



RIVERDALE RIDGE

BOYS BASKETBALL

PROGRAM HANDBOOK

The following standards are written so that there will be complete understanding as to what is expected of all student-athletes involved with the Riverdale Ridge Boys Basketball Program. These standards will act to guide us as we work toward achieving our program, team, and individual goals.

Please read carefully as you will be expected to govern yourself according to the standards outlined within.

A. **ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY:**

- Academics are our student-athletes main responsibility. They must attend and be fully engaged in all assigned classes to be eligible to practice or play each day, unless there is an excused absence. They are expected to discuss any classroom problems with their teachers and/or coaches as soon as possible to avoid potential barriers to athletic eligibility.
- Weekly eligibility/grade/attendance reports are pulled every Thursday at noon to determine CHSAA eligibility to play the following week. Coaches are informed of any student-athletes with a D or F in their classes. Student-athletes must be passing 2 classes plus Advisory and be free of unexcused absences to be eligible for competition the following Monday through Saturday.
- An ineligible student can appeal their ineligibility if there has been a mistake in grading or ungraded assignment turned in prior to the Thursday noon deadline. They have until Friday at 1:00pm to submit an eligibility petition to the athletic secretary for approval. Unexcused absences must be excused by a parent/guardian within 2 days.
- While ineligible, players may attend and participate in practice or may miss practice to get their grades up. Ineligible players may not travel, wear a jersey, or sit with the team during a game.

B. **TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, AND DRUGS:**

- Student-athletes must adhere to all school policies concerning the use tobacco, alcohol, and drugs.
- School Code of conduct violations result in an athletic suspension of 20% of games and possible dismissal from the basketball program. Violations occurring during the basketball season or a second violation will result in immediate dismissal from the basketball program.

C. **HAZING:**

- Any form of hazing of any player which involves actions including intimidation, harassment, assault, or any other form of initiation, may result in immediate dismissal from the team and possible legal consequences.

D. **PUNCTUALITY:**

- In addition to being on time for academic classes, student-athletes must be on time for all basketball related functions including practices, meetings, trips, and games or face consequences as determined by the coaching staff and/or teammates. All scheduled times indicate the time a player is expected to be ready for participation.

E. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

- Communication is important. If an absence or tardy for a basketball function cannot be avoided, the student-athlete (not the parent) must communicate to the coaching staff prior to the absence so that they can adjust accordingly. Failure to do so will incur a penalty of 1 sprint for each minute missed. The sprints must be completed before being allowed to participate in a game.
- We will practice on Saturdays and school holidays with the exception of Thanksgiving Day and Christmas.

F. INJURY RESPONSIBILITY:

- When injuries occur, the student-athlete must immediately see the trainer to receive treatment/rehab for that injury. The trainer must clear them to return to practice and/or games.
- Until cleared from the injury, the student-athlete must remain engaged in all team functions (as a spectator) when not actively receiving treatment/rehab so they are up to speed when cleared to return to play.

G. CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

- Student-athletes must cooperate with **ALL** coaches and respect the authority they represent.
- As part of the growth and maturity process, direct communication is highly encouraged between student-athletes and coaches in all situations. For all concerns, please schedule a time to discuss the concern with the appropriate coach.
- If the conflict/concern is not addressed in that meeting and does not involve the head coach, the head coach should be contacted. If meeting with the head coach does not resolve the conflict/concern, the athletic director should be contacted who will mediate a meeting between all parties involved. If the appropriate person is not engaged prior to escalating the process, you will be directed back to the appropriate person first before being addressed at that level. Parents may be involved at any level, but the desired process is for direct student-athlete to coach communication.
- There is a mandatory 24 hour cooling off period that must be adhered to prior to engaging in conflict resolution. Before or after games and during practices are not times to engage coaches to resolve emotional issues. Please schedule a time to discuss the concerns with the appropriate coach.

H. PERSONAL CONDUCT:

- While on or off the basketball court, the actions, performance, and speech our student-athletes are a reflection on the individual, the team, the student body, their family, and community. Therefore we expect our student-athletes to act accordingly by being honest and loyal at all times to coaches, teammates, and the school. Each individual is part of the **TEAM** where many people are depending on them to do their part.
- Our student-athletes will set a positive example in school, in class, at home and on the basketball court so that they represent the basketball program with pride, others look up to and respect them.
- Any negative incidents or dissension that might hinder the success of the team must be reported to the coaching staff. The number one quality is a positive attitude in spite of the situation.
- Our gyms, locker rooms (home and away), bench areas, and offices are a reflection of our basketball program. Pride must be taken in them to keep them clean and presentable.

I. EQUIPMENT:

- Student-athletes will be responsible for all athletic equipment entrusted to their use and return it to the school in the best possible condition. If not, they will be responsible to pay the full replacement cost for any lost or damaged equipment. All equipment must be returned clean on the specified check-in date at the end of the season.
- **If it is late, a late fee of \$10 per day will be charged for each day that it is turned in late.**

J. GAME AND TRAVEL DRESS:

- We will always represent Riverdale Ridge in a professional manner. On game days, student-athletes must wear the designated travel apparel (collared shirt or sweater, slacks (no jeans), and dress shoes (no tennis shoes) or the team travel sweatsuit) to school and to/from the game in order to travel/participate in the days game.
- In other situations, clothing that shows pride in self, our program, and school must be worn.

K. BASKETBALL ATTIRE:

- Student-athletes may not participate in practices without their official practice gear. Failure to abide with this standard will result in an unexcused absence and possible loss of playing time.
- Student-athletes may not participate in games without the designated uniform and accessories including the game warmup and socks.

L. ACTIVE PARTICIPATION:

- Student-athletes will be active participants in all extra-curricular activities for the basketball program including community service and fundraising projects.

M. SPORTSMANSHIP:

- We will display respect for our basketball program, its student-athletes, coaches, and fans at all times.
- The referees are an integral part of the game and will also be respected along with the opposing team.
- These actions will reflect upon our school and basketball program as a first class organization setup for success.

N. LETTERING POLICY:

- To earn an athletic letter, the student-athlete must participate in 50% of the corresponding quarters for the varsity season (participation in one play constitutes a quarter of playing time).
- If the varsity team makes the state playoffs, the entire roster of 12 players submitted to CHSAA will letter regardless of quarters played. The roster will be determined at the coaches discretion.
- If the varsity team wins the state championship, the playoff roster plus any lower-level student-athletes that practice with the varsity for the entire duration of the state playoffs will letter regardless of quarters played.
- A student-athlete must finish the season as a member of the basketball program in good standing. Quitting or being dismissed from the team nullifies the awarding of a letter, as well as any other opportunity for awards, certificates, and honors regardless of prior accomplishments.

O. SUCCESS: This is our basketball program and all student-athletes, parents, and coaches are expected to sincerely try to contribute towards the success of the program by actively supporting all student-athletes, coaches, and teams in the basketball program. This is one of the trademarks of a successful basketball program.



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Basic Program Rule: Whatever I do that is detrimental to the good of the program, my team, or myself will be handled as my coaches and teammates see fit.

(If I disregard any of the standards outlined in the handbook, I agree to the penalties set up by the coaching staff and/or my teammates. If I continue to disregard these standards, I understand that I will be dismissed from the team.)

THIS PROGRAM HANDBOOK HAS BEEN SET FORTH WITH THE INTENT TO ALLOW ME THE PRIVILEGE AND HONOR OF BEING A PART OF A HIGH CLASS BASKETBALL PROGRAM. THE ABOVE STANDARDS GIVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY OF BECOMING A BETTER TEAMMATE, A BETTER PLAYER, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, A BETTER PERSON.

Player signature _____ Date _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____