

Summerville High School

STUDENT-ATHLETE / PARENT HANDBOOK

17555 Tuolumne Rd. Tuolumne, CA 95379

2026-2027



HOME OF THE BEARS



HOME OF THE BEARS

Pursue Victory with Honor

SPORTSMANSHIP is an EXPECTATION.

Let the players PLAY.

Let the Coaches COACH.

Let the Officials OFFICIATE.

Let the Fans be POSITIVE.

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Message to Student-Athletes and Parents

Welcome to Summerville Athletics, Home of the Bears!!

We are very pleased that you are interested in the interscholastic athletic program at Summerville Union High School. It is our hope that the experiences will be positive as well as educational.

Participation in athletics is a privilege and athletics can give each student the opportunity to learn leadership skills, foster self-confidence, self-discipline, organization, decision-making skills, and it encourages them to set goals. At Summerville High we believe a comprehensive athletic program is vital for the educational development of our students and that the core of the athletic experience should be in the development of **sportsmanship and character**. We proudly support the foundational principles of the California Interscholastic Federation's (CIF) "Pursuing Victory with Honor".

Once students have been selected to represent Summerville High School as a student-athlete, there are often many questions which both the student-athlete and parent may have regarding our athletic department. In order to assist in making the athletic experience a positive one, this handbook has been assembled to answer a variety of questions about our athletic program. We hope that this document will be of assistance, and we encourage you to use it as a reference throughout the year. If you have additional questions feel free to contact the athletic director.

Amy Peterson, Athletic Director

Summerville High School

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Tuolumne, CA 95379

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Athletic Office (209) 928-4228 ext 6249

Fax (209) 928-1422

Mascot: Bears **Colors:** Black and Orange

League Affiliation: Mother Lode League **Section:** Sac-Joaquin

Web Address: <http://www.summbears.net> *Athletic forms can be found on the ATHLETICS page*

Fall Sports

Girls Golf

Cross Country

Volleyball

Football

Cheerleading

Winter Sports

Girls Basketball

Boys Basketball

Wrestling

Girls Soccer

Boys Soccer

Spring Sports

Softball

Baseball

Track

Stunt

Tennis

Swim

Boys Golf

PHILOSOPHY OF STUDENT ATHLETICS

Summerville Union High School recognizes the importance of athletics as an integral component of a student's complete educational development. As such, we believe that all students should have an opportunity to participate in some form of interscholastic athletics and that such participation should encourage positive scholastic and social growth and achievement. All participants, teams and spectators will represent the school and community in a positive manner and will reflect the dedication and hard work that will be required to compete and be successful. The Summerville Union High School District Governing Board, Administrators and Coaches subscribe to the foundational principles of the CIF's "Pursuing Victory with Honor." As such, success will not be measured by records that are achieved by teams or individuals, but rather by the knowledge that each participant gave his/her best effort and prepared for each contest to the best of his/her ability. Summerville High School realizes that an effective interscholastic athletic program is the product of responsible cooperation between its four major components: the parents, the student-athlete, the coaching/teaching staff, and the district administration.

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATION

In our continuing effort to establish and maintain clear lines of communication between the Summerville Athletic Department Staff and the parents/guardians of our student-athletes, the Athletic Director has established a process for communication. We will post all schedules, forms and other communication on our web page in an attempt to better serve you and your student-athlete. In order to promote positive communication, the Summerville Athletic Director and coaches will conduct an athlete/parent meeting at the beginning of each season in an effort to communicate the individual differences of each program. It is our hope that this meeting will be a vehicle for effective, open and appropriate communication between the coaches, players and parents. In order to bring resolution to any issues that may arise during the season, we have developed the following guidelines in an effort to help make the communication process a productive and positive experience.

STRATEGIES FOR POSITIVE SPORTS COMMUNICATION

It is the intent of the Summerville Athletic Department to provide an avenue for meaningful dialogue and positive communication between coaches and parents.

1. Ask questions, obtain information or relay concerns in an appropriate manner and time frame.
2. **Encourage the student-athlete to communicate with the coach FIRST.** The athlete will then be able to discuss what they are doing well and what needs work in order to improve.
3. Expect that coaches will only talk to a parent/guardian with regard to his/her own child. This interaction will only take place after the athlete has already spoken to the coach and has not resolved the matter.
4. Always communicate in a timely manner; well in advance with regard to athletes missing practices or games.
5. Remember that coaches are responsible for all decisions pertaining to playing time, player position, technical and team strategy/preparation, and team selection. It should be noted that coaches are **NOT REQUIRED** to discuss these topics with parents at any time.

6. To discuss "issues" that cannot be resolved with the program coaches, **SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT** to meet with the head varsity coach, the head of the program. Coaches will make their work numbers and/or emails available to parents. ***Do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice.*** Meetings at those times do not promote positive communication or resolution.
7. The Summerville Athletic Department and its staff are willing to discuss concerns or problems that may arise, and we are willing to hear concerns. Please adhere to the order of the following protocol:
 - a.) Student-athletes will make an appointment and meet with the coach to discuss concerns.
 - b.) Student-athletes and/or parents will make an appointment to meet with the coach if the matter is not resolved.
 - c.) Student-athletes and parents will make an appointment to meet with the coach and AD to continue to work on the matter.
 - d.) Student-athletes and parents will make an appointment to meet with the coach, AD and Principal to continue to work on the matter.

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF POSITIVE SPORT PARENTING

1. **Be positive and supportive** with your student-athlete; acknowledge that they are accomplishing great things just by being a part of the Summerville team.
2. **Encourage** the student-athlete to work hard and be the best he/she can be. Don't offer excuses for the athlete if he/she is not playing. Just be supportive!
3. Remember the coach represents the "Authority", the "Parent", the "Teacher", etc. If you are constantly criticizing the coach, your student-athlete will learn to not respect any authority. Our goal is to together help our student-athletes develop into **solid citizens**.
4. **All** players must follow the rules pertaining to curfew, drinking, drugs, smoking, promptness, schoolwork/attendance, responsibility, etc. All rules have been set up to help the student-athletes to grow and mature.
5. **Insist that the student-athlete works to the best of their ability academically**. Check to assure that your athlete is spending time on homework and working in the classroom. Eliminate the use of the car, phone, television, socializing, etc. if need be, and hold your student-athlete accountable.
6. Allow your student-athlete to enjoy the athletic experience. **Let the kids play!!** Support the team, not just your teen. Don't live your life vicariously through your son/daughter.
7. The coaches work with the players for many hours; they know what each athlete is capable of and the effort that is shown during practice. Coaches know their athletes' strengths and weaknesses. **Respect** that! As a fan, you are entitled to cheer loudly and **encourage** all participants but don't become belligerent or arrogant towards players, coaches and officials. **Appreciate** the time and effort coaches are giving to your student.
8. Insist on your student-athlete's **respect** for team rules, school rules, officials and sportsmanship. Your athlete is an ambassador for his/her family, team, school, and community.
9. **Encourage** your student-athlete to improve self-image by believing in himself/herself. Self confidence and self-esteem are most important in developing successful young people.
10. **Encourage** your student-athlete to play for the love of the game. Good things happen to the unselfish

and hardworking athlete.

RESIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

The California Interscholastic Federation requires that students who participate on a school team must be living with parents or legal guardians who reside within the school's attendance boundaries. All exceptions to this rule require that special permission forms and letters of approval be on file before a student can be declared eligible. Since transferring from one school to another may affect a student's athletic eligibility under the rules of the Sac-Joaquin Section (SJS) and the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), **students must meet with the Athletic Director or Principal if they have transferred!** Any transfer student (except entering 9th graders) must obtain and fill out the necessary CIF forms and receive CIF clearance before he/she may participate in any contests. Because the penalty for allowing an ineligible athlete to participate is severe (forfeiture of all contests in which the athlete participated), an athlete who is dishonest about his/her residence places the entire team in jeopardy. Any athlete known to be using a false address or otherwise not being honest about a residence should be immediately reported to the coach/AD to avoid penalizing the entire team. If a student and his/her parents move out of the attendance area, but the student remains in the school, the student must immediately report the change of address to the Athletic Director and Principal. Inter-district transfers do not guarantee athletic eligibility. **Questions about residential eligibility should be directed to the Athletic Director and Principal.**

INSURANCE COVERAGE/RISK OF PARTICIPATION/RETURN TO ACTIVITY AFTER AN INJURY

All student-athletes must have current insurance coverage and provide a copy of the insurance card which contains the policy/group number prior to participation in a sport. **Should the insurance coverage change, the new information must be updated with the school immediately.** Our district offers a school insurance program for those students who play tackle football. Participation in interscholastic athletics can lead to possible injury to athletes. Although most injuries are minor in nature, it is possible that an injury could occur that is severe or could result in death. Summerville UHSD and its staff take every precaution to prevent such injuries, but the risk does exist. It is the policy of our athletic department to require a **medical release clearance note from the physician for any injury that requires medical attention.** Parents must request this document and submit it to the coach prior to the athlete's return to activity.

SUMMERVILLE HIGH ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

Our Summerville Athletic Booster Club is a non-profit organization that supports all of our athletic teams at Summerville High School. The purpose of this parent volunteer booster group is to promote and provide athletic programs and projects which will enable them to contribute additional funding to the athletic programs while enlisting strong community and parent support for athletics.

We strongly urge you to join our Summerville High Athletic Booster Club! You can attend the bi-monthly meetings at 6pm in the teachers lounge as well as volunteer for the many opportunities that are available to help. Boosters' meetings are posted on the Bear Bulletin. For more information contact the Boosters directly at summbearsboostersclub@gmail.com or "follow" them on Facebook and Instagram – Summerville High Boosters Club. **IT'S FUN AND IT HELPS ALL OF OUR SPORTS TEAMS!!**

ATHLETIC GUIDELINES:

ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES

Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. The athlete must earn this privilege through dedication, desire and discipline. He/she must exercise the discipline it takes to model the “six pillars of character”: **trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship**. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects **good sportsmanship** in order to achieve athletic excellence.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All students who wish to participate in an athletic activity in the Summerville Union High School District have the **responsibility** to meet and maintain the following requirement:

Earn a GPA of 2.0 or better and have no more than 1 F or Incomplete for the grading period immediately prior to their participation (all incoming freshmen are considered eligible) and for each succeeding grading period during participation.

Academic Eligibility is based on the officially posted grades following each grading period and all students shall become eligible/ineligible on the district-established eligibility date. It is the **responsibility** of the student to address any concerns regarding grades **PRIOR** to posting because once posted, these are the grades that will be used for determining academic eligibility. If a student is placed on the ineligible list, they will have the opportunity to become eligible after the end of the next grading period - on the **NEXT** established eligibility date. An **incomplete grade** shall be counted as an 'F' but may be changed once the academic deficiency, which gave rise to the 'Incomplete', has been satisfied and a letter grade has been submitted by the teacher and officially recorded. Upon the completion of the official grade change, the grade substituted for the incomplete grade shall be considered in determining scholastic eligibility and the student may become immediately eligible. Q1-S1-Q3-S2.

ACADEMIC WAIVERS

An *Academic Waiver* is an opportunity for a student/athlete to practice even though they currently do not meet the established academic eligibility. **This is allowed at the discretion of the coach and Athletic Administration only.** If a student/athlete secures an "Academic Waiver" they will be allowed involvement in tryouts and team practices. However, there are several criteria that must be met to successfully secure an academic waiver. The Academic Waiver may be used ONE TIME in the athletes FOUR year academic journey.

1. **Contract-** Both the parent and student must sign a document indicating that they understand the responsibility that is expected in order to maintain involvement with the team.
2. **Weekly Progress Reports-** Student/athletes on an Academic Waiver must be **trustworthy** and turn in to their respective coach the "*Weekly Progress Report*" that emphasizes the student-athlete's attitude/**citizenship** as well as the completed work in each class.
3. Student-athletes on an Academic Waiver may **only practice** with the team and may **not** participate in (including pre-game activities), dress-out for, or travel to the athletic contest with the team.
4. All other forms of athletic clearance are required before any participation is allowed. (See below)

ATHLETIC CLEARANCE

Every student-athlete who wants to participate in a sport has the **responsibility** to **annually** complete the online registration process for each sport in which they plan to participate. All pertinent information is collected in the online registration process and all legal forms will be signed electronically.

Health History/Physical Form: This form must be **signed by a MEDICAL PROVIDER (MD,DO,NP,PA)** who completes the medical examination after **May 1st** each year. Low cost Athletic Physicals will be arranged and scheduled each Spring by the school.

This clearance is required to participate in summer activities or preseason workouts! The mandatory clearance forms include: a Physical Form verifying that student is fit to participate, verification of medical insurance with policy/group number, parental permission to participate, emergency information, voluntary activities participation form (Assumption of Risk), Concussion Information Sheet, Heat Illness Form, Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) information sheet, Opioid Fact Sheet, and residential eligibility form. Registration should be completed prior to any season's tryout.

FEES (ASB and Fundraising)

It is highly recommended that all student-athletes representing Summerville High be a member in good standing of the Associated Student Body (ASB). ASB stickers are available for purchase at the beginning of the school year. Once purchased, the ASB sticker will allow students to attend all athletic contests (except playoffs) FREE of charge when they show their ASB card at the gate.

Most sports require personal equipment to be purchased by the individual athlete. Some of our sports offer a "spirit pack" which is put together by the coaches and includes required gear for participation such as socks or hats, as well as optional team wear like team t-shirts. Fundraisers may be arranged by the coach to help with some of these costs. All fundraisers will need to have a fundraising form submitted to ASB for approval no less than two weeks prior to the start of the fundraiser. No student shall be prohibited from participating because of the inability to pay the fees for required items, however the student-athlete should participate in any fundraising efforts to off-set the costs. See the Athletic Director promptly if you have concerns.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Student-athletes must attend class. Attending all classes is a high priority for all student-athletes, Many athletic events require students to miss classes during the week making it very important for all student athletes to establish good attendance patterns and communicate with their teachers about assignments to be done each day. It is expected that all student-athletes attend classes every day for **all** assigned periods. **In order to compete in a game or be allowed to practice on any given day, the student-athlete must attend a minimum of three out of their four full classes with the 1 period absence being excused.** If the one-period absence, or portion thereof, is not **excused**, the student will not be allowed to participate. Student athletes who are absent for more than one period for a medical appointment or extenuating circumstance may participate, **but only if** the absence is verified in writing by the doctor/dentist or with **prior** approval from the Principal. **If the student is on a reduced schedule, they must attend ALL THREE PERIODS to be eligible to play on a game day.**

Attendance on the Friday preceding a Saturday competition will determine eligibility. **Students are expected to be in school the morning following a school related activity.** A student-athlete suspended on a given day is ineligible to participate. School related activities are considered excused and will not affect eligibility. Student-athletes in alternative educational settings are expected to meet all necessary attendance requirements of that program. Student-athletes in violation of any of these rules will not be allowed to participate for a minimum of one contest or practice; subject to review with the head coach or athletic administration.

TRY-OUTS/PARTICIPATION

Student-athletes must stay informed and be prepared. It is the students **responsibility** to know when try-outs will be held. Attend pre-season meetings and stay up to date on SportsYou or sport related platforms for current information. The varsity coach/program coordinator will provide you with the general information necessary to try-out for a sport. Specific dates, times, location, and expectations will be communicated by the program coaches. The Athletic Department at Summerville High encourages all students to participate and exhibits **fairness** and **caring** when selecting teams. High school athletics is competitive, yet our philosophy is to keep as many students as possible in our programs. However, it is possible that athletes will get cut from teams and this is up to the program coach's discretion. Contact the varsity coach if you have any questions or concerns.

No students will be allowed to try out or participate without complete clearance. No Exceptions!

TRAINING RULES

As a part of "Pursuing Victory with Honor", all student-athletes who represent Summerville High are expected to demonstrate integrity and adhere to the established school rules as outlined in the Student-Athlete/Parent Handbook as well as the rules set forth by teachers in individual classrooms. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves, on and off the field, as **positive role-models who exemplify good character at all times.** Any action resulting from misconduct could affect the athlete's eligibility. Each coach will establish team rules which require the student-athlete's compliance. These should be distributed to team members at the beginning of the season and be on file in the Athletic Office during the season. It is imperative that the student-athletes adhere strictly to all safety rules, regulations and instructions. Coaches have the authority to suspend an athlete for failure to comply with rules and procedures or when safety concerns require such action.

Athletic Probation: Summerville student-athletes are expected to be **responsible citizens.** They are expected to meet academic standards and cooperate with teachers and other school officials. If not, these student athletes may be placed on athletic probation (suspension and/or removal from the team) by the coach, athletic director or administrator. Grounds for athletic probation could include, but are not limited to, the following:

- excessive tardiness and/or absences
- falling behind academically due to lack of sufficient work
- an athlete continually disrupting classrooms / impeding other students' ability to learn
- suspensions for disciplinary reasons
- district policy on social restrictions

Transportation: Student-athletes are expected to travel with the team to all away contests. **Exception:** Student drivers may sign a **Transportation Authorization Waiver** to travel within Tuolumne County. This will be the only permitted transportation exception.

After away games, with the coach's permission, and sign-out form completed, an athlete may be released to his/her parents to travel home from a contest. An athlete may also be released to another **responsible adult** to travel home if a signed **'Transportation Authorization Waiver** is on file in the Summerville Athletics office and a copy is with the coach.

Overnight Trips: All student-athletes are expected to show exemplary behavior in order to participate in overnight trips. Coaches will discuss the Board policy governing overnight trips with students and parents **before** taking overnight trips.

Officials: Student-athletes are expected to treat officials with respect at all times. For the purpose of clarifying a rule, it is expected that no one except the appointed captain should speak to the official, and this should be done in a tone of respect. Any behavior contrary to the above is a direct reflection on the team, coaches, school and community, and **will not be tolerated**.

Alcohol, Drugs or Tobacco Use: It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to refrain from possession or use of alcohol, drugs (including the illegal use of androgenic/anabolic steroids) or tobacco per school-wide discipline policy. Failure to do so may result in consequences as specified by the Student Discipline Matrix. If a student is caught in person or on social media partaking in any illegal use, the student athlete will be removed from the athletic team they are on.

Student-Athlete Use of Social Networking Sites: Summerville UHSD respects the right of student-athletes to use social media and networking sites, as well as personal websites and blogs, but it is important that athlete's personal use of these sites does not damage the school's reputation, its employees, or its students or their families. Athletes should exercise **care and responsibility** in setting appropriate boundaries between their personal and public on-line behavior, understanding that what is private in the digital world often has the possibility of becoming public, even without their knowledge or consent. We strongly encourage all students to carefully review the privacy settings on any social media and networking sites they use and exercise care and good judgment when posting content and information on such sites.

A **responsible** student-athlete should not make statements that would violate any of the school's policies, including its policies concerning illegal substance use, discrimination or harassment. The student-athlete must uphold the school's value of **respect** for the individual and avoid making defamatory statements about any school, its employees, its students, or their families. If the School believes that an athlete's activity on a social networking site, blog, or personal website may violate the School's policies, the School may request that the athlete cease such activity. Depending on the severity of the incident, the student-athlete may be subject to disciplinary action and removal from the team.

Leaving, quitting or being removed from a team: Any student-athlete that makes the decision to leave the team will make an appointment with the coach to notify him/her of their decision, and hand in any school issued equipment. If the athlete quits after two weeks or more, or an athlete is removed for disciplinary reasons, he/she will not be allowed to participate on another team until the entire season of the sport dropped by the athlete is completed. In special circumstances, it shall be the prerogative of the coach of the in-season sport to release the athlete to another sport if there is mutual agreement by both coaches. If the student-athlete quits or is removed from a team for any reason, all awards are forfeited.

Awards: Athletic awards are given in recognition of outstanding achievement and service to the team. Student-athletes will receive, at the coaches' recommendations, an athletic letter at the completion of his/her first JV/Varsity year. Inserts will be given after the athlete has received a letter and each time the athlete letters. After participation in 10 seasons, the athlete will earn a 3-D letter. **Athletes who earn a letter in all 3 seasons of sport in one school year and also 12 seasons during their high school career will receive special recognition.** All varsity student-athletes who earn a 3.7 or higher GPA will receive an All Academic award from the Mother Lode League. Plaques are given to athletes at the discretion of the coaches. **All awards for athletes shall be held until all equipment/uniforms are returned and all athletic bills have been paid.**

School equipment: Student-athletes are financially responsible for all equipment/uniforms checked out. Do not abuse equipment/uniforms and always keep them secured. Each coach will give a deadline date for school issued equipment to be turned in. If equipment/uniforms are not returned or are returned in non-usable condition, the student-athlete will be charged for the replacement of this equipment. **Student-athletes will not be issued uniforms for their next sport until the equipment/uniforms are returned and any bills are cleared.**



Pursuing Victory With Honor

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO WEAR THE BLACK AND ORANGE OF SUMMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL. We understand that our programs are rich in tradition. However, we will have **NO** part in any incidents of hazing, initiation, harassment, disorderly conduct toward, intimidation of, bullying of, or discriminating against any other student, parent, or coach from Summerville High School, or any of our opponents. Failure to follow this policy may result in disciplinary action and removal from athletics.

STUDENT-ATHLETE/PARENT HANDBOOK: It is the responsibility of the student-athletes and parents to know and follow the guidelines set forth in this handbook.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES: Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. I understand that in order to participate in athletics at Summerville High School, I must strive to uphold the principles of pursuing victory with honor according to the six core values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. In addition, I will follow the guidelines as outlined in the Summerville High School's Student-Athlete / Parent Handbook. I also understand that if I am unable to comply with these standards, my opportunity for participation may be limited or removed.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship are lifetime values taught through athletics. These are the principles of good sportsmanship and character. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of the results. The role of the parent in modeling these principles is vital to the education of a student. I understand that in order for my son/daughter to participate in athletics at Summerville High School, he/she must act in accord with these principles and, in addition, follow the guidelines as outlined in the Summerville High School's Student Athlete / Parent Handbook. I also understand that if he/she is unable to comply with these standards, the opportunity for participation may be limited or removed. As a parent/guardian of a student-athlete at Summerville High School, I also realize that violation of the parent/guardian code of conduct could result in one or more of the following consequences: a warning, removal from the venue, suspension, or further discipline to be determined by the administration (per P.C. 602.1, 653g, and P.C. 6476).



Pursuing Victory With Honor

Code of Conduct for Student-Athletes

CIF Member School: Summerville High School, Tuolumne

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship (the “Six Pillars of Character_{sm}”). This Code applies to all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in California. I understand that, in order to participate in high school athletics, I must act in accord with the following:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- ***Trustworthiness:*** Be worthy of trust in all I do.
- ***Integrity:*** Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; do what’s right even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.
- ***Honesty:*** Live and compete honorably; don’t lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- ***Reliability:*** Fulfill commitments; do what I say I will do; be on time to practices and games.
- ***Loyalty:*** Be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.

RESPECT

- ***Respect:*** Treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of other student-athletes.
- ***Class:*** Live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.
- ***Disrespectful Conduct:*** Don’t engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or racial nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- ***Respect Officials:*** Treat contest officials with respect; don’t complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

RESPONSIBILITY

- **Importance of Education:** Be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level and remember that many universities will not recruit student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.
- **Role-Modeling:** Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right; and I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model. Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the school administration.
- **Self-Control:** Exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.
- **Healthy Lifestyle:** Safeguard your health; don't use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco, drugs and performance-enhancing supplements or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.
- **Integrity of the Game:** Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

FAIRNESS

- **Be Fair:** Live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

CARING

- **Concern for Others:** Demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to myself or others.
- **Teammates:** Help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

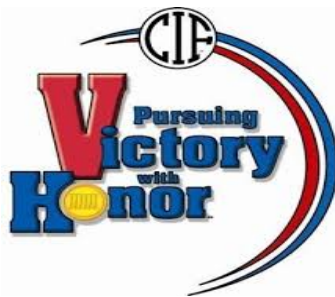
CITIZENSHIP

- **Play by the Rules:** Maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.
- **Spirit of Rules:** Honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

I have read and understand the requirements of this Code of Conduct. I understand that I'm expected to perform according to this code and I understand that there may be sanctions or penalties if I do not.

Student-Athlete Signature Date

"Pursuing Victory With Honor" and the "Six Pillars of Character" are service marks of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics. For more information on promoting character education and good sportsmanship, visit www.charactercounts.com.



Pursuing Victory With Honor

Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians

CIF Member School: Summerville High School, Tuolumne

Athletic competition of interscholastic age children should be fun and also a significant part of a sound educational program. Everyone involved in sports programs has a duty to assure that their programs impart important life skills and promote the development of good character. Essential elements of character building are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core ethical values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship (the “Six Pillars of Character”). The highest potential of sports is achieved when all involved consciously Teach, Enforce, Advocate and Model (T.E.A.M.) these values and are committed to the ideal of pursuing victory with honor. Parents/guardians of student-athletes can and should play an important role and their good-faith efforts to honor the words and spirit of this Code can dramatically improve the quality of a child’s sports experience.

THE SIX PILLARS OF CHARACTER

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- **Trustworthiness:** Be worthy of trust in all you do.
- **Integrity:** Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and encourage players to pursue victory with honor. Do what’s right even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.
- **Honesty:** Live honorably. Don’t lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest conduct.
- **Reliability:** Fulfill commitments. Do what you say you will do.
- **Loyalty:** Be loyal to the school and team; Put the interests of the team above your child’s personal glory.

RESPECT

- **Respect:** Treat all people with respect at all times and require the same of your student-athletes.
- **Class:** Teach your child to live and play with class and be a good sport. He/she should be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity, compliment extraordinary performance, and show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.
- **Disrespectful Conduct:** Don’t engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- **Respect for Officials:** Treat game officials with respect. Don’t complain or argue about calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

RESPONSIBILITY

- **Importance of Education:** Support the concept of “being a student first.” Commit your child to earning a diploma and getting the best possible education. Be honest with your child about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Reinforce the notion that many universities will not recruit student-athletes who do not have a serious commitment to their education. Be the lead contact for collegiate coaches in the recruiting process.
- **Role Modeling:** Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right. Parents/guardians too should represent the school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the court/field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model.
- **Self-Control:** Exercise self-control. Don’t fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration.
- **Healthy Lifestyle:** Promote to your child the avoidance of all illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco, drugs and some over-the-counter nutritional supplements, as well as of unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.
- **Integrity of the Game:** Protect the integrity of the game. Don’t gamble or associate with gamblers.
- **Sexual Conduct:** Sexual or romantic contact of any sort between students and adults involved with interscholastic athletics is improper and strictly forbidden. Report misconduct to the proper authorities.

FAIRNESS

- **Fairness and Openness** Live up to high standards of fair play. Be open-minded, always willing to listen and learn.

CARING

- **Caring Environment** Consistently demonstrate concern for student-athletes as individuals and encourage them to look out for one another and think and act as a team.

CITIZENSHIP

- **Spirit of the Rules** Honor the spirit and the letter of rules. Teach your children to avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

“Pursuing Victory With Honor” and the “Six Pillars of Character” are service marks of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics. For more information on promoting character education and good sportsmanship, visit www.charactercounts.com.



Pursuing Victory With Honor

Code of Conduct for Coaches

CIF Member School: Summerville High School, Tuolumne

We, in the California Interscholastic Federation, believe that high school athletic competition should be fun, but that it must also be a significant part of a sound educational program. We believe that those who coach student athletes are, first and foremost, teachers who have a duty to assure that their sports programs promote important life skills and the development of good character.

We believe that the essential elements of character-building are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core ethical values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship (the “Six Pillars of Character_{sm}”). We believe, further, that the highest potential of sports is achieved when teacher coaches consciously Teach, Enforce, Advocate and Model (T.E.A.M.) these values and are committed to the ideal of pursuing victory with honor. Finally, we believe that sincere and good-faith efforts to honor the words and spirit of this Code will improve the quality of our programs and the well being of our student-athletes. This Code of Conduct applies to all full-time and part-time coaches involved in interscholastic sports.

I understand that in my position as a coach, I must act in accord with the following code:

TRUSTWORTHINESS.

- **Trustworthiness:** Be worthy of trust in all I do and teach student-athletes the importance of integrity, honesty, reliability and loyalty.
- **Integrity:** Model high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; teach, advocate and model the importance of honor and good character by doing the right thing even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.
- **Honesty:** Don’t lie, cheat, steal or engage in or permit dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- **Reliability:** Fulfill commitments; I will do what I say I will do; be on time.
- **Loyalty:** Be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.
- **Primacy of Educational Goals** Be faithful to the educational and character-development missions of the school and assure that these objectives are not compromised to achieve sports performance goals; always place the academic, emotional, physical and moral well being of athletes above desires and pressures to win.
- **Counseling** Be candid with student-athletes and their parents about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Counsel them about the requirement of many colleges preventing recruitment of student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.
- **College Recruiters** Be honest and candid with college recruiters about the character and academic abilities and interest of student-athletes.

RESPECT

- **Respect:** Treat all people with respect all the time and require the same of student-athletes • **Class** Be a good sport, teach and model class, be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; encourage student-athletes to give fallen opponents a hand, compliment extraordinary performance, and show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.
- **Taunting:** Don't engage in or allow trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- **Respect Officials:** Treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.
- **Respect Parents:** Treat the parents of student-athletes with respect; be clear about your expectations, goals and policies and maintain open lines of communication.
- **Profanity:** Don't engage in or permit profanity or obscene gestures during practices, sporting events, on team buses, or any other situation where the behavior could reflect badly on the school or the sports program.
- **Positive Coaching:** Use positive coaching methods to make the experience enjoyable, increase self esteem and foster a love and appreciation for the sport. Refrain from physical or psychological intimidation, verbal abuse, and conduct that is demeaning to student-athletes or others.
- **Effort and Teamwork:** Encourage student-athletes to pursue victory with honor, to think and play as a team, to do their best and continually improve through personal effort and discipline. Discourage selfishness and put less emphasis on the final outcome of the contest, than upon effort, improvement, teamwork, and winning with character.
- **Professional Relationships:** Maintain appropriate, professional relationships with student athletes and respect proper teacher-student boundaries. Sexual or romantic contact with students is strictly forbidden as is verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature directed to or in view of student-athletes.

RESPONSIBILITY

- **Life Skills:** Always strive to enhance the physical, mental, social and moral development of student athletes and teach them positive life skills that will help them become well-rounded, successful and socially responsible.
- **Advocate Education:** Advocate the importance of education beyond basic athletic eligibility standards and work with faculty and parents to help student-athletes set and achieve the highest academic goals possible for them.
- **Advocate Honor:** Prominently discuss the importance of character, ethics and sportsmanship in materials about the athletic program and vigorously advocate the concept of pursuing victory with honor in all communications.
- **Good Character:** Foster the development of good character by teaching, enforcing, advocating and modeling (T.E.A.M.) high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and the six pillars of character.
- **Role-Modeling:** Be a worthy role-model, always be mindful of the high visibility and great influence you have as a teacher-coach and consistently conduct myself in private and coaching situations in a manner that exemplifies all I want my student-athletes to be.
- **Personal Conduct:** Refrain from profanity, disrespectful conduct, and the use of alcohol or tobacco in front of student-athletes or other situations where my conduct could undermine my positive impact as a role model.
- **Competence:** Strive to improve coaching competence and acquire increasing proficiency in coaching principles and current strategies, character-building techniques, and first-aid and safety.

- **Knowledge of Rules:** Maintain a thorough knowledge of current game and competition rules and assure that my student-athletes know and understand the rules.
- **Positive Environment:** Strive to provide a challenging, safe, enjoyable, and successful experiences for the athletes by maintaining a sports environment that is physically and emotionally safe. • **Safety and Health** Be informed about basic first aid principles and the physical capacities and limitations of the age-group coached.
- **Unhealthy Substances:** Educate student-athletes about the dangers and prohibit the use of unhealthy and illegal substances including alcohol, tobacco and recreational or performance-enhancing drugs.
- **Eating Disorders:** Counsel students about the dangers of and be vigilant for signs of eating disorders or unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.
- **Physician's Advice:** Seek and follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured student-athlete is ready to play.
- **Privilege to Compete:** Assure that student-athletes understand that participation in interscholastic sports programs is a privilege, not a right and that they are expected to represent their school, team and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Require student-athletes to consistently exhibit good character and conduct themselves as positive role models.
- **Self-Control:** Control my ego and emotions; avoid displays of anger and frustration; don't retaliate.
- **Integrity of the Game:** Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble. Play the game according to the rules.
- **Enforcing Rule:** Enforce this Code of Conduct consistently in all sports-related activities and venues even when the consequences are high.
- **Protect Athletes:** Put the well being of student-athletes above other considerations and take appropriate steps to protect them from inappropriate conduct.
- **Access:** Help make your sport accessible to all diverse communities.
- **Improper Commercialism:** Be sensitive to and avoid unwholesome commercialism including inappropriate exploitation of my name or the name of the school and undue financial dependence on corporate entities. Make sure any affiliation or association with a corporate entity is approved by school and district officials.

FAIRNESS

- **Fair and Open** Be fair in competitive situations, selecting a team, disciplinary issues and all other matters; and be open-minded and willing to listen and learn.

CARING

- **Safe Competition** Put safety and health considerations above the desire to win; never permit student athletes to intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to themselves or others.
- **Caring Environment** Consistently demonstrate concern for student-athletes as individuals and encourage them to look out for one another and think and act as a team

CITIZENSHIP

- **Honor the Spirit of Rules** Observe and require student-athletes to observe the spirit and the letter of all rules including the rules of the game and those relating to eligibility, recruitment, transfers, practices and other provisions regulating interscholastic competition.
- **Improper Gamesmanship** Promote sportsmanship over gamesmanship; don't cheat. Resist temptations to gain competitive advantage through strategies or techniques (such as devious rule violations, alteration

of equipment or the field of play or tactics designed primarily to induce injury or fear of injury) that violate the rules, disrespect the highest traditions of the sport or change the nature of competition by practices that negate or diminish the impact of the core athletic skills that define the sport.

I have read and understand the requirements of this Code of Conduct. I will act in accord with this code. I understand that school (and district) officials as well as league and section officials will and should expect that I will follow this code.

Teacher-Coach Signature Date

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