

2021-2022 CALHAN MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK CODE OF CONDUCT

LETTER TO PARENTS

Your son/daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics at Calhan School. Your family interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in athletics is an important part of the educational process. Participation in athletics provides a wealth of experience, which creates opportunities for personal growth and development. It is our hope to maintain a program that is sound in purpose and will further each student's educational maturity.

A student who elects to participate in the athletic program is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. These are the reasons that we place such stress on good training and study habits. Failure to comply with school rules and/or the coaches'/sponsors' rules for training may mean expulsion from the activity. There is no place in middle school athletics for students who will not discipline their minds and bodies for rigorous competition. We are striving for excellence and do not want our participants in athletics to compromise themselves with mediocrity.

We encourage you to communicate directly with the coaches/sponsors if you have concerns about your child's participation in our programs, and the benefits of that participation. We encourage our coaches/sponsors to communicate openly with parents or guardians, and we need your involvement to achieve the best possible programs. The following guidelines are for that single purpose.

CALHAN MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM (JJJ)

Students

Your years spent in middle school will provide some of the most memorable moments of your life. Interscholastic competition is an once-in-a-lifetime experience, which continues to influence you throughout your life.

Your participation in interscholastic middle school athletics is dependent on your eligibility.

Review the rules with your parents. Ask questions of your coaches and school administrators.

Parents

The value of participation in extracurricular activities has been well documented. Participants earn better grades, have better attendance, and have a greater chance for success in later life than non-participants.

One of the reasons for the value of middle school activities is that students must meet certain standards in order to maintain the privileges of competition.

Eligibility (JJJ-R)

If a student is failing one or more classes, or has 2 D grades then he/she will not be eligible to compete. The eligibility list is posted on Thursday of each week. A student will not be allowed to participate in competitions scheduled for the following week (Monday-Saturday).

Drop/Add

The middle school athletic practices are considered a part of the district curriculum and students earn a grade for participation. Therefore, drop/add periods for each athletic season will be established by the Activities Director and the Principal will be strictly enforced by the coaches and administration. Any student wishing to drop/add beyond the drop/add date will be considered on an individual basis by the Principal.

Items Required For Participation

The following forms must be turned in to the head coach and kept on file in the athletic office:

Physical Exam (JJ-R)

1. Signed by a medical doctor licensed to practice medicine by the State of Colorado.

2. Current within the last 12 month period.
3. On file with the Athletic Director and/or Principal.

BlueCard/Insurance (JLA)

Information cards that coaches carry to competitions (insurance, emergency contacts, etc.).

It is suggested by the Calhan Administration and Athletic Department, that each student athlete be insured. Evidence of insurance should be documented on the blue card. If insurance is not obtained, a signed waiver must be on file with the Activities Director.

Conduct

If you are ejected from a contest for un-sportsmanlike conduct, you will be ineligible for the next two contests (one in football, track, and wrestling). You may not participate in any contests at any other level during this period.

Activity Suspension

One of our expectations at Calhan Middle School is to promote an environment where the focus is on learning and appropriate social interactions. We expect all students to display acceptable behavior throughout the school day. If a student does not meet these expectations, the student may not be allowed to participate in after-school activities. This could include not playing in an after-school athletic competition or not being permitted to attend an event as a spectator. The decision for this consequence will be made by the Principal, and parents will be notified whenever this disciplinary action is taken.

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS

ACTIVITIES OFFERED

Calhan School offers the following interscholastic activities for students: football, basketball, track, wrestling, volleyball, matchwits, choir, band, and National Jr. Honor Society.

ATTENDANCE (JJ-R)

A student must be in school 4 periods on the day of a competition if the event is held on a day school is in session. In the case that the event is not on a day school is in session (Saturday or Monday), the student must be in school 4 periods on the day previous to that activity. Exceptions can be made by the Principal if extenuating circumstances exist (funerals, prearranged medical appointments, etc). Students must return to school promptly following prearranged appointments.

BUS CONDUCT AND PROCEDURES (JJ-R)

Students must travel to and from contests in school provided transportation unless other arrangements have been made with school officials. Students failing to conduct themselves properly while traveling on the bus are subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may result in suspension if necessary. In extenuating circumstances they may be driven to the activity by their parents, guardian, or coach. When arriving at the event, the student must get approval from the administrator in charge before he or she may participate. **If a student wishes to return from an event with a parent, permission must be obtained from the activity coach/sponsor.** If a student wishes to return from an event with another adult (adult defined as a person 21 or over) other than parent or legal guardian, notification must be made to the Principal or Activities Director the day before the event and requires approval. **The person to whom the student is released must sign a liability waiver with the bus driver releasing the coach/sponsor from any further activity responsibility. There will be no exceptions.**

DISCRIMINATION NOTICE (AC/AC-E-I)

Calhan Public Schools does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, age, race, color, national origin, or handicap in admissions, or access to, or treatment, or employment in educational programs or activities in which it operates.

It is the intent of Calhan Public Schools to comply with both the letter and spirit of the law in making certain

discrimination does not exist in its policies, regulations, and operations. Grievance procedures, (AC-R) the Title IX and Section 504 have been established for students, their parents and employees who feel discrimination has been shown.

Specific complaints of alleged discrimination under section 504 (Handicap) or Title IX (Sex) should be referred to our grievance officer, School Counselor, 719-347-2766 X 530

Complaints may also be filed with the office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 1244 N. Speer Blvd. Denver, CO. 80204

DRESS CODE ([JJ-R](#))

All students will dress appropriately for all scheduled activities when representing Calhan Public Schools. Students are encouraged to wear dress slacks, dresses, sweaters, ties, sport coats, etc. Students will not be permitted to wear articles prohibited by the school's general dress code. This rule applies both before and after the contest when on out-of-town trips.

EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITY ([JJ-R](#))

When equipment has not been checked in or accounted for following the completion of the season, the student will be considered ineligible for future activities until the problem has been solved with the Principal or the Athletic Director.

LEAGUES ([JJJ](#))

Calhan Middle School is a member of the Black Forest League, for volleyball, basketball, wrestling, and track, which includes the schools listed below:

Calhan, Colorado Springs School, Edison, Elbert, Evangelical Christian, Hanover, Kiowa, Miami-Yoder, Pikes Peak Christian, Simla, School for the Deaf and Blind,

For football Calhan Middle School is a part of the Central Colorado Athletic League, which include the schools listed below:

Calhan, Peyton, Ellicott, Manitou Springs, Rocky Mountain Classical Academy, Monument Academy, Banning Lewis, Atlas Prep, CSCS, and Fox Meadow.

MONDAY PRACTICES ([JJ-R](#))

The head coaches may have Monday practices. Monday practices are not mandatory for middle school students. All practices will be scheduled by the head coaches in advance and parents will be notified.

PRACTICE SESSIONS ([JJ-R](#))

All team members of all sports are expected to attend all scheduled practices and meetings during regularly scheduled school days. No practices are to be missed except in a case where a student is absent from school on that day. If circumstances should prevent a student from attending a practice or meeting, the validity of the reason will be judged by the individual coach. **In all cases, however, the coach should be notified prior to the practice or meeting by personal contact, phone call, or written statement from the parent or guardian.** Students must be transported by coach or parent to any practice not held at the home practice site.

PARENT MEETING ([KB](#))

At the beginning of each athletic season, parents and athletes of all sports are expected to attend the pre-season meeting conducted by the coaching staff. Items such as practice information, individual expectations, schedules, etc. will be discussed. The purpose of this meeting is not to debate coaching strategies or philosophies; such matters should be discussed individually with coaches.

Chain of Command (JII-R)

Athlete----- Head Coach-----Activities Director----- Principal-----Superintendent-----Board of Education

**** If there are any questions or concerns regarding any aspect of the Player–Coach Relationship, the student athlete should first contact the appropriate coach. Parents are also asked to follow this “Chain of Command” model regarding problem resolution, and encourage their student athlete to address the issue(s) with the respective coach at the onset. If there is no resolution at the initial level, the student athlete and parent should request a meeting with the coach. If requested, the Activities Director can also be in attendance for this meeting. *(The “Chain of Command” is a step by step process bringing together the primary individuals for discussion purposes. Each level is in place in order to assist in the process of conflict resolution.)*

- *Issues not appropriate to discuss with Coaches- team strategy, personnel play calling, lineups, substitutions, and other student-athletes on the team.*

SPORTSMANSHIP (JJI)

A display of un-sportsmanlike conduct toward an opponent, official, or crowd, or the use of profanity during a practice or contest will result in counseling by the head coach and possible suspension from the team. Calhan athletics supports and encourages good sportsmanship from athletes, parents, fans, and coaches.

STUDENT CONDUCT (JIC)

The conduct of Calhan School students is closely observed by many people. A student is a representative of the team, the school, and the community. It is important, therefore, that a Calhan School student maintains high standards in all aspects of life. Calhan School students, **at all times**, are expected to follow all training rules as outlined by their coaches. Any infraction of behavioral conduct which reflects negatively on Calhan athletics will be dealt with on an individual basis at the discretion of the coach and Activities Director.

TRAINING RULES (JJ-R)

It is understood that the use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco regardless whether the violation occurred on school premises, at a school-sponsored activity, off school grounds during the school year, or during the summer at school sponsored activities constitutes grounds for immediate disciplinary action as outlined below:

If a violation occurs during a scheduled break or during a school activity in the summer, the penalty will start on the first day back in session

First Offense:

1. Student will be informed of charge by coach, Activities Director, and/or Principal.
2. Student will be given the opportunity to speak in defense.
3. If determined in violation, student will be suspended from representing the middle school in a group, club, organization, and sport for 30 calendar days.
4. Students will be given opportunity for appeal.

Second Offense:

1. Student will be informed of charge by coach, Activities Director, and/or Principal.
2. Student will be given the opportunity to speak in defense.
3. If determined in violation, student will be suspended from representing the middle school in a group, club, organization, and sport for eighteen (18) school weeks.
4. Student will be given opportunity for appeal.

Third Offense:

1. Student will be informed of charge by coach, Activities Director, and/or Principal.
2. Student will be given the opportunity to speak in defense.
3. If determined in violation, student will be suspended from representing the middle school in a group, club organization,
and sport for one calendar year.
4. Student will be given opportunity for appeal.

VANDALISM ([JKD/JKE-E](#))

Vandalism is not tolerated in the Calhan activity program. Any student guilty of damaging school or personal property will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include suspension or expulsion.

CONDUCT ([JJ-R](#))

A student who is representing Calhan as a member of a team, group or club is expected to exhibit high moral, ethical and honorable conduct at all times

As in [CHSAA](#) Bylaws, any player who has been ejected from a match or contest shall be disqualified for the remainder of that match or contest. In addition, the player shall be suspended from competition for the next regularly scheduled match or contest of the same level.

In addition unsportsmanlike conduct or other unacceptable behaviors not specifically covered in the Athletic Code of Conduct, but which are contrary to the spirit of the CMS Athletic Code of Conduct, are subject to an appropriate penalty at the discretion of the Activities Director and/or the Principal. The seriousness of the offense, any harm or injury to persons or property and any other relevant factors shall be considered.

Violation of this rule will result in suspension and possible dismissal from participation in extracurricular activities

TATOOS AND INAPPROPRIATE MARKINGS ON THE BODY

Tattoos found to be offensive by the Activities Director, Principal, or a sanctioned official and all other inappropriate markings shall be completely covered during all games. Inappropriate markings shall include but are not limited to drawings, cuts, hickies, and graffiti.

TAPING AND ATHLETIC INJURIES

Calhan School will tape all acute injuries. Any chronic injuries requiring daily attention will be the responsibility of the athlete and their parent/guardian by way of braces or other needed materials.

APPEAL ([JJJ](#))

The student may appeal a disciplinary decision related to the Rules of Conduct, Training Rules, and/or Infractions of Law. If the student believes the decision violated District policies against discrimination, the student must follow the student grievance procedure as set forth on Policy JII-R. If the appeal is not based upon a claim of discrimination, then notice of such appeal must be submitted in writing to the Activities Director no later than ten (10) school days after notice of the disciplinary decision. The notice of appeal must include the grounds of the appeal, the outcome sought, a statement of the student's version of the incident or activity that resulted in the disciplinary action, and relevant facts, documentation, and witnesses in support of the appeal.

The Activities Director shall have ten (10) school days after receipt of the written notice of appeal in which to decide the case. Prior to issuing a decision, the Activities Director shall make additional investigation as is necessary to determine the complete facts involved, which shall include at a minimum a review of written statements submitted by both the student and the person who made the disciplinary decision. The Activities

Director may also arrange to meet with the student, the coach(es), witnesses, and/or any other person with information. In deciding an appeal, Activities Director will consider and make determinations as to the following:

- a. Whether the original disciplinary investigation and process was conducted in light of the charge(s) and evidence presented.
- b. Whether the decision regarding the accused student-athlete(s) was based on substantial evidence.
- c. Whether the sanction(s) imposed was appropriate for the violation and consistent with the Rules of Conduct, Training Rules, and Infractions of Law.
- d. Whether there are relevant facts not brought out in the original investigation because such evidence and/or facts were not known to the student at the time.

If the student is not satisfied with the handling of the matter by the Activities Director, he/she may file a notice of appeal in writing to the Principal no later than ten (10) school days after notice of the disciplinary decision. The Principal shall have ten (10) school days after receipt of the written notice of appeal in which to decide the case. The Principal shall consider the same aforementioned criteria when deciding an appeal.

If the student is not satisfied with the handling of the matter by the Principal, he/she may file a notice of appeal in writing to the Superintendent no later than ten (10) school days after notice of the disciplinary decision. The Superintendent shall have ten (10) school days after receipt of the written notice of appeal in which to decide the case. The Superintendent shall consider the same aforementioned criteria when deciding an appeal. If the student is not satisfied with the handling of the matter by the Superintendent, he/she may file a notice of appeal in writing to the Board of Education to be heard at the next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting.

The disciplinary sanction shall remain in full force and effect unless and until set aside by the decision of the Activities Director, Principal, Superintendent.

Failure to adhere to the timelines set forth above will result in a dismissal of the appeal without further action.

CALHAN PUBLIC SCHOOL SPORTSMANSHIP CODE

The role that athletics play in the students' development can be special and valuable. One of the outcomes that we strive to achieve is the development of good sportsmanship. Integrity, fairness, and respect are lifetime values taught and learned through athletics. We, as an athletic department, believe these are all important aspects of sportsmanship. With these values, the spirit of middle school competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, respectful behavior, and graceful acceptance of the results.

An individual who follows good sportsmanship is a positive leader in our community and a role model for others. As part of the Calhan Athletic Department our goals and standards of sportsmanship should include:

1. Encouraging our athletes to perform their best, knowing that others may turn in better or lesser performances;
2. Learning, understanding and respecting the rules of the game, the officials who administer them, and their decisions;
3. Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances;
4. Respecting the task our coaches face as teachers and support them as they strive to educate our students;
5. Respecting our opponents and their fans;
6. Realizing that athletics are a part of the educational experience, and the benefits of participation go beyond the final score or outcome of any contest.

Following are some basic guidelines that, if followed, will only help make the athletic experience at Calhan that much better for everyone involved.

ADMINISTRATORS

1. Develop and support programs for teaching and promoting the ideals of good sportsmanship.
2. Provide appropriate support for each interscholastic event.
3. Provide positive feedback to participants, coaches, and spectators who teach and/or display good sportsmanship.
4. Actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches, and spectators.

COACHES

1. Lead by example.
2. Instruct players in proper sportsmanship and demand that they make sportsmanship a priority.
3. Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the game.
4. Treat opposing coaches and players with respect.
5. Acknowledge the efforts of all involved.
6. Develop and enforce consequences for athletes who do not abide by the standards.

PLAYERS

1. Respect the judgment of officials. Follow the rules of the game, and display no behavior that could incite spectators.
2. Treat your coaching staff with respect.
3. Treat opponents and the opponent's coaches with respect.
4. Acknowledge the efforts of all involved.
5. Accept the responsibility of representing your school, your parents, your community, and yourself in a serious manner.

PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

1. Support positive efforts by all team competitions.
2. Respect decisions made by officials without outburst.
3. Be a positive role model in the stands.
4. Respect the coaches and the role they play as teachers.
5. Respect opposing players, coaches, and spectators.
6. Follow the guidelines set in pre-season meetings.

Sportsmanship isn't always the easiest choice. For us to have pride in our programs, it is imperative that we show common courtesy and respect to all who are involved.

SPORTSMANSHIP IS IMPORTANT!!

GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR PLAYERS, PARENTS, AND COACHES

- Parent(s) are strongly encouraged to attend the pre-season meetings for each sport their child participates in.
- Parent(s) must sign the acknowledgement of the handbook, guidelines, and sportsmanship code.
- Monday practices are mandatory for high school participants.
- Athletes missing practice that is unexcused will lose playing time and make up practice through a method the coach chooses (i.e. extra conditioning, extended practice sessions, extra practice sessions, etc...).
- Any athlete with excessive absences may be asked to leave the team.
- Positions on the team are subject to change. This change can occur at any time.
- Coaches may set curfews.
- Seniors must make the varsity squad to receive a uniform. If they don't make the varsity squad they may choose to practice until they earn a uniform, become involved in the program in a different aspect, or withdraw from the team. The only exception of this rule is if our numbers are low enough that the JV level of the program cannot be run without their participation. If this is the case a senior may be placed on a sub-varsity team.

- Any player that becomes a candidate for a team, receives a uniform and then quits the program, must go through the three step withdrawal process as outlined in the handbook.
- No athlete can drive themselves to a contest. In extenuating circumstances they may be driven to the activity by their parents, guardian or coach with prior approval of the Principal. Any athlete not using school transportation from their event must be signed out prior to leaving. If a parent wants their child to leave with another adult (21 or older), they must communicate so in writing using the school form twenty-four (24) hours in advance.
- All uniforms need to be cared for and cleaned in a proper manner. Any damage done to uniforms while checked out to the athlete will be charged back to the athlete in repair or replacement costs.
- Uniforms will not be sold to the athletes. Our uniforms stay in our cycle through Varsity and passed down to JV. It is not affordable or practical to sell these uniforms until their entire cycle is run.
- Remember that judging talent is highly subjective. It is the school's goal to give everyone an equal chance and the large majority of those chances will come in practice. There will probably be athletes that are on the varsity level yet play or start JV.
- All athletes and their parents are responsible for knowing the rules in the athletic handbook.
- Parents are expected to understand and follow the chain of command. Parents having concerns about the program in which their student is involved, should approach the coach in a *respectful* manner at least 24 hours after the latest contest. Meetings should take place in person with the athlete present at the meeting. Direct communication with the individual that the concerns are with is the only way to ensure the facts are being presented.
- The purpose of our "C" teams is to build experience and skills.
- The purpose of our "JV" teams is to build for our future varsity programs.
- The purpose of our Varsity programs is to compete for and win League, District, Regional, and State titles.
- Remember we are not a win at all costs program. Athletics is a part of the educational experience. It is a tool to further our students in their development for life after high school.

WARNING SHEET

SERIOUS, CATASTROPHIC AND PERHAPS FATAL INJURY MAY RESULT FROM ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION.

By its very nature, competitive athletics may put students in situations in which serious, catastrophic, and perhaps fatal accidents may occur.

Many forms of athletic competition result in violent physical contact among players, the use of equipment which may result in accidents, strenuous physical exertions, and numerous other exposures to risk of injury. Students and parents must assess the risks involved in such participation and make their choice to participate. No amount of instruction or supervision will totally eliminate all risk of injury. Just as driving an automobile involves choice of risk, athletic participation by high school students also may be dangerous. The obligation of parents and students in making this choice to participate cannot be over-stated. There have been accidents resulting in death, paraplegia, and other very serious permanent physical impairment as a result of athletic competition.

By granting permission for your student to participate in athletic competition, you, the parent or guardian, acknowledge that such risks exist. By choosing to participate, you, the student, acknowledge that such risks exist.

Students will be instructed in proper techniques to be used in athletic competition and in the proper utilization of all equipment worn or used in practice and competition. Students must adhere to that instruction in relation to proper equipment use and technique.

Take pride in your school work. A smart athlete is a good athlete.

All students participating in school sports will be insured. If you are planning to purchase insurance through the school you must please understand that this insurance will not cover the full cost of an injury. If you have any questions before purchasing this insurance, please call the school. We believe that the insurance forms are self explanatory.

If you have any questions concerning any of the above statements, please feel free to call 347-2766.

We have read the handbook rules and guidelines for Calhan Middle School and acknowledge the rules of the **Handbook**, the **general guidelines**, the **internet policy**, the **injury warning and the sportsmanship code**. We do hereby agree to observe and follow the policies, rules, and guidelines as stated in the Middle School Handbook/ and Middle School Activities Handbook. Furthermore, if the aforementioned policies, rules, and guidelines are violated, we are aware of the procedures and consequences that may be imposed, including suspension and loss of participation privilege, for student athletes and parents. Student athletes and parents should adhere to the highest standard of character and behavior and conduct themselves accordingly. Participation in school activities is a privilege.

Your signature in the handbook is legally binding and indicates that the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.