted from military orders

b. Children relocated due to foster care placement.

c. Children who move due to a court-ordered change in custody due to separation, divorce, or serious illness or death of a custodial parent.

d. Authorized for good cause in district and or reassignment by District School Board.

e. Student(s) who apply for School of Choice prior to the start of the fall FHSA athletic season, as listed on the FHSA website, and are accepted within the first twenty (20) days of the start of the school year shall be eligible for athletic participation.

f. A student who transfers schools, prior to the start of the official spring football approved start date, will be automatically eligible for spring football even if they participated in fall football at their previous school.

g. Student(s) who transfer schools, after starting a sport, shall be ruled ineligible in that sport, but have the right to appeal to the district Athletic Eligibility Committee to be considered for reinstatement of eligibility

The committee will have ten (10) school days to schedule and hear the hardship case.

The Appeal Committee shall be made up of the following;

Chief of Staff of Human Resources and Student Services

One High School Principals whose school are not involved in the transfer of the student.

Representative from Student Services

Representative from District leadership team.

The Appeals committee decision will be final.

10.) Parents shall refer to the district Educational Choices and Innovation department for the required application for specific rules regarding the process for requesting another school.



## **FHSAA Operational Bylaw, Article 7**

### **Sportsmanship 7.1 SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES**

7.1.1 Sportsmanship Requirement. Players, coaches, administrators, spectators, contest officials and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school shall practice and promote the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethics before, during and after any interscholastic event.

7.1.2 Principal's Duty. It shall be the responsibility of each member school principal to exercise control over all individuals to the extent necessary to ensure safety and fair play for all participants and adherence with these standards.

### **7.2 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT**

7.2.1 "Unsportsmanlike Conduct" Defined. A student who commits an act of malicious and hateful nature toward a contest official, an opponent or any other person attending an athletic contest shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, profanity, striking or threatening a contest official; physical contact with an opponent which is beyond the normal scope of competition; spitting on a contest official or opponent; directing gender, racial or ethnic slurs toward a contest official, an opponent or any other person attending an athletic contest; or other such acts deemed to be unacceptable conduct according to the principal of the member school the student attends or this Association.

7.2.1.1 Penalty for Students. Students who are found to have committed unsportsmanlike conduct will be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition for a penalty period up to one or more calendar years.

7.2.1.2 Restoring Eligibility. The Executive Director, the Sectional Appeals Committee, or the Board of Directors on appeal, may restore the student's eligibility prior to the end of the penalty period, when in the discretion of the Executive Director, the student has been properly disciplined and the student signs a written statement of his/her intention to comply with these standards in the future.

7.2.2 Executive Director's Powers. The Executive Director shall have full authority to investigate allegations and incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct and invoke penalties against member schools or individuals involved.

7.2.3 Disqualifications. The disqualification from participation of a coach or student, or removal of a spectator or other representative of a member school due to unsportsmanlike conduct during an interscholastic event will subject the school to the appropriate penalties.

7.2.4 Removal by Coach or Administrator. The removal of a team or individual competitor by a coach or administrator because of their dissatisfaction with contest officials or other conditions of the contest shall be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will subject the school to the appropriate penalties.

7.2.5 Unsportsmanlike Conduct at Tournaments, Meets, or Contests. The Executive Director, in the event of unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of a representative of the member school during an athletic tournament, meet, or contest, shall have the authority to deny further participation at said tournament, meet, or contest, to such team or individual.

7.2.6 Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Human Growth Hormone, Steroids, Performance-Enhancing Drugs, or Schedule 3 Narcotics. The use of human growth hormone, steroids, performance-enhancing drugs, or schedule 3 narcotics by a student is considered to be an act of unsportsmanlike conduct, and as such the student shall be ineligible for competition until such time as medical evidence can be presented that the student's system is free of human growth hormone, steroids, performance enhancing drugs, or schedule 3 narcotics.

7.2.6.1 Any student-athlete under the care of a pediatric endocrinologist or an appropriately trained specialist being treated with idiopathic short stature (ISS) as outline by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) may appeal for exemption and shall provide appropriate medical documentation to the principal prior to competition.

7.2.6.2 Any student-athlete, under the direct care of a physician, who has been prescribed to use any hormone replacement drug shall provide the appropriate medical documentation to the principal prior to competition.

7.2.7 Crowd Control. Any member school whose principal commits unsportsmanlike conduct or whose principal fails to control the conduct of the student body, faculty, and spectators shall be subject to the appropriate penalties, which may include expulsion from membership in this Association.

# CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS

## STUDENT CONTRACT

### Student Conduct:

As members of athletic teams, students are high-profile representatives of the Calhoun County School District both on and off the field of play. All student-athletes are expected to act in an appropriate manner. The following behavior is inappropriate and will not be tolerated:

- Fighting and/or profanity
- Possession of, use of, or being under influence of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Rude or disrespectful behavior toward any person (i.e. teacher, parent, coach, official)
- Taunting opponents or official.
- Any act of which moral turpitude is in question (Internet, Cyber Bullying, etc...)
- Destruction of property

Any act of unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct will be dealt with swiftly. If the act occurs during an athletic contest, the student will be removed from the contest.

A student who strikes, curses or threatens an official, coach, or opponent during a game or at any other time because of resentment over occurrences or decisions, or who fails to maintain a standard of conduct satisfactory to the FHSAA and/or the school administration, shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for a period of up to six weeks.

A student who is ejected from a contest for a flagrant foul or unsportsman like conduct cannot participate in any contest for a minimum of one week, or if no contests are scheduled during that week, the next two contests.

Students who exhibit any of the above behaviors may be suspended from athletic competition for a period of time as per FHSAA regulations. Additionally, the student may face school disciplinary action per the Calhoun County School District Administrative due process.

X \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

# CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS

## PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTRACT

### Parent/Guardian Conduct:

Everyone associated with an athletic event plays an important role in seeing that standards of sportsmanship are upheld. Fans are reminded that their sportsmanship and behavior reflects upon the reputation of the Calhoun County School District.

### A Spectator should....

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship

- Respect, cooperate, and respond enthusiastically to cheerleaders.

- Censor fellow spectators who display negative behavior.

- Respect the property of the school and the authority of school officials.

- Never criticize the athletes or coaches for the loss of a contest.

- Accept the decisions of the officials.

Parents/Guardians, who do not adhere to sportsmanship guidelines may be removed from an athletic contest (s) for a period of time as determined by the Altha Public School or Blountstown High School administration.

X\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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