

**Theodore Roosevelt High School
Rough Riders
Department of Athletics**



**Athletics Handbook
2023-2024**

**Theodore Roosevelt High School
1400 North Mantua Street
Kent, Ohio 44240**

**330-676-8770
fax 330-676-8791**

*Rough Rider sports schedules are available online at
www.roughriderathletics.net*

Follow Us on Twitter
@rriderathletics

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Roosevelt High School	330-676-8700
RHS Athletics Office	330-676-8770
RHS Athletics Office FAX	330-676-8791
Athletic Health Care	330-676-8779
Stadium Athletic Health Care	330-676-8794
RHS Stadium Coaches Office	330-676-8795
Rough Rider Fitness Center	330-676-8649

Cancellation of Athletic Events Due to Weather Conditions

If Kent City Schools are closed due to inclement weather conditions, Roosevelt High School athletic events may be postponed or canceled.

During school closings, specific information on sport practices and contests may be obtained by checking the web at www.roughriderathletics.net or by following @rriderathletics

Athletic Tickets Admission Prices

Electronic Tickets Available at: <https://roughriderathletics.net/event-tickets>

Football Reserved Seat - *Chair back reserved seats*, \$60 for five home football games or \$12 each game.;
**Reserved seats*, \$50 for five home football games or \$10 each game.

Presale Student Tickets for Football - \$4.00 when purchased at lunch or after school on game day at RHS or SMS.

Student Tickets - \$4.00 when purchased at athletic events. Student tickets at the gate for football \$8.00, due to the presale option.

Student Punch Pass - \$30.00. Ten punches for any home athletic events, **except varsity football**.

Adult Tickets - *\$8.00 when purchased at athletic events.

Adult Tickets for Freshman Football and Freshman Basketball - \$3.00

Adult Punch Pass - *\$70.00. Ten punches for any home athletic events, **except varsity football**.

Family Punch Pass - \$160.00. Ten punches for two adults and up to four children at any home athletic events.
All family members must be present at the time of entry.

Senior Citizens with Kent City Schools Senior ID

- **FREE** for home Roosevelt athletic events.
- \$4.00 for Suburban League events at the opponent's school.

Kent City Schools Mission Statement

Our Vision:

Our vision is to become a community of students, faculty, and staff which values learning, caring and creativity.

Our Commitment:

Our commitment to learning means that we aspire to

- create an environment where students want to learn and are able to grow
- develop a range of programs and activities to serve all students
- make students ready, academically and socially, to meet their futures
- lead students to relate to, communicate with, and to be tolerant of one another
- foster senses of responsibility and accountability within the community
- encourage students to develop their moral and spiritual values.
- Challenge students to learn thoughtfully and to solve problems skillfully

Our commitment to caring we aspire to:

- base our decisions on the best interests of the school community

Our commitment to creativity means that we aspire to:

- appreciate and encourage diversity within the community
- seek out creative and novel approaches to problems
- employ a wide range of educational practices and techniques
- encourage students to be resourceful and self-reliant

Our Beliefs:

- All students can learn.
- Learners possess multiple intelligences.
- Participation in the learning community fosters social, civic, emotional, and intellectual growth.
- Diverse instructional strategies and environments enhance learning.
- Shared vision and shared experience are the foundation of the school community.
- The competing goals of excellence and equity produce energizing tension with the community.
- Problems present opportunities for re-evaluation, growth, and change.
- Teaching is an art, as well as a craft, and the teacher-student relationship is at its heart.

Kent City Schools Administration

George Joseph, Superintendent

Tom Larkin, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Director

Jim Soyars, Director of Business Services

Karen Rumley, Director of Instructional Program

Justin Gates, Director of Student Services

Deborah Krutz, Treasurer, Board of Education

Theodore Roosevelt High School Administration and Athletics Staff

Dennis Love, Principal

Mary Lynn Bush, Assistant Principal

Daniela Stuckey, Assistant Principal

Brian Bachtel, Director of Career, Technical and Adult Education

Heidi Jurging, Activities Coordinator

Ben Dunlap, Athletic Director

Matt Hunkele, Assistant Athletic Director

Paula Fisher, Athletics/Activities Secretary

Jen Sepi, Athletics Faculty Manager

Anne Prusak, Athletics Faculty Manager

Rough Rider Interscholastic Sports

FALL SPORTS

Cheerleading – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Cross Country – Varsity
Girls Cross Country – Varsity
Field Hockey – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Football – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Boys Golf – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Golf—Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Soccer – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Soccer – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Tennis – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Volleyball – Varsity, Junior Varsity

WINTER SPORTS

Boys Basketball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Girls Basketball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Cheerleading – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Bowling—Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Bowling—Varsity, Junior Varsity
Ice Hockey – Varsity
Boys Swimming and Diving – Varsity
Girls Swimming and Diving – Varsity
Wrestling – Varsity, Junior Varsity

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Lacrosse – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Lacrosse – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Softball – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Tennis – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Track and Field – Varsity
Girls Track and Field – Varsity
Boys Volleyball – Varsity, Junior Varsity

Bold denotes charges for admission

Suburban League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Aurora
Barberton
Copley
Cuyahoga Falls
Highland
Roosevelt
Revere
Tallmadge

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Brecksville-Broadview Hts.
Hudson
Nardon
North Royalton
Solon
Stow
Twinsburg
Wadsworth



Policies and Guidelines for Student-Athletes and Parents

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Requirements for Student-Athlete Participation

As a student-athlete, you are not eligible to participate in any sport until the following is completed AND signed by the parent and athlete on FinalForms:

1. OHSAA Physical Examination Form
2. Emergency Medical Authorization Form
3. OHSAA Authorization and Consent Form
4. Ohio Department of Health Concussion Form
5. OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statement
6. Lindsay Law Form
7. All academic eligibility requirements satisfied
8. Attend preseason student-athlete and parent meeting

Physical Examinations are valid for 13 months from the date of the physician's signature. Emergency Medical Authorizations and OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statements and OHSAA Authorization Forms must be completed each academic year on FinalForms.

OHSAA and Kent City Schools Eligibility

To be academically eligible to participate in athletics, students in grades 9-12, must be currently enrolled in Roosevelt High School and have received passing grades in a minimum of **five one credit courses, or the equivalent**, in the immediately preceding grading period. The Kent City Schools Board of Education's policy also requires a student to achieve a 2.0 grade point average for the preceding grading period.

The eligibility of a student-athlete continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period. Student-athletes who pass five one credit courses or the equivalent but achieve less than a 2.0 grade point average at the end of a grading period may be permitted to participate provided they engage in a structured academic intervention program monitored by the athletic director. The student-athlete must meet the criteria of the academic intervention program to be eligible to participate in the student-athlete's sport the following week.

DUE TO DISTANCE LEARNING IN THE SPRING OF 2021, THE OHSAA HAS ELIMINATED THE ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL FALL 2021 ATHLETES.

Eligibility for each grading period is determined by grades received the preceding grading period. **Semester and yearly grades have no effect on eligibility.**

A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed 75% of those subjects that carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled.

For eligibility purposes, summer school grades may not be used to substitute for failing grades received in the final grading period of the regular school year or for lack of enough courses taken the preceding grading period.

Students taking post-secondary school courses must comply with these standards. Please see the principal or athletic director if you have questions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES CAN NOT BE USED FOR ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Do not change your course schedule or drop a course without first consulting the principal or athletic director to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.

OHSAA Preseason Meeting and Student-Athlete Eligibility

The Ohio High School Athletic Association requires student-athletes and parents attend a preseason meeting held at Roosevelt High School and receive the publication "Student-Athlete Eligibility Guide". The guide can be found on pages 13-17 in this handbook. Take the time to read this publication and become familiar with the eligibility requirements established by the OHSAA.

Student-Athlete Risk of Participation

All student-athletes and parents or guardians must realize the risk of serious injury, permanent disability or death which may be a result of athletic participation. Kent City School District will use the following safeguards to make every effort to eliminate injury:

- Maintain a continuing education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.
- Instruct all athletes about the dangers of participation in the particular sport.

Individual Sport Rules

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective sports. Penalties for rule violations will be designated/handled by their respective coach. Participants and parents will be informed of rules and regulations in writing before the season.

If a student-athlete is removed or removes themselves for any reason from one of our athletic teams, a meeting with a committee consisting of at minimum the head coach, athletic director, and principal may be required to determine whether reinstatement is in the best interest of the program.

One-Half Day Attendance Requirements

Student-athletes are required to be in attendance for *the last half of the official school day (SIGNED IN BY 11 AM, EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS BY 10:36)* in order to be eligible on that day for participation in an athletic practice or contest. If there are special circumstances regarding attendance, the student-athlete's parent or guardian should contact the athletic director for consideration of waiving the attendance requirement.

Suspended or Expelled Students

Students who have been suspended out of school or expelled from school are NOT permitted on school property or at any school sponsored event, home or away, for the duration of such disciplinary action.

Athletic Conduct Code

The Board of Education believes that co-curricular activities, including interscholastic athletics, can be an important part of a student's educational experience in Kent City Schools. Because participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege all students may enjoy during good conduct, students may be denied participation from any particular or all co-curricular activities by the Superintendent, Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director or other Administrator, for up to one calendar year. Multiple offenses may lead to denial of participation from co-curricular activities for the balance of the student's high school career. The period of co-curricular denial of participation may extend, as appropriate, into the subsequent school year at the discretion of the administrator imposing the denial of participation. Due process procedures, including appeal to the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education, do not apply to co-curricular denial of participation and the decision of an authorized administrator shall be final.

Scope of the Athletic Conduct Code

All student-athletes of Roosevelt High School are to abide by the Kent City Schools Student Conduct Code and the Athletic Conduct Code. Violation of either code may lead to the denial of participation of the teams' practice(s) and contest(s) or other penalties.

- The Athletic Conduct Code goes into effect on the first day of fall sports practices in August and continues until the last day of school for student-athletes participating in a fall sport.
- For winter and spring sports athletes, the Athletic Conduct Code goes into effect on the first day of school and is in effect until the last day of school.
- The Athletic Conduct Code will be in effect for all athletes for the entire school year and will carry over from the fall to the winter to the spring sports seasons.

Areas of Denial of Participation

1. Substance Possession or Use: Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs

Using, possessing, purchasing, selling, intending to buy, sell or transmitting tobacco, alcohol, drugs or simulated tobacco products (including but not limited to vaping and E-cigarettes), alcohol or drugs; having the odor of alcoholic beverages and/or drugs upon his or her breath or clothing; or possessing drug paraphernalia, on school property or in school vehicles, during the school day or at a school sponsored activity regardless of the time of day is in violation. Student-athletes are also prohibited from substance possession or use outside the school environment, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, beginning the first day of practice for fall student-athletes and the first day of school for winter and spring student-athletes and proceeding to the last day of school.

Consequences:

First Offense:

Denial of participation from 20% of the scheduled contests. The athletic suspension will begin on the date of the student-athlete and parent/guardian notification or the first contest in the next active season for out-of-season violations.

Subsequent Offenses during the same academic year:

Denial of participation from 40% of the scheduled contests. The athletic suspension will begin on the date of the student-athlete and parent/guardian notification or the first contest in the next active season for out-of-season violations. This offense may include possible dismissal from the team. The student-athlete must meet with the Student Assistance Coordinator and comply with recommendations made by the Student Assistance Coordinator.

2. Attendance

A student-athlete is required to attend all mandatory activities designated by the coach.

Consequences for the first unexcused absence:

Minimum— athletic director and coach's discretion.

Maximum— sit out one contest.

Consequences for the second unexcused absence:

Minimum— athletic director and coach's discretion.

Maximum— sit out two contests.

Consequences for the third and subsequent unexcused absence:

Minimum— athletic director and coach's discretion.

Maximum— removal from team for remainder of the season

3. Insubordination

A student-athlete shall not refuse to comply with a reasonable request, order, or direction of any coach, administrator, or other authorized personnel.

Consequences:

- Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
- Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season

4. Profanity or Vulgar Displays

A student-athlete shall not use profane, obscene, or vulgar language. This includes gestures, either nonverbal or written.

Consequences:

- Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
- Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season

5. Behavior Unbecoming of a Roosevelt Student-Athlete, including unsportsmanlike conduct or ejection from a contest or event

A student-athlete shall not act in a manner detrimental to the team or Roosevelt High School.

Consequences:

- Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion
- Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season

6. Hazing

Hazing shall be defined for the purposes of this policy as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team or organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Consequences:

- Administrative action and automatic dismissal from the team.

Sportsmanship Philosophy and Guidelines

The Roosevelt Athletic Department believes that interscholastic competition involving member schools of the Ohio High School Athletic Association should be governed by the basic principles of good sportsmanship. This document has been prepared to insure that all participants have a common understanding of those basic principles.

We believe that students should be coached to play to the best of their ability and to understand that to play well is to play honorably. The promotion of sportsmanship is the obligation of all school personnel (principals, athletic directors and coaches) and is directed to the behavior of spectators, coaches and players.

An additional component to consider is coaches’ ethics. We believe the development of good sportsmanship through the practice of ethical behavior and moral reasoning is one of the acknowledged objectives of interscholastic athletics. We, therefore, expect school administrators, coaches, athletes, and spectators to know and embrace the following fundamentals of sportsmanship.

Respect should be demonstrated for an athletic opponent and for their school at all times. Roosevelt should treat visiting teams and their supporters as guests and accord them the consideration all human beings deserve. Visiting schools should respect the property and dignity of their host school and its athletic teams.

Knowledge of and a proper respect for the current rules of the contest should guide the behavior of all participants. Rules are essential for a fair contest. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the “letter” of the rules.

All participants should strive to maintain self-control at all times. The desire to win should not be accepted as a reason for abandoning rational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained by all if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized.

All participants should learn to recognize and appreciate skill in performance regardless of affiliation. Recognition of the good performance of an opponent is a demonstration of generosity and good will that is encouraged in all member schools. In order for good sportsmanship to prevail, it is essential that all participants understand their individual responsibilities and expected modes of behavior before, during and after contests.

Player Expectations

Because players are admired and respected, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of the spectators. It is important that players:

1. Treat opponents with the respect that is due them as guests and as fellow human beings.
2. Shake hands with opponents and wish them a good game when appropriate.
3. Exercise self-control at all times, accepting the judgment of the officials as the best judgment they could make given what they know and see. Never argue or make gestures indicating lack of respect for the officials' judgment.
4. Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion.
5. Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
6. Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community.

Player Ejection from a Contest

Any student-athlete ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for all contests **for the remainder of that day**. In addition, the student-athlete shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student-athlete shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates. A student-athlete under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after the contest(s).

A student-athlete who is ejected a second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student-athlete who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time in the season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time/number of contests subject to the discretion of the Commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student-athlete participates.

All student-athletes participating in the athletic program at Roosevelt High School will be held accountable to the OHSAA player ejection rule.

Unsporting Player Behavior with Fans

No member of any school-sponsored interscholastic athletics squad shall leave the ‘playing area’ in which a contest is being conducted and enter the spectator area of the facility to engage in any type of conflict—verbal or physical. If a student-athlete leaves the ‘playing area’ and enters the spectator area of a facility to so engage a person, the minimum penalties shall be:

1. The student-athletes privileges to participate in interscholastic athletics shall be revoked and the student-athlete shall be ineligible for the remainder of the school year.
2. The school shall be immediately placed on probation pending an investigation (and report) into what happened, what caused it to happen, what was done by the school to diffuse what happened and what safeguards have been implemented by the school to prevent further happenings.

Cheerleader Expectations

Cheerleaders are representatives of the student body. By setting a good example, the cheerleaders can influence and control the actions of the student spectators.

They should:

1. Establish standards of desirable behavior in keeping with the fundamentals of good sportsmanship for the cheerleaders.
2. Use positive cheers, which encourage their own team without demeaning their opponents.
3. Use discretion in deciding when to cheer and which cheers to use.
4. Give encouragement to injured players on both sides.
5. Never attempt to distract opposing players or in any way interfere with their performance.
6. Serve as hosts for visiting cheerleaders.

Participants (players and cheerleaders) should avoid the following inappropriate behavior:

1. Taunting officials, opponents or spectators.
2. Violation of bench rule: If an athlete leaves the bench area and is involved in an altercation on the playing field/area, it is strongly recommended that the athlete be suspended for two contests. The suspension should include non-conference and tournament games and should carry over into the next sports season if it occurs at the end of a sports season.
3. Ejection from contest.
4. Use of profanity.
5. Damage/destruction of school property.
6. Theft of school or personal property.

Spectator Expectations

Partisan spectators by their behaviors and reactions determine to a large extent the reputation for sportsmanship of their school. Spectators should be reminded and should keep in mind that athletes are friendly rivals as members of opposing amateur teams. They are expected to be treated as such. Spectators should be reminded too, that the contest should be between the teams engaged in the competition and not between their supporters. It is important that all spectators:

1. Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship.
2. Respect, cooperate, and respond enthusiastically to the cheerleaders, coaches, and student-athletes of all teams.
3. Censure fellow spectators whose behavior is unacceptable.
4. Be positive toward players and coaches regardless of the outcome of the contest.
5. Respect the judgment and the professionalism of the officials and coaches.

Spectator inappropriate behavior:

1. Verbal/physical abuse of officials.
2. Berating players, coaches or other spectators through: chants, signs, cheers, and profanity.

Unacceptable interruptions of a contest:

1. Throwing objects on the playing area.
2. Entering the playing area.
3. Disruptive behavior.

Fan Code of Conduct

Theodore Roosevelt High School, in association with the Ohio High School Athletic Association promotes interscholastic events and sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is an essential part of any athletic competition and is expected from athletes, coaches, officials and fans. As a fan/spectator of Theodore Roosevelt High School we want you to be an example of positive encouragement while supporting our athletes, coaches and officials. Our behavior should be positive, respectful and encouraging of the athletes, coaches, officials and the game.

Failure to be an example of these athletic practices and/or ejection from an athletic contest will result in the following procedures to be taken:

First Offense – The spectator will schedule a meeting with the athletic director with resulting action that may include removal from the next two home athletic contests of the same sport. A letter will be sent by the athletic director and principal to the spectator in question notifying them of the ejection and the dates of ejection.

Second Offense – The spectator will be removed from all home athletic contests and other school events and activities for the remainder of the season of infraction. A letter of ejection will be sent from the office of the Principal notifying the spectator of the remainder of the season ejection.

Third Offense – The spectator will be removed from all home Kent City School District athletic contests and other school events and activities for the remainder of the school year. A letter of ejection will be sent from the office of the Superintendent notifying the spectator of the ejection.

Any athletic official, including but not limited to, contest officials, athletic director, principal, assistant principals, game site supervisors and anyone else in an administrative role on the site, may uphold enforcement of an ejection.

While the Fan Code of Conduct encompasses behavior expectations and consequences for both student and adult fans, Kent City Schools administrators may apply further consequences to a student ejected from a contest due to the student violating the Student Conduct Code.

Respect the Game

The Parents Role in Interscholastic Athletics

- Get to know the coaches. Then you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes, ethics and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your student-athlete under his or her leadership.
- Interscholastic athletics provide learning experiences for students, and unfortunately, sometimes mistakes are made. Just as you would praise a student's effort in the classroom, remember to praise your student-athlete in their attempt to improve academically, athletically, and as a person.
- Remember, the reason you attend athletic contests is to support and cheer for your student's team as well as to enjoy the display of skill and competition. Your role is not to intimidate the other team and its fans.
- A ticket to an interscholastic athletic event allows you the privilege to observe the contest, not a license to be obnoxious and/or verbally abusive to others.
- Show respect for opposing players, coaches, fans and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your home.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to opponents. Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved. Recognize and show appreciation for outstanding play by either team.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations are happening.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to call a fair contest.
- **Be a positive behavior role model through your own actions and by censoring inappropriate or unbecoming behavior of those around you at events.**

Communication with your Student-Athlete

- Try your best to be completely objective about your student's athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and skill level.
- Make sure your student-athlete knows that whether they play well or make mistakes, win or lose, you love them, appreciate their efforts and are not in any way disappointed in them.
- Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to try their hardest and to work to continuously improve their skills and attitudes. Help them develop a healthy and balanced perspective toward competing and having fun.

- Be helpful, but do not coach your student-athlete. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for your student to be overwhelmed with advice and critical information.
- Do not compete with the coach. If your student-athlete is receiving mixed messages from two different authority figures, he/she will likely become disenchanted.
- Try not to relive your athletic career through your student-athlete in such a way that creates pressure for your child.
- Do not compare the skill, courage or attitude of your student-athlete with other members of the team or siblings.

Sportsmanlike Behavior

- Remember that young people play sports for their enjoyment, not to entertain you.
- Respect and show appreciation for the coaches, and understand that they have given their time to provide sport activities for our young people.
- Show respect for our opponents, and realize there would be no game without them.
- Do not have unrealistic expectations, and understand that doing one's best is as important as winning. Know that ridiculing a student-athlete for making a mistake is not acceptable behavior.
- Encourage student-athletes and coaches to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Respect the official's decisions, and encourage all participants to do the same.
- Do not use bad language or harass student-athletes, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- **Always show good sportsmanship since young people learn best by example.**

Communicating with the Coach

Communication Parents Should Expect From the Coach

- Coach's philosophy pertaining to the team and sport.
- Expectations the coach has for your student-athlete as well as all players on the team.
- Time and location for all practices and contests.
- Requirements such as special equipment needed and voluntary off-season conditioning expectations.
- Procedures for reporting injuries and illnesses.
- Expectations and rule infractions that may result in disciplinary action or denial of participation for your student-athlete.

Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

- History of injuries or illnesses and/or special concerns for the student-athlete.
- Information pertaining to your student-athlete that would help the coach be more effective in communicating with him/her.
- Notification well in advance of any schedule conflicts.
- Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and expectations.

Procedures for Discussing Concerns with Coaches

- Contact the coach to schedule an appointment to discuss your concerns. Meetings with parents will not take place before or after a contest or during practice time.
- Meetings will be attended by the parent, student-athlete, head coach and assistant coach.
- Parents and student-athletes will express their concerns and raise questions as needed. Other players on the team will not be discussed.
- Coaches will attempt to answer all questions in an honest and forthright manner. This may include a discussion of a student-athlete's strengths and weaknesses as well as their perceived role on the team.
- If a meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, consider scheduling an appointment with the athletic director for further discussion.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

- Treatment of your student-athlete.
- Ways to help your student-athlete improve and develop.
- Concerns about your student-athlete's behavior and/or academic accomplishments.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

- Your student-athlete's playing time.
- Specific offense, defense or team strategy.
- Coach's play calling or game strategy.
- Player combinations, positioning or other student-athletes.

Because of the emotion exhibited by all parties, confronting a coach before or after a practice or game does not promote resolution of a problem!

The Student-Athlete and Transferring Sports

Student-athletes may not transfer from one sport to another after the first scheduled scrimmage or contest. A student-athlete who withdraws from a sport may not join another sport until the season in which he/she withdrew is completed. A student-athlete who withdraws from a sport may not begin conditioning or "open gym or open facilities" for a sport in the up-coming season without permission from the head coach of the sport the student-athlete withdrew from or until the current sport's season ends.

The Student-Athlete and Two Sport Participation

A student-athlete who wishes to participate in two sports during the same season must gain the approval of the athletic director prior to practicing with both sports.

The following criteria must be met before approval will be given:

1. Approval from the parent or guardian.
2. The student-athlete shows evidence of strong academic achievement that would not be compromised by participating in two sports in the same season.
3. Both head coaches must agree the student-athlete would be capable of competing at a safe level in each sport and would be able to have sufficient practice time for skill development.
4. The student-athlete must decide on a primary sport that would take priority if schedule conflicts occur. Both head coaches must agree on the student-athlete's choice of primary sport.
5. The head athletic trainer must be consulted to determine if any past or current injuries or conditions would make participation in two sports inadvisable.
6. A contract outlining the above criteria must be signed by the parents, coaches, student-athlete and athletic director.

Head coaches will not allow a student-athlete to participate in more than one sport until approved by the athletic director.

Marching Band and Athletic Policy

It is permissible for a student to participate in a fall sport in addition to being a member of the marching band. The marching band director and the head coach of the respective sport will work out a mutually agreeable schedule, which permits the student to participate in both activities.

Conflicts in Co-curricular Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many co-curricular 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 co-curricular activities; and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

Guidelines for Cutting to a Determined Number of Participants

The head coach will hold a pre-season meeting with student-athletes trying out for the sport to explain the criteria used to cut a squad. Evaluation procedures and general tryout information will be explained and questions pertaining to tryouts will be answered.

A conference will be held with a student-athlete cut from the squad. During the conference, the coach will explain the reasons why the student-athlete did not make the team and suggest possible alternatives for improving skills, therefore, enhancing the student-athlete's opportunity for making the team in the future.

The coaching staff will participate in the evaluation of each student-athlete in a given sport in a fair and equitable manner. The head coach will be responsible for making the final decision with respect to the varsity squad of his/her team.

Tryouts will be a minimum of three (3) practices in length on three different days before cuts are made to ensure adequate time to evaluate candidates.

Every attempt will be made to give each student-athlete the same amount of time to demonstrate skills.

Tryouts for cheerleading will follow different criteria and the specific format and selection process will be explained to potential candidates prior to cheerleading tryouts.

Student-Athlete Vacation Policy

Vacations by athletic team members during the sport season are extremely discouraged. When an absence due to a vacation is unavoidable, a student-athlete must:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parents/guardians/custodians while on vacation
2. Contact the head coach prior to the vacation
3. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on the team as a starter or substitute player, including, but not limited to a reduction in playing time.
4. Student-athletes missing mandatory contests during a scheduled family vacation will be required to sit out the following number of contests at the coach's discretion:

Miss 1 contest—sit out one contest upon return

Miss 2 contests—sit out two contests upon return

Miss 3 or more contests—sit out three contests upon return

Away Events and Student-Athlete Transportation

Student-athletes are expected to travel to and from away practices, scrimmages, and contests on transportation provided by Kent City Schools. In the event of extenuating circumstances, exceptions may be granted by the athletic director or head coach if the student-athlete provides notification through a written request signed by the parent or guardian the day prior to the scheduled away event. **If the request is honored, a student-athlete will be permitted to travel with his/her parent or guardian only.**

There also may be some events that due to early start times, that a bus is unavailable. **In these cases, please be sure to sign off on the Athletic Transportation Release (located on Final Forms).**

Bench, Team Area and Locker Room Restrictions

The bench or team area and locker room of each sport is restricted to the student-athletes listed on the OHSAA eligibility form for the sport, coaches, volunteer coaches, managers, athletic trainers, paramedics, physicians, team videographers or other personnel approved by the athletic director or coach. Students, parents and fans are expected to remain in designated spectator areas or seated in the bleachers.

Sports Awards Ceremonies

Individual sports awards banquets and ceremonies will be held at the conclusion of each sports' season. Student-athletes are expected to attend the awards program to receive the awards they have earned. If the student-athlete is unable to attend the awards program, the head coach must be notified before the awards program or the student-athlete risks forfeiture of earned awards.

Rough Rider Athletic Awards

Head coaches will determine the requirements for a student-athlete to earn a varsity award in his/her respective sport. The awards criteria will be described to student-athletes prior to the start of the sport's season.

Freshman Numerals Award—Numerals of graduation year for the first season and/or Certificate of Athletic Participation.

Junior Varsity Award—Certificate of Athletic Participation

First Year Varsity Award—Varsity "R" letter award for the first season and a sport pin.

Second Year Varsity Award—Sport Pin

Third Year Varsity Award—Third Year Plaque and a Sport Pin

Fourth Year Varsity Award—Fourth Year Plaque and a Sport Pin

Captain Award—Captain Certificate

Suburban League Scholar-Athlete Award—Any student-athlete who has earned a 3.50 GPA or better in the previous grade period.

Financial Obligations and Equipment

Uniforms – In some sports, the athlete will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform, which will become their property.

Equipment – All athletes are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them.

1. All equipment issued to a player is to be worn only at practice or scheduled games or scrimmages involving that particular sport. Exceptions must be approved by the coach, such as team members wearing jerseys to school on game days.
2. Before any item is attached to, added to, removed from, or worn with a uniform that is issued to an athlete for a specific sport, the athlete must secure permission from the coach.
3. Each athlete is responsible for all equipment issued. Equipment is to be clean and in the best possible condition. Roosevelt High School is not responsible for lost or stolen equipment. Athletes are required to use a lock on athletic lockers to avoid theft.
4. All athletic equipment is the property of the Board of Education and the Athletic Department, therefore, school equipment may not be taken from the school building for the use of any other organization or for personal use. Any exception must be approved by the athletic director.
5. All equipment issued to an athlete must be returned at the end of the school season. Equipment that is not returned for any reason or is damaged beyond normal wear and tear must be paid for at

REPLACEMENT cost. Equipment is to be returned or lost equipment paid for within one week of the last contest of the sport. Any athlete who has not returned or paid for lost equipment within one week may be denied the opportunity to participate in athletics until the equipment is returned or payment is made.

Individual Sports Lettering Requirements

Individual sports awards banquets and ceremonies will be held at the conclusion of each sports' season. Student-athletes are expected to attend the awards program to receive the awards they have earned. If the student-athlete is unable to attend the awards program, the head coach must be notified before the awards program or the student-athlete risks forfeiture of earned awards.

Rough Rider Lettering Criteria

The following are the basic qualifications for a varsity award:

Baseball – the athlete must play in 12 games to letter in any combination.

Basketball (Boys & Girls) – the athlete must play in 50% of the number of varsity regular season contests or 50% of the total number of contests played-regular and postseason combined.

Bowling (Boys & Girls) – the athlete must participate in 11 matches. Participation credit is defined by bowling in a regular match game competition or bowling is a frame of the Baker format.

Cheerleading - the athlete must make varsity at tryouts.

Cross Country (Boys & Girls) – An individual must compete in 3 varsity races.

Field Hockey – the athlete must appear in 5 halves and/or a significant contributor in postseason play.

Football – A player must play in 1/2 of the regular season quarters=20 [post season play can be used to reach 20 quarters]. Juniors who have played 2 years and have consistently attended practice and workouts and are close to 20 will be under consideration for varsity letters. All seniors who attend practice/workouts letter regardless of playing time. If a player has been injured before completion of the season and is projected to play 20 quarters the coach may letter. Coach's discretion may be used in unusual situations. The athlete must play in one-half of the number of regular season quarters the varsity team plays or one-half the total number of quarters played – regular season and playoffs combined.

Golf (Boys & Girls) – The athlete must have their score used towards the team's overall score a minimum of three times in varsity matches or tournaments, excluding scrimmages.

Ice Hockey - All academically eligible players who participate through a full hockey season on our Varsity ice hockey team will earn their Varsity letter.

Lacrosse (Boys) – the athlete must dress in 80% of varsity games and play in 50% of those games.

Lacrosse (Girls) – the athlete must have played in a total of 8 halves throughout the season

Softball – the athlete must play in 50% of varsity games. If you are a pitcher only and you make 4 appearances you will letter. The 50% rule includes if you pinch run or pinch hit will count as an appearance. If the varsity team makes it to the state final 4 all varsity players will letter even if you don't make the 50% criteria.

Soccer (Boys & Girls) – the athlete must play in at least 8 halves throughout the season. A half may be credited as soon as the specific player enters into the game. Once the player steps on the field in the half, it may be applied to their season total.

Swim (Boys & Girls) – the athlete must score a total of 16 points from the first to the last meet of the year. According to Rule 7, Section 1 and Article 3 scores as follows.

Individual Events

1st place 6 points
2nd place 4 points
3rd place 3 points
4th place 2 points
5th place 1 point
6th place 0 points

Relay Events

1st place 8 points
2nd place 4 points
3rd place 2 points
4th place 0 points
*Relay points are shared by the 4 swimmers in the events.

Tennis (Boys & Girls) – Any athlete that plays in more than 50% of the eligible set (i.e. 20 sets among 19 matches) contested during the regular season, at any position, will earn a letter.

Track (Boys & Girls) – the athlete must score an equivalent of 15 points based on the following criteria:
Dual Meet Scoring

1st: 5 points
2nd: 3 points
3rd: 1 point

Invitational Scoring

Varies Based on Teams
Relay Scoring: Points Broken Up Equally Among Relay Members
No Points for Alternates

Volleyball (Boys & Girls) – the athlete must play in 50% of the total number of varsity games played during regular season matches or 50% of the total number of games played – regular and postseason combined.

Wrestling – the athlete must participate in matches and tournaments totaling one-half the number of regular season match/tournament contest points or 50% of the total regular and postseason contest points combined.

- Certificates of Participation will be awarded to athletes on the bases of attitude and attendance if varsity award requirements are not met.
- Coaches are authorized to issue the appropriate first, second, third or fourth year awards to any senior who, for lettering purposes, has only met participation requirements.
- With prior approval of the Athletic Director and Principal, coaches may issue the appropriate first, second or third year varsity award, to an athlete who has met participation requirements but not varsity award requirements, on the basis of exemplary contributions to the team, with regard to practice participation, spirit, loyalty and attitude, etc. This includes exchange students.

Placeholder for OHSAA Insert - 6 pages

Placeholder for OHSAA Insert - 2 Pages