



Burr Oak Community Schools Athletic Handbook

Reviewed and revised between July 2020 and November 7, 2020.
Adopted by the Burr Oak Board of Education 11/9/2020; effective immediately.

STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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I. INTRODUCTIONS

A. TO THE PARENT

This material is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics and you have expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. Your family interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences, which assists students in personal adjustments.

We, who are concerned with the educational development of students through athletics, feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets with students' needs for self-expression, mental alertness and physical growth. 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 athletics is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. These are the reasons we place such stress on good training habits. Failure to comply with the rules of training and conduct means exclusion from the squad. This concept of self-discipline and self-denial is tempered by our responsibility to recognize the rights of the individual within the objectives of the team. There is no place in high 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 athletics to compromise with mediocrity.

When your son/daughter enlisted in one of our sports programs, he/she committed our staff to certain responsibilities and obligations which are:

- (1) to provide adequate equipment and facilities
- (2) to provide well trained coaches
- (3) to provide equalized contests with skilled officials

Likewise, we feel that you have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies that are necessary for a well-organized program of athletics.

It is the role of the department of athletics to make rules that govern the spirit of competition for the school. These rules need a broad basis of community support, which is achieved only through communication to the parent. It is our hope to accomplish this objective through this athletic publication for students and parents.

B. TO THE ATHLETE

Being a member of a **Burr Oak Community School** athletic team is the fulfillment of an early

ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built overnight; it takes the hard work of many people over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad of **Burr Oak Community School**, you have inherited a wonderful tradition, a tradition you are challenged to uphold.

Our tradition has been to win with honor. We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our schools and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. Over many years our squads have achieved more than their share of league and tournament champions. Many individuals have set records and won All-State and All-Conference honors.

It will take hard work and commitment to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. When you wear the colors of your school, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but also are willing to assume the responsibilities that go with them. However, the contributions you make should be a satisfying accomplishment to you and your family.

1. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOURSELF:** The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your high school experiences. Your academic studies, your participation in extracurricular activities as well as in sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.

2. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR SCHOOL:** Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. **Burr Oak** cannot maintain its position as having an outstanding school unless 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 the athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the community know you. You are on stage with the spotlight on you. The student body, our community, and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make **Burr Oak Community Schools** proud of you, and your community proud of your school, by your faithful exemplification of these ideals.

3. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO OTHERS:** As a squad member you also bear a heavy responsibility to your home. If you never give your parents anything to be ashamed of, you will have measured up to the ideal. When you know in your heart that you have lived up to all the training rules, 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 proud of you. The younger students in the **Burr Oak** school system are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Do not do anything to let them down. Set good examples for them.

II. ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

A. Statement of philosophy

The **Burr Oak Community School's** athletic program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in a democratic society.

The interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies, rules and regulations. While the Board of Education takes great pride in winning, it does not condone "winning at any cost." It discourages any and all pressures which might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times the athletic program must be conducted in such a way as to justify it as an educational activity.

B. Athletic goal and objectives

OUR GOAL - The student athlete shall become a more effective citizen in a democratic society while pursuing the sport he/she loves.

OUR SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES –

The student shall learn:

1. To work with others - In a democratic society a person must develop self- discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. The team and its objectives must be placed higher than personal desires.
2. To be successful - Our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. You can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Develop a desire to excel.
3. To develop sportsmanship - To accept any defeat like a true sportsman, knowing we have done our best, we must learn to treat others as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, leadership, integrity, cooperation and dependability.
4. To improve - Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As an athlete, you must establish a goal and you must constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in skills involved and those characteristics set forth as being desirable.
5. To enjoy athletics - It is necessary for athletes to enjoy participation, to acknowledge all of the personal rewards to be derived from athletics, and to give sufficiently of themselves in order to preserve and improve the program.
6. To develop desirable personal habits - To be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits, and to develop the desire to maintain this level of physical fitness after formal competition has been completed.

III. MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION RULES

To be eligible for interscholastic athletics - a student must meet the following state regulations:

1. Enrollment: Student must be enrolled in school not later than the fourth Friday after Labor Day or the fourth Friday of February.

2. Age: A student who competes in any interscholastic high school athletic contest must be under nineteen (19) years of age, except that a student whose nineteenth (19th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of the current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Any student born before September 1, 2001, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan.

Seventh (7th) grade student must be under fourteen (14) years of age. Any student born before September 1, 2007, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan except he/she may play on the eighth grade squad of that junior high school.

Eighth (8th) grade student must be under fifteen (15) years of age. Any student born before September 1, 2005, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan except he/she may participate in a 9-12 grade program if the local school administration and parents can agree and it can be arranged. Those students would be limited to four years of high school eligibility. Applications for these options must be made and approved on MHSAA "Eligibility Advancement Applications."

3. Physical Examinations: No student shall be eligible to represent the school for which there is not on file in the office of the Superintendent, Principal, or Athletic Director of that school, a record for the current school year certifying that the student has passed a physical examination signed by a M.D., D.O., physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. The physical examination must have been completed after April 15, 2020 to be good for the entire 2020-2021 School Year.

4. Seasons of Competition: A student, once enrolled in grade nine, shall be allowed to compete in only four first and four second semesters. Students enrolled in grades 7 or 8 are not limited in the number of semesters of competition.

5. Semesters of Enrollment: A student shall not compete in athletics who has been enrolled in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, for more than 8 semesters. The 10th, 11th and 12th semesters must be consecutive. Students in grades 7 or 8 are not limited in the number of semesters in which they may be eligible for interscholastic athletics.

6. Previous Semester Record: No student shall compete in any athletic contest who does not have his or her credit in the official records of the school to be represented, at least 66 percent of full credit load potential for a full-time student for the last semester/trimester during which he or she shall have been enrolled in grades 9 to 12, inclusive. An "I" or incomplete from the previous semester/trimester is considered to be a fail until made up and changed on the student's official transcript.

No student shall compete in any junior high/middle school interscholastic scrimmage or contest during the current semester/trimester who does not have in the official records of the school represented for the last semester/trimester credit in at least 50 percent of the total period of work carried. This previous semester/trimester academic check does not apply to a 6th-grade student or a first-time 7th-grade student. However, a student who repeats grade 7 or 8 is subject to previous semester/trimester academic requirements.

7. Awards: A student may accept, for participation in athletics, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a value or cost in excess of \$40. Awards for athletic participation in the form of cash, merchandise certificates, or any other type of negotiable documents are never allowed.

IV. REQUIREMENTS for PARTICIPATION

A. Physical examination

A yearly physical examination is required. The physical card must be completed according to state rules and regulations and submitted to the coach prior to participation. The physical covers all sports for the entire school year provided the examination occurred prior to the first practice. The form will be kept on file in the athletic office.

B. Emergency medical authorization

Each athlete's parent/guardian shall complete an Emergency Medical Authorization Form giving permission for treatment by a physician or hospital when parents/guardians are not available. The form will be kept in the medical kit for availability at all practices and contests.

C. Parental acknowledgment of athletic policies

Upon entering high school or at the time a student tries out for an athletic team, he / she will be presented with this handbook containing all the necessary forms and information for participating in athletics.

Each parent or guardian shall read all of the enclosed material and certify that they understand the athletic eligibility rules and policies of the school district. This signed document will be filed in the Athletic Director's office.

D. Insurance

The school district does not carry insurance to cover student athletic injuries. Optional insurance is available for purchase by the parent. Parents will need to sign the acknowledgment form stating they have purchased school insurance or possess a family insurance plan.

E. Scholastic eligibility

In order to participate on a **Burr Oak** athletic team, each athlete must have satisfied all the scholastic eligibility requirements prior to participation.

F. Risk of participation

All athletes and parents must realize the risk of serious injury, which may be a result of athletic participation. **Burr Oak School District** will use the following safeguards to make

every effort to eliminate injury:

1. Conduct a mandatory parent/athlete meeting prior to the start of the season to fully explain the athletic policies and to advise, caution and warn parents/athletes of the potential for injury. In regards to concussion awareness and prevention, a parent/guardian of an athlete is required to attend the parent/athlete meeting with their son/daughter prior to the start of the season so both parent and athlete will be better able to identify signs of a possible concussion throughout the season, learn how to prevent them, and how to respond. No student is to participate in any extracurricular athletic activity until both the student and parent have reviewed the Concussion Awareness Educational Acknowledgement Form and signed it. If the student is under 18 years of age, a legal/guardian must sign the form. It is the parent's responsibility to inform the head coach or the Athletic Director at any time of observable signs of a possible concussion sustained by their son/daughter during or outside the extracurricular athletic activity.
2. Take the following measures when an athlete sustains an apparent concussion:
 - An athletic trainer, or if there is no athletic trainer on site, the coach must remove the athlete from the activity immediately if they sustain a head injury or suspected concussion, or exhibit signs and symptoms of a concussion, or lose consciousness, even briefly, during participation in an extracurricular athletic activity.
 - If there is no athletic trainer on site, the coach must immediately report the suspected injury to the trainer or on-site school nurse or other medical personnel for a medical assessment.
 - If no trainer or school nurse is on-site, the coach is responsible for immediately notifying the student's parents and contacting EMS for emergency service and transport to a local hospital if in their reasonable judgement such intervention is appropriate.
 - The Athletic Director will complete and submit an online report designated by the MHSAA to record and track the head injury event when it occurs in all levels of all sports during the season in practice and competitions.
 - The athlete may not return to competition on that day but is subject to the return when an M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner clears the individual to return to unrestricted and unconditional activity and the clearance is in writing. A MHSAA Return to Activity Form will be used when being cleared by a physician. The form can be found in the Burr Oak Athletic Office and must be signed by both student and parent (if a minor student) before the athlete returns to physical activity.
3. Maintain a continuing education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.
4. Instruct all athletes about the dangers of participation in the particular sport.
5. Prohibit any athlete from returning to practice or competition when going to a physician for medical treatment for a possible injury unless the physician has cleared them in writing to return to unrestricted and unconditional activity. The doctor's note should include the specific date to return to competition and a copy must be given to both the coach and Athletic Director.

G. Financial obligations and equipment

1. Equipment - All athletes are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them. School-furnished equipment is to be worn only for contests, practice, and at the coach's discretion. All equipment not returned in good condition at the end of the season will be subject to a financial penalty.

H. Concussion awareness Educational Material Acknowledgement

Under Michigan law, all students participating in a school sponsored sport must have the Concussion Awareness Educational Acknowledgement Form signed by both the student and parent/guardian. If the student is under 18 years of age, a legal/guardian must sign the form.

1. Parents/guardians are encouraged to review the acknowledgement form with their child to understand the signs and symptoms of a concussion.

V. ATHLETIC CODES OF CONDUCT

A. Conduct of athletes

A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the athletic department. The community, school administrators and coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound athletic program of athletes. The welfare of the student is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration. All athletes shall abide by a code of ethics, which will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of law, tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic program and will not be tolerated. Interscholastic athletic department training rules are available in the office of the Director of Athletics. Interscholastic athletic department training rules apply to interscholastic sports for boys, interscholastic sports for girls, interscholastic cheerleaders, and all interscholastic personnel including managers, trainers, and statisticians. No boy or girl will be allowed to participate in any athletic contest, until the original copy of the athletic code form is signed and returned to the Director of Athletics. Signature of the student and one, or both, of the parents **must be** included.

B. Athlete Misconduct

This provision addresses a student who, while representing Burr Oak Community Schools, acts in a manner that is disrespectful to themselves, opposing schools, other students, parents, coaches and/or officials (as witnessed by school officials). Some examples, but are not limited to: blatant disrespect toward authority figures, flipping others off, grabbing the crotch, profanity, taunting, posting pictures on social media of inappropriate poses or anything that would violate training rules, and everything as described in the MHSAA under sportsmanship as well as our handbook. Personal fouls for blatant misconduct during

competition will be considered athlete misconduct and will be reviewed by the AD and administrative team.

Consequences for athletes who demonstrate misconduct

1st Offense—Sit out the rest of the game/match in which the offense took place plus the next game/match scheduled, and take the MHSAA class on good sportsmanship.

2nd Offense—Sit out the rest of the game in which the offense took place plus the next two games/matches, and complete 5 hours of community service.

3rd Offense—Sit out the rest of the game/match in which the offense took place, the next three games/matches, and complete 10 hours of community service.

4th Offense-- After a review by the administrative team and the athletic director, the student will be suspended from athletics for the remainder of the season and the next two seasons.

*Community service must be completed to go back into competition.

VI. ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT and EXPECTATIONS for COACHES

A. MHSAA Athletic Code for Coaches

The Coach is the official representative of the school at interscholastic athletic activities. In this important capacity, these standards should be practiced:

1. Develop an understanding of the role of interscholastic athletics and communicate it to players, parents and the public.
2. Develop an up-to-date knowledge of the rules, strategies, precautions, and skills of the sport and communicate them to players and parents.
3. Develop, communicate and model policies for athletes' conduct and language in the locker room, at practice, during travel, during competition, and at other appropriate times.
4. Develop fair, unprejudiced relationships with all squad members.
5. Allow athletes to prove themselves anew each season and do not base team selections on previous seasons or out of season activities.
6. Allow athletes time to develop skills and interests in other athletics and non-athletic activities provided by the school and community groups.
7. Give the highest degree of attention to athletes' physical well-being.
8. Teach players, by precept and example, respect for school authorities and contest officials, providing support for them in case of adverse decisions and refraining from critical comments in public or to the media.
9. Teach players strict adherence to game rules and contest regulations.
10. Present privately, through proper school authorities, evidence of rule violations by opponents; and counteract rumors and unproven allegations of questionable practice by opponents.
11. Attend required meetings, keep abreast of MHSAA policies regarding the sport, and be familiar with MHSAA eligibility and contest regulations.
12. Present a clean and professional image in terms of personal appearance and provide a positive image of personal habits, language and conduct. Use of tobacco within sight of players and spectators and use of alcohol any time before a contest on the day of the contest is not acceptable.

B. Expectations for Coaches

1. Participates in in-service meetings and other activities to improve coaching performance.
2. Develops sound public relations. Cooperates with newspaper, radio, television and interested spectators.
3. Understands and follows rules and regulations set forth by the SCAA and MHSAA. If a coach is unsure about a rule or regulation, they are expected to ask the Athletic Director.
4. Develops and implements written rules/player contracts to hold both parent and athlete accountable throughout the season. Written rules/player contract needs to be approved by both the Athletic Director and Principal and a copy filed in the Athletic Office.
5. Holds a mandatory pre-season parent-player meeting and distributes and reviews written rules/player contract with expectations of both athlete and parent. At this meeting, coaches are to also fully explain the athletic policies/safeguards to be taken by the Burr Oak administration and coaching staff and to advise, caution and warn parents/athletes of the potential for injury. The Athletic Director needs to be at this meeting.
6. Participates in parent's night, banquets, awards nights, pep assemblies, and letters to colleges regarding players.
7. Is concerned about the care of equipment, including issue, collection, inventory and storage. It is the responsibility of the head coach to collect all player equipment and uniforms within one week of the end of season.
8. Keeps the Athletic Director informed about unusual events.
9. Follows proper procedure for purchase of equipment and fundraiser. All fundraiser must be approved by the Athletic Director with completion of the required form in the Athletic Office. All sports are encouraged to do at least one fundraiser per year.
10. Is up-to-date and certified in first aid, CPR and AED.
11. Has completed an MHSAA rules meeting in their sport for the year that they coach for that particular year and a NFHS or CDC online concussion course (only required one). If hired as a varsity coach for the first time after July 31, 2016, must successfully complete an MHSAA Coaches Advancement Program 1 or 2 class prior to the established deadline.
12. Honestly and respectfully rates officials in assigned sport by the MHSAA established deadline.

Coach Misconduct

If a situation arises and a coach's conduct is in question, a meeting between the coach and AD will take place within 24 hours following the reporting of the incident. An investigation will take place about any alleged allegations and procedures and policies will be followed by the AD/Administrative team to determine if any necessary actions are needed. The Coach will be notified of the findings/actions moving forward. See details below.

Due Process Coaches: General Procedures and Right to an Appeal

Violations of coaching ethics and expectations should be reported to the Athletic Director or another administrator **if** the Athletic Director is not available. A written summary of the infraction shall be prepared.

The Athletic Director will research reported violations, determine guilt if any, and invoke appropriate discipline, all with dispatch. These aspects will be discussed with the coach.

A coach will be given a hearing with the Athletic Director/Administrator, if requested, within 48 hours of the request to:

- A. Contest the facts which may lead to disciplinary action, or
- B. Contest the sanction imposed by the Athletic Director/Administrator due to alleged prejudice or unfairness. The administrator handling the appeal will render a decision within 24 hours of the hearing and notify all parties in writing.

Further appeals must be conducted in the following order using the same timelines as stated above:

1. Administrative team
 - *In the event that an administrator is also the coach, that administrator will not take part in this stage of the process as an administrator.
2. Superintendent
3. Board of Education (at its next regular meeting unless the Superintendent calls a special meeting)

Parent/Spectator Expectations

1. Support the Team.
2. Show proper SPORTSMANSHIP for the TEAM.
3. Let the players play, the coaches coach, and the officials officiate without distraction.
4. Comments on social media shall remain positive toward the school, team, and team members.
5. Adhere to the “24 hour rule” regarding issues. It is the expressed policy of Burr Oak Community Schools that coaches are not to be confronted in a negative manner by parents or players before, during, or after a contest or practice.
- 6. Follow the Chain of Command and Policy Guidelines.**
7. Keep personal opinions to yourself and don’t share with others in person, digital, or online.
8. Negative behaviors that detract from the positive experience that athletics can provide is not acceptable.
9. Adhere to coach guidelines.
10. Read all documentation from coaches and in the athletic handbook before you sign it.

We sincerely hope that it will never come to this, but if these expectations are broken you may

be asked to leave the school premises. If repeatedly breaking the rules, the penalty may be restriction from further attendance at school athletic events.

PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS - PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Physical education credits required for graduation may be fulfilled through participation in sports.

1. Each season of sports will count as .5 credit toward Physical Education if completed; if the student drops the sport, it will be up to the counselor and the coach to determine if enough of the season was completed to receive credit.
2. Students must have an Educational Development Plan (EDP) that supports the student's and parents' choice to use a sport to fulfill the high school PE credit toward graduation.

The student handbook reads as follows:

3. Physical Education and Health (1 credit)

- *Proficiency in State Content Standards for Physical Education and Health (1 credit); or*
- *Proficiency with State Content Standards for Health (1/2 credit) and district approved extracurricular activities involving physical activities (1/2 credit)*

TRAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS

A student who elects to participate in athletics is **voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial**. There is no place in the high school athletic program for students who will not discipline their minds and bodies for rigorous competition. An athlete is considered an athlete from the beginning of fall practice their freshman year until the end of their last season of participation their senior year. A sport season shall be divided into three periods beginning with the Fall sport season going onto the Winter sport season and ending with the Spring sports season.

Training rules and regulations are the same for middle school athletes as those for high school. Training violations will be recorded and kept on file as long as that athlete is in school. When students make the change from middle school to high school, their record is started fresh without previous violations.

***The Student Athletic handbook (training rules and regulations) is a **guideline** the Burr Oak Administration will follow in maintaining discipline in the school and at school sponsored activities. Students and parents are reminded, however, that the code is a guideline and that school personnel are responsible for preventing gross disobedience, misconduct, or behavior that materially and substantially disrupts the educational and athletic process. Unusual situations, which occur during the school year, will be handled promptly by school officials with consequences which are warranted by behavior.*

Tobacco - Alcohol - Drugs

Alcohol use, tobacco use and drug use can bring discredit on the entire program. The additional danger of immediate injury exists where participants act under the influence of substances. Athletes must accept a "No Substance Use Policy". Medical research clearly substantiates the fact that the use of tobacco, alcohol and any type of mood modifying substances produces harmful effects on the human organism. You cannot compromise athletics with substance abuses. The student who wishes to experiment with such substances should remove him/herself

from the team before he/she jeopardizes team morale, team reputation and team success and does physical harm to him/herself.

The community of Burr Oak is concerned with the health habits of student athletes and is convinced that athletics and the use of these substances are not compatible. It is also a fact that when students have a strong interest to participate in athletics, their desire to use these substances is greatly reduced.

Students have to decide if they want to be athletes. If you do wish to be an athlete, you must make the commitment in order to be a competitor. A big part of this price is following a simple set of training rules, which the department of athletics believes to be fair.

Use of Tobacco - Research emphasizes that the use of tobacco is physically harmful to young adults. The harm done by this is not only a health problem. The community follows the progress of young athletes, and any deviation from accepted training rules marks one as unwilling to pay the price. If one squad member breaks the rules, the whole team is branded as non-trainers. **This rule means no use of tobacco all year, in or out of season.**

No Alcoholic Beverages - There is no way to justify athletes using alcoholic beverages, even though social pressure may be hard to resist. The people who would like to draw the athlete into their drinking sessions will be the first to criticize the athlete if he does not come through in a game. **Again, this rule means no drinking all year, not just during the season.**

Drugs - Simply stated, drug abuse is the consumption of any chemical substance or the smoking of some plant derivatives for the purpose of mood modification. The use or misuse of drugs is a social problem. Students with a strong sense of purpose have no need for mood modifiers. Student athletes of the **Burr Oak School District** shall not possess, use, sell, give, or otherwise transmit, or be under the influence of any drug, or counterfeit drug, unless prescribed by a physician/medical professional. **The rule against substance abuse is in effect all year.** This includes the following:

1. Any alcoholic beverage.
2. Illicit drugs
3. Any usable glue, aerosol or other chemical substance, including but not limited to, lighter fluid and reproduction fluid for inhalation.
4. Any prescription or non-prescription drug, medicine, vitamin or other chemical including, but not limited to, aspirin, other pain relievers, stimulant, diet pills, multiple or other types of vitamins, pep pills, Nodoze, cough medicine, cold/flu medicines, laxatives, stomach or digestive remedies, depressants and sleep aids that are not taken in accordance with the school district's authorized use of medication procedures.
5. Anabolic steroids, human growth hormones or other performance enhancing drugs.
6. Substances purported to be illegal, abusive or performance enhancing.
ie., "look-alike" drugs synthetic or natural
7. Drug paraphernalia
8. All forms of vape/dab pens, electronic cigarettes, and the products used in them

It shall not be a violation of this policy for a student to use or possess a prescription or patent drug when taken pursuant to a legal prescription issued by a licensed physician for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to district policy.

All middle and high school athletes will be required to have the Student Drug Policy and Testing Consent Form signed by both the student and parent/guardian before they represent Burr Oak Community Schools in any form of competition. If the student is under 18 years of age, a legal guardian must sign the form. **School administrators maintain the right to randomly drug test any student at any time.**

Individual Coaches Rules

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Athletic Director and principal for their respective sports. These rules, as pertaining to a particular sport must be given by the coach in writing to all team members and explained fully at the start of the season. Penalties for violations of team rules will also be in writing and shall be administered by the coach. Copies of all additional team rules by coaches are on file in the athletic office.

Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Burr Oak High School, all students will be required to meet the school standards as set forth by the Board of Education. The athlete must not fail more than one class in a one-week period. Failure of two (2) or more classes with a grade of E or below will result in a one-week suspension for the following week. A week is considered from Monday after the eligibility report is posted on Wednesday through to the following Monday morning.

One (1) CTE/BACC Consortium class is equal to three (3) scheduled classes. Therefore if a student-athlete fails with a grade of E or below or does not turn in a CTE/BACC student eligibility sheet, that student athlete will be suspended from athletics for the following week.

CTE/BACC STUDENT ELIGIBILITY sheets are the responsibility of the student. The form must be returned to the athletic director by 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Students have access to their grades 24/7 via studentVue on Synergy. Parents have access to student grades 24/7 via parentVue on Synergy. Grades are not a surprise for our student athletes.

The teachers will report grades to the athletic director on a form that is sent on a weekly basis. Teachers will report grades by 8 am Wednesday. There is no grace period for student athletes. Eligibility for the following week will be based on the Wednesday report.

If student athletes are communicating with their teachers regarding their grades each week, they will understand what needs to be done to keep their grades up by the specified cutoff date of Wednesday each week.

A student must pass 66% of their scheduled classes each term which are equal to credits (see course catalog in student handbook). The number of classes/credits each semester are between 5 and 6; credits/classes are determined by the Educational Development Process Team. Failure to

complete credits equal to this percentage, will result in an academic ineligibility period of 60 school days.

This requirement does not apply to the first semester of the ninth grade.

(The MHSAA sets a minimum standard for academic eligibility which many schools adjust upward. The minimum is that a student must have passed at least 66% of a full-time student's course load (generally 4 or 5 or 6 classes / 5 of 7 classes) in the previous semester and be passing the same number in the current semester.)

Eighth Grade Participation in High School Sports

Section 1 (D) [p 27] of the Michigan High School Athletic Association Handbook reads (in part) that "High Schools or cooperative programs having a total enrollment of less than 100 in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, may use, in all sports but football, ice hockey and wrestling, students from the 8th grade..."

Enrollment

A student in the Burr Oak Community Schools must be enrolled as a full time student in order to participate in athletics. A full time student is defined as one who is enrolled in a minimum of 5 to 6 periods. Student EDPs define a student's scheduled day/semester as it pertains to full time status.

Attendance

In order to practice or participate in a contest, the athlete must be in attendance at regularly scheduled classes of that day either on site or virtually. A student is considered absent if they do not communicate as expected (see student handbook) to meet attendance requirements. An off campus athlete may participate as long as the student is communicating with teachers and coaches.

Equipment

School equipment checked out by a student/athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Loss or destruction of any equipment is the athlete's financial obligation.

Grooming and Dress policy

A member of a **Burr Oak** athletic team is expected to be well-groomed. "He/she shows up best who shows off least." Appearance, expression and actions always influence people's opinions of athletes, teams and the school. Once you have volunteered to be a member of a squad, you have made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of athletes in this community. The following grooming and dress rules will be adhered to by team members:

1. Hair styles are to be maintained in a neat and clean manner so as to present a positive image for both the team and the school. This includes moustaches or beards.
2. An athlete shall dress presentably at all times, on trips, or at assemblies or banquets.
3. Only uniforms issued by the department of athletics will be permitted to be worn for contests.
4. On days of competitions, athletes are to dress respectably. Details regarding what is worn by the athletes on a game day will be left up to the discretion of the head coach.

Vacations policy

Vacations by athletic team members during a sports season are discouraged. Parents/athletes

wishing to do so may wish to reassess their commitment to being an athlete. In the event of an absence due to an unavoidable event, an athlete must:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parents while on vacation. Exception to policy would be the senior trip.
2. Contact the head coach prior to vacation.
3. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on that squad as a starter, 2nd string, 3rd string etc.

Squad selection

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic program while at **Burr Oak**, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without unbalancing the integrity of their sport. Time, space, facilities, equipment, skill set, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport.

Cutting policies

Choosing the members of the athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads. Prior to trying out, the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team.

1. Extent of try-out period
2. Criteria used to select the team
3. Practice commitment if they make the team
4. Game commitments

When a squad cut becomes a necessity, the process will include three important elements. Each candidate shall have:

1. Competed in a minimum of three practice sessions.
2. Performed in at least one intrasquad scrimmage when applicable.
3. Been personally informed of the cut by the coach, including the reason for the action.

Coaches will discuss alternative possibilities for participation in the sport.

Reporting of injury

All injuries which occur while participating in athletics, should be reported to the coach. If injury requires medical attention by a doctor or treatment center, it will be necessary to have an injury report form completed. Once a physician treats an athlete, the athlete must obtain the doctor's written permission to return to the activity.

Double sports policy

This policy applies to high school students only. No middle school student may participate in more than one sport per sport season. Any High School student who wishes to participate in two (2) sports simultaneously must follow the procedure:

1. Declare in writing which sport is to be the primary sport.
2. Parental permission is necessary and a meeting between the athlete, his/her parents and the coaches involved are highly suggested.

3. If a conflict of schedules arises, the student will honor their primary sport without question. State tournaments and conference contests will have priority over non-conference contests.
4. Any consequence for missing a practice established by the coach shall apply to all members the team, including students involved in two (2) sports.

Withdrawal, dropping, or transferring from a sport

Quitting is an intolerable habit to acquire. A student will be considered a participant after completing five (5) scheduled practices. On occasion, however, an athlete may find it necessary to withdraw, drop or transfer a sport for a good reason. If this is the case, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Within 10 calendar days, an athlete must present a letter to the Athletic Director and meet with the AD. regarding withdrawal from the sport, including the reason for withdrawing from that sport.
 - a. Chain of command procedure: Athlete (preferable) or parent contacts the coach first with the main complaint or to explain the reason.
 - b. After a discussion/communication with the coach, the athlete then ensures the letter has been presented to the AD.
2. If this procedure is not followed, the athlete will not be eligible to participate in competition (i.e. scrimmages, games, matches, meets, jamborees, etc.) for the remainder of that season and the next sport they participate in. The seasons are Fall, Winter, and Spring.
3. Check in all equipment and uniform issued to you.

Chain of Command

It is important to follow the chain of command to ensure efficiency in our systems. The athlete and parent should always begin with a discussion with the coach. If after that you still feel there is an issue, you would then contact the Athletic Director. If after the coach and the AD contact you you still feel there is an unresolved issue, you would then contact the superintendent. All issues will be dealt with as quickly as possible and in accordance with the due process section of the handbook.

Conflicts in extracurricular activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in several extracurricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities, and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities, where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors and coaches involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

Students participating in extracurricular/credit activities (such as robotics) will do so before participating in a non-credit scheduled curricular or extracurricular activity.

When a conflict arises the sponsors/coaches will work out a solution so the student does not feel caught in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, the principal will make the decision based on the following:

1. The relative importance of each event.
2. The importance of each event to the student.
3. The relative contribution the student can make.
4. How long the event has been scheduled.
5. Talk with parents.

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed that decision, he /she will not be penalized in any way by either faculty sponsor/coach.

Travel and transportation of athletes

It is preferable that all athletes travel to and from all out-of-town practices and/or contests in transportation provided by the athletic department **unless previous arrangements are made by the parents for exceptional situations.** (COVID-19 is a valid reason to be transported by parents/guardians.) In order to deviate from this procedure, the parent must communicate with the coach and make the decision as to how the student will get to and/or from the event.

If an athlete misses the bus to the game, the parent, or a designated adult, may transport the athlete to the game providing a note/text is written by the parent and presented to the coach stating the situation and indicating the athlete will ride the bus home. The driver of a non school vehicle is responsible for any loss, damage, liability, related to the driver's operation of a non school vehicle. Athletes may not drive other students to games. If approved by a parent/guardian, an athlete, under extenuating circumstances, will be allowed to drive his/herself and be allowed to participate in that game as long as permission has been granted by the administration and the parent; prior permission is required.

If early release from class is necessary it is the responsibility of the athlete to see his/her teacher the day before the classes he/she will miss because of an athletic contest. All work shall be made up at the convenience of the teacher. This included CTE/BACC classes.

Parents may request to ride on buses to games if there is room. They must notify the Athletic Director of their intent for verification.

In order for student athletes who ride a bus to the game not to ride on that bus home, a note must be presented by the parents to the coach.

All regular school bus rules will be followed (see student handbook - bus rules). Athletes will remain with their squad and under the supervision of the coach when attending away contests and the coach is responsible for enforcing the bus rules.

Coaches must ride all team buses or designate another school employee in the event he/she has made prior arrangements or the bus does not leave. On long trips, busses will not stop to eat after games unless it has been determined ahead of time. Coaches may request that the Athletic Director make arrangements for sacked food to be prepared by food services for each player to have on the bus. Requests must be made no later than 3 days prior to an away contest.

General training rules and regulations

A. All interscholastic athletic squads are encouraged to have parents' night programs for the following purposes:

1. Introduction of coaching staff.
2. Observation of a practice session.
3. Explanation of training rules by the Athletic Director or coach
4. Copies of the **Burr Oak student athletic handbook** will be given to each parent of our athletes attending
5. The athletic department of Burr Oak Schools is anxious to have our parents of our athletes not only know the regulations governing their son or daughter's participation, but also approve of the regulations. To make this phase of education more meaningful, each parent will be asked to sign the athletic code form, along with that of the son or daughter, to indicate an understanding and willingness of the student athlete to abide by the rules and regulations of the school athletic code.

B. Misconduct - disciplinary action can result in probation, suspension from the next contest or more than one contest, and / or other disciplinary action reasonably fitting the seriousness of the violation.

1. The student athlete's conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as to bring no discredit to the athlete, his/her parents, and the school or the team.
2. Each athlete should be home at 10:00 p.m. or earlier on school nights. School events scheduled on a school night in Burr Oak or out of town may present a different situation. On these nights, athletes should be home at the time designated by the head coach.
3. All athletes are expected to travel to and from out-of-town contests with the squad whenever possible or if the coach requires it.
4. On nights not followed by a school day, the athlete should be home at a reasonable hour. The coach may set guidelines for "reasonable."

C. Locker room regulations:

1. Rough-housing and throwing towels or other objects are not allowed in the locker room. **Hazing of other players is not allowed.**
2. All showers must be turned off. The last person to leave the shower room is expected to check all showers.
3. No one except coaches and assigned players are allowed in the locker room.
4. No glass containers are permitted in locker rooms.
5. All spiked or cleated shoes must be put on and taken off outside of the locker room. No metal or hard-plastic spikes or cleats are ever allowed in any part of the school building.

Weather and suspension/cancellation policy

On threatening days, the athletic director along with school administration, will have the discretion to suspend, cancel, or decide to play any home or away athletic event or practice. This includes days where school is cancelled due to inclement weather or unpredictable/unforeseen events. On days of school cancellation, the decision to play or practice must be made and announced by no later than 2 p.m.

Burr Oak parents/guardians reserve the right to not have their child attend a home or away athletic event or practice without the student-athlete being punished by the coach for missing **due to weather but they MUST CONTACT and HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH THE COACH.**

FACILITY and EQUIPMENT USE REQUEST POLICY

It is the **Burr Oak Community Schools** Athletic Department's desire that **Burr Oak** residents enjoy the use of school property and that such use take place with proper regard to safety and the preservation of property.

1. School buildings and other facilities, including fields, may be used only with permission of the Athletic Director and completion of the "Building Use Form". This policy also pertains to any athletic equipment owned by the school.
2. The Athletic Director reserves the right to deny the use of request of any **Burr Oak** resident or profit or non-profit group that is seen as unfit or use of such facility or equipment where possible safety and/or damage is in question.
3. The request must be made two (2) weeks in advance and approved by the Athletic Director.
4. If using school facilities and/or equipment through the Athletic Department, you will need to pay **Burr Oak Community Schools**. Please see the school secretary for a form that lists prices and regulations. If a request is granted, you are to stay in your area you have requested and leave the facility or return the equipment at the appropriate time as stated on the request form. Facility and/or equipment is returned and left in the original condition when it was first issued. If the facility and/or equipment is returned and left unclean or damaged, the **Burr Oak Athletic Department** reserves the right to deny any future request to use said facility and/or equipment is expected to cover the costs of repair or replacement.
5. School facilities and equipment are not to be used prior or during school hours without approval by the AD or administration; if students are present, there must also be a school employee present.
6. Use of facility and/or equipment will not interfere with school or extracurricular activities.
7. No tobacco and/or alcohol are permitted while in use of school facilities or equipment.

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING PROCEDURE FOR VIOLATION OF TRAINING RULES

Disciplinary Procedure

In the event that a member of an athletic team of this school system is in violation of any of the policies and rules governing athletics or school, he/she will be subject to action described. Major offense violations will be reported as directed in the **Reporting Procedure** below. Any minor violations will be enforced by each head coach with the approval of the Athletic Director.

Reporting Procedure

1. An adult employee of **Burr Oak Schools** will notify the Principal and/or Athletic Director if they observe a violation. The person observing the violation in question must describe in writing the date, time, and location of the incident. This information will be given to the Principal and/or Athletic Director who will then notify the student involved and said student's parent or guardian either in person, email, or by telephone. If reasonable effort was used to contact said student's parent or guardian and was unsuccessful through aforementioned methods, communication by letter will then occur.

2. If the Principal or Athletic Director receives verification by a law enforcement document, or a violation of a major offense is verified by self-admittance, the student will be notified of the disciplinary procedure by the Principal or Athletic Director and said student's parents or guardian will be notified in person or by telephone. If reasonable effort was used to contact the parent or guardian in person or by telephone and was unsuccessful, communication by letter will then occur.

Disciplinary Actions

In an attempt to provide unity between school and athletics, we have tried to match up minor and major violations, although in some instances, this is not applicable. Not every consequence in school applies to athletics, just as not every athletic violation requires a consequence from an academic standpoint. This does not negate the fact that athletes are students first. It just means consequences can occur for one or the other (athletics/academics) versus both.

Minor Violations

Suspension from full participation, on a case by case basis, as determined by the coach, with the concurrence of the athletic director. In the event that the AD is unavailable, the superintendent. In the event that both are not immediately available, another administrator.

I. MINOR VIOLATIONS

- A. Loitering/public nuisance
- B. Littering
- C. Disorderly conduct (becomes a major violation if repeated after the first violation)
- D. Disrespect
- E. Interference with the educational process (all inclusive)
- F. Blatant public display of affection (Holding hands is the only acceptable display of affection; especially while in uniform.)
- G. Misuse of electronic devices

Major Violations

- A. Sexually Explicit Language / Indecency / Obscenity / Profanity
- B. Discriminatory Language - Race, Gender, Sexuality
- C. Fighting / Physical Instigator
- E. False Reporting / Academic Cheating / Plagiarism
- F. Forgery
- G. Gambling
- H. Insubordination / Trespassing / Refusal to Identify Self
- I. Tobacco, alcohol, marijuana (Use, possession, distribution, sale), or other illegal substances including vapes, pills
- J. Skipping (failure to report in / out of school, falsely reporting of from school)
- K. Threatening and Intimidation Acts
- L. Inciting others to violence
- M. Bullying

First Offense

The student will not be allowed to participate in 25 percent of the season's contests. If there is less than 25 percent of the current season left, penalty will carry to the next season of student's eligibility. Example: Football to basketball, or baseball. Example 25 percent of a 20 game baseball season would be 5 games. If not already taken, an MHSAA class will be required in instances where it is applicable (ie: anything involving poor sportsmanship).

Second Offense

The student will not participate in 50 percent of the current sport season's contests. If there is not 50 percent of season remaining at the time of the violation, the remainder will be assessed at the beginning of the following sport. Example: 50 percent of a 20 game season would be 10 games.

Third Offense

Student will not be allowed to participate in sports the remainder of their high school career at **Burr Oak Community Schools.**

III. SERIOUS VIOLATIONS

- A. Misuse of non prescribed narcotics
- B. Arson
- C. Assault / Battery /Striking or Threatening School Personnel
- D. False Alarms / Bomb Threats
- E. Physical/Verbal Attack on any staff member / Unlawful Intimidation
- F. Sexual Assault / Harassment
- G. Shakedown / Extortion / Blackmail / Coercion
- H. Robbery / Burglary / Larceny
- I. Vandalism of School /Staff / Student Properties
- J. Dangerous Weapons / Firearms
- K. Malicious Mischief
- L. Possession or Use of Potentially Dangerous Objects
- M. Unlawful Interference with School Authorities
- N. Unlawful Intimidation of School Authorities
- O. Repeated Bullying

First Offense

Students will not be allowed to participate in sports at Burr Oak Community Schools for 180 days or one full school year. To be reinstated for sports after sitting out for a year or following an expulsion, the student and parents/guardians must go before the Burr Oak Board of Education and request to be reinstated. The Board will confer with the Superintendent and the Athletic Director and will have the final determination.

Ultimately, Burr Oak Community Schools is an educational organization. We acknowledge that young people make mistakes. We also value honesty. It is our belief that if a student is honest and has done something that violates the athlete code of conduct and self reports, that student can restore justice and earn lost time to get back on the court/field. See note below for details.

**Note: Students may reduce the consequences of a 1st & 2nd offense violation of these training rules by one of two means for self reporting:*

a) a substance abuse violation may be reduced by attending a voluntary referral assessment program approved by the administration; or

b) through voluntary self-disclosure to a coach, advisor, teacher, counselor, the Athletic Director, or an administrator.

Student disclosures made to any staff member listed above who is not an administrator shall be immediately communicated to an administrator by that staff member. Any intervening independent report, charge, or complaint with regard to the particular violation prior to the formal notification to the administrator, will cause the disclosure to be deemed

non-voluntary, and the athlete or officer will not be permitted the reduced consequence.

a. 1 st Offense – Reduced to 15%, 10% w/ 10 approved community service hours.

b. 2 nd Offense- Reduced to 30%, 20% w/ 20 approved community service hours

Due Process Students: General Procedures and Right to an Appeal

Violations of training, competition, and transportation rules should be reported to the Athletic Director or another administrator if the Athletic Director is not available. A written summary of the infraction shall be prepared.

The Athletic Director will research reported violations, determine guilt if any, and invoke appropriate discipline, all with dispatch. These aspects will be discussed with the student and reported to a parent or guardian in the most appropriate fashion according to circumstances that day.

A student will be given a hearing with the Athletic Director/Administrator, if requested by the student or parent/guardian, within 48 hours of the request to:

- A. Contest the facts which may lead to disciplinary action, or
- B. Contest the sanction imposed by the Athletic Director/Administrator due to alleged prejudice or unfairness. The administrator handling the appeal will render a decision within 24 hours of the hearing and notify all parties in writing.

Further appeals must be conducted in the following order using the same timelines as stated above:

- 1. Administrative team
- 2. Superintendent of Schools
- 3. Board of Education (at its next regular meeting unless the Superintendent calls a special meeting)

Burr Oak High School, a member of the **Southern Central Athletic Association**, will attempt to offer the following sports this coming school year:

FALL

Football
Volleyball

WINTER

Bowling
Boys/Girls Basketball
Cheerleading
Wrestling

SPRING

Baseball
Golf
Softball
Track

VARSIITY AWARDS

Criteria used for earning Varsity Letters:

- 1. Recommendation of the coach.
- 2. Approval by the Athletic Director

involves citizenship, attendance, conduct, etc.

3. Amount of participation.

4. Finish the season (unless injured)

5. Must participate in at least 75% of competitions

Note: If an athlete is ineligible for 25% of the season, he/she will not be eligible for a varsity letter.

BURR OAK FIGHT SONG

**There's a school that's full of spirit:
Its' a high school known to all.
Our specialty is winning, and the Bobcats play good ball.**

**Bobcat teams are never beaten.
Fight for the only right.
Fight for the only colors, Blue and White**

(CHORUS)

**Go right through for Burr Oak High
Watch our points keep growing.
Bobcat teams are bound to win,
They're fighting with a Vim - Rah! Rah! Rah!
See, their team is weakening,
We're going to win this game.**

Fight! Fight! Rah, Team Fight!

Victory for Burr Oak High!

Fight!

SCHOOL COLORS ----- ROYAL BLUE AND WHITE

SCHOOL MASCOT ----- BOBCAT

Ten Basic Beliefs of Michigan Interscholastic Athletics

1. Interscholastic athletics were begun outside the school day and curriculum and remain there as voluntary, extracurricular programs in which qualifying students earn the privilege of participation.
2. Interscholastic athletics are not courses offered by schools but are tools used by schools to reach and motivate students and to rally support within the community for the school's academic and activity programs.
3. In order to justify school sponsorship, interscholastic athletics must be compatible with the academic mission of schools, giving priority deference to the academic schedule and requiring proper decorum at athletic events.
4. Interscholastic athletics are secondary to the academic program of schools and are partners with the schools' non-athletic activities in providing students opportunities to develop loyalty and school spirit, to practice teamwork, hard work, discipline, sacrifice, leadership and sportsmanship and to gain lifetime appreciation of the arts, sports and healthy lifestyle.
5. There is equal potential to achieve these objectives in every sport and on the sub varsity as well as the varsity level.
6. A proper philosophy of interscholastic athletics emphasizes participation by many, not for few, and academic scholarship in school, not athletic scholarships to college.
7. To promote competitive equity and a program that is educational in both its means and its ends, the policies and procedures of interscholastic athletics must be determined by school representatives, not by courts, legislators or commercial interests.
8. Schools, through their elected boards of education and their appointed administrators, are solely responsible, legally and practically, for governing and conducting interscholastic athletics at the local and league levels.
9. Any statewide organization, which schools join to assist their administration of interscholastic athletics, must be independent of outside interests and guided exclusively by the direct input of its member schools.
10. Interstate competition in interscholastic athletics is unnecessary in most situations; regional and national events are harmful to the purposes of interscholastic athletics in Michigan.

**BURR OAK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK ACCEPTANCE FORM
AND CONSENT FORM**

As a **Burr Oak High School** student participating voluntarily in interscholastic athletics, I understand that during my high school participation:

1. I will abide by the **Burr Oak Community Schools Student Handbook, Burr Oak Student Athletic Handbook, Michigan High School Athletic Association** rules and regulations and the laws of the State of Michigan. I must comply with all of the standards of training set up by the Athletic Department and the coaches. I also realize that I should conduct myself at all times in a manner that is becoming to my parents, my community, my school, and myself.
2. I understand that athletes are responsible for uniforms and equipment assigned to them, and I will pay the replacement cost for lost items.
3. I fully understand and realize that participation in athletic sports include the potential risk of injury.

To The Parent:

I have read or been given the opportunity to read the Michigan High School Athletic Association rules and regulations located in the athletic office. I have read and understand the expectations, rules, and regulations for the athlete in the Student Athletic Handbook, and agree to permit _____ to participate or be associated with the athletic program at **Burr Oak Schools**. I understand that neither **Burr Oak Schools**, nor any of its employers will be responsible for injuries or loss of valuables.

CONFIRMATION OF THE READING OF THE HANDBOOK: Date _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE: _____

To The Student:

I have read or been given the opportunity to read the Michigan High School Athletic Association rules and regulations located in the athletic office. I have read and understand and agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Burr Oak Student Athletic Handbook. Violation of the rules and regulations may require forfeiture of my privilege to represent my school in any form of athletics. I also know that each sport is unique in its potential risk for injury. I will approach all sports in which I choose to participate with a sense of dedication, discipline, cooperation, and a spirit of good sportsmanship.

CONFIRMATION OF THE READING OF THE HANDBOOK: Date _____

ATHLETE'S SIGNATURE: _____

This form must be signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian, and be turned in to the office of the Athletic Director each year prior to participation in ANY sport for that year.