

Southeastern Local Schools Athletic Handbook

Grades 7-12



2024-2025

Southeastern Local Schools

Student Athletic Policy

MISSION

The Board of Education recognizes the value to the students of the District and to the community of a program of interscholastic athletics for students as an integral part of the total school experience. The Southeastern Local Schools Athletic program will provide rich and meaningful experiences in athletics, through which the student will develop to the greatest degree the talents and skills needed in the performance of his/her duties as a responsible citizen in our society.

VALUES OF COMPETITION

- Teamwork and cooperation
- Honesty and integrity
- Striving for excellence
- Growth as an individual
- Good sportsmanship

GOALS

- Develop a wide range of activities
- Organize each program for the greatest student benefit
- Provide well-qualified personnel to oversee each program
- Foster school loyalty
- Stimulate community interest in athletics
- Provide the opportunity to exercise
- Provide career and educational development

DEFINITIONS

ATHLETE—you are considered an athlete once you have attended a practice of an athletic team and will be considered an athlete for the duration of your athletic eligibility (grades 7-12). Cheerleaders, managers, and trainers are considered athletes and must obey the same rules.

AWARDS—awards earned are given at the end of the season to any member of a team who is a valid participant.

CHAIN OF COMMAND—should the athlete have difficulties during the season the athlete should follow the chain of command to resolve the issue. 1) Athlete meets with the Coach; 2) Athlete and parent(s) meet with the Coach, 3) Athlete and parent(s) meet with Coach and Athletic Director during a scheduled meeting, 4) Athlete and parent(s) meet with the Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal. Any meeting between parent and Coach should not occur after a contest. Allow at least 24 hours to set up a meeting. Any issue that the parent feels should be immediately addressed should be brought to the administrator on duty.

COACH—the Coach is any person who is approved by the Southeastern Board of Education for the purpose of coaching a team.

DENIED PARTICIPATION—cannot take part in any activity (game, practices, meetings, etc.)

IN- SEASON—in- season is from the first day you attend a mandatory practice for that sport and until the Coach releases you from the last game or contest. This is the definition for In- Season violations of the Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Rules.

FALL SEASON—the dates for the Fall Season will begin **July 29, 2024** for Boys and Girls Golf and **August 1, 2024** for Football, Cross Country, Volleyball and Soccer to the conclusion of the last contest.

FUNDRAISER- student solicitation and collection of money for any purpose including collection of money in exchange for tickets, papers, or any other goods or services.

OUT- OF- SEASON—Out- of- season is anytime not during the season. Out of season is any time before you attend a mandatory practice for a team and any time after the coach releases you from the last game or contest.

PARTICIPATION—participation is taking an active part in that activity from the beginning until the end of the season and

adhering to the guidelines set forth for satisfactory participation.

PROOF OF VIOLATION—the documented direct observance by a Southeastern employee, or a chaperone, or a school board member, or a member of any law enforcement agency, or a matter of record, of the parents of the athlete in violation, or a statement of admission by the athlete when questioned by school personnel about a possible violation, or a positive results in the drug testing program. Parents will be contacted and will have a right to be present when students are questioned regarding the proof of violation.

SPRING SEASON—the dates for the Spring Season will be **February 24, 2025** for all sports until the conclusion of the last contest.

TEAM MEMBER—you are considered a team member from the first day that you attend practice until you are cut, you quit, the season is over, or are removed from the team for disciplinary reasons.

VALID PARTICIPANT—is a student who participates on one of our teams for the entire season. The athlete must not have been disciplinary removed from the team for the remainder of the season or quit a team.

WINTER SEASON—the dates for the Winter Season will be **October 25, 2024 for Girls Basketball, November 1, 2024 for Boys Basketball, November 1, 2024 for Bowling, and November 15, 2024 for Wrestling** until the conclusion of the last contest.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

OHSAA POLICY--In order to be eligible in grades 9-12, a student must be currently enrolled at Southeastern and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period. During the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses (2 1/2 one semester) or the equivalent which count toward graduation.

A student enrolled full time in a post-secondary institution is eligible to participate at the high school where the student's records are maintained, provided the student is receiving high school credit for a minimum of five one credit courses in the post secondary institution. All students (and their parents) have not only a shared responsibility with respect to their scheduling and scholastic performance, but a primary responsibility with respect to both. If not enough credits are earned by a student participating in part time or full time post secondary, the athlete will be ruled athletically ineligible for the next **academic grading period** and will not be eligible to appeal to the athletic office or the OHSAA.

A student who is home-schooled may participate in athletics at Southeastern provided they meet all of the guidelines listed in this handbook and in OHSAA policy and he or she lives in the Southeastern school district.

OHSAA POLICY– In order to be eligible in grades 7-8, a student must pass a minimum of **4** classes during the **academic grading period** to be eligible for the following **academic grading period**.

In addition to the eligibility requirements established by the OHSAA, to be eligible for any interscholastic extracurricular (grades 7-12), a student must have maintained at least a 1.3 GPA, and must not have received more than one failing grade in any course for the grading period prior to the grading period in which s/he wishes to participate.

Athletes who are not eligible to participate in games cannot be dressed in their team uniform for the game.

An athlete that is ineligible from the preceding grading period may not participate in any way on a team.

OHSAA POLICY—The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5th) school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. **EXCEPTION:** Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of fall sports.

OHSAA POLICY—Summer school grades earned may not be used to substitute for failing grades from the last grading period of school or for the lack of enough courses taken the preceding grading period. The grades used to calculate eligibility at the end of the **academic grading period** will be determined by the grades reported to the office. Students may not complete makeup work or receive any other type of assistance to change the grades once they are reported to the office. Grades may only be changed due to clerical errors.

OHSAA POLICY—Semester and yearly grades have no effect on eligibility.

OHSAA POLICY—When you enroll in grade 9 the first time, you have eight semesters of athletic eligibility taken in order of attendance whether you participate or do not participate. When you enroll in grade 7 for the first time, you have 4 semesters of athletic eligibility taken in order of attendance whether you participate or do not participate.

OHSAA POLICY—A student who is enrolled 15 or more school days after the first day of attendance in any semester, or who participates in an interscholastic contest prior to or in a semester, shall have that semester count as one semester of eligibility.

OHSAA POLICY—Grades 9-12: If you are 19 years of age prior to August 1, you are ineligible for the school year. Should you be ineligible based on the age requirement, you may appeal to the OHSAA through the athletic director’s office.

OHSAA POLICY—Grades 7-8: If you are 15 years of age prior to August 1, you are ineligible for the school year in grades 7-8. You could participate in High School athletics. Should you be ineligible based on the age requirement, you may appeal to the OHSAA through the athletic director’s office.

For all OHSAA Student Eligibility questions/ concerns/ policies please refer to BYLAW 4–Student Eligibility section of the OHSAA Handbook.

RESIDENCY

OHSAA POLICY—A student is eligible at the school located in the Ohio school district where the parent or legal guardian resides when all other eligibility standards are met. When there has been a change of custody, the student must reside in the same school district with the legal guardian. If a student transfers at any time after commencing the ninth-grade year, the student shall be ineligible for all OHSAA tournaments in those sports in which the student participated during the 12 months immediately preceding this transfer. In addition, the student shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels AFTER the first 50% of the maximum allowable varsity regular season contests have been competed in those sports in which the student participated during the 12 months immediately preceding this transfer. The transfer consequence shall remain in effect until the one-year anniversary of the date of enrollment in the school to which the student transferred, at which time the student is no longer considered a transfer student. For purposes of the transfer bylaws, a student will be considered as having commenced the ninth grade year by either attending five or more days of school as a ninth grader or by establishing eligibility at a school by having participated in a contest. Furthermore, the term “participated in a contest” for purposes of the transfer bylaw means to have played at least one play in a scrimmage, preview/jamboree, Foundation game or regular season/ tournament game or contest. A student who did not participate in an OHSAA recognized sport in the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer is not subject to the consequence of this transfer bylaw. This transfer rule does not apply to students in grades 7-8. A student may be eligible at only one school at a time.

ATHLETIC FORMS

OHSAA POLICY—Before an athlete can participate in any activity (practice or game), the following forms must be completely filled out and returned: O.H.S.A.A. physical form, OHSAA Authorization Form, emergency medical authorization form, Handbook Agreement form, student release form, parent release form, insurance waiver, drug enrollment form, and concussion awareness form. Until these forms are turned in, the athlete may not attend a practice or a game as a member of the team.

ATTENDANCE

Athletes are expected to attend school on a daily basis. If an athlete is absent for any reason for any part of the day, he or she will not participate in practice, scrimmages, or games for that day unless an unusual circumstance has occurred, which may include doctor’s appointments or family emergencies. All other circumstances will be determined by the principal on an individual basis.

Final authority for infractions of the attendance rule will rest with the Principal.

AWARDS/AWARDS PROGRAM

OHSAA POLICY—You may receive an award or merchandise as a result of your participation in school or non-school competition from any source, provided the value does not exceed \$500 per award.

Upon recommendation of the coach, a student who has fulfilled the requirements and finished the season in good standing shall be awarded a letter for the sport s/he has participated in. Seniors may be awarded letters for conscientious attendance at practice if they failed to play the required length of time or score in meets. Injured players, on the recommendation of the coach, may also receive a letter.

Each coach will conduct an awards program at the end of each season. All awards will be forfeited if the athlete does not attend the program, unless excused by the coach before the program. The coach of the sport has the right to withhold any award for disciplinary reasons or any other justifiable reason with approval of the Athletic Director. Dismissal from the team for violations of the Team Rules and Regulations will result in the forfeiture of all awards earned. All equipment must be returned or paid for if lost or abused before awards will be given.

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 the coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program of athletics. 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. Student-athletes are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the community. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team or the school will not be tolerated.

ATHLETES ENGAGING IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES OR VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW

Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, assault, immorality or other violations of the law tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic program and will not be tolerated. HAZING or any type of initiation of students will not be permitted. The school recognizes this is not an all encompassing list and that there are varying degrees of violations (misdemeanors vs. felonies). Due to the serious nature of this rule, the coach involved and the Athletic Director shall meet and determine the penalty according to the degree of the infraction. The penalty can be a maximum of denial of participation for the remainder of your high school career. An athlete does not have to be convicted in a court of law in order for consequences to be carried out. Remember, athletics are a privilege not a right.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Playing and competing at Southeastern is a privilege. As leaders, student-athletes have a responsibility to portray your team, your coaches, our school, and his or her self in a positive manner at all times. Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sites have increased in popularity globally, and are used by the majority of the student-athletes in one form or another.

Student-athletes should be aware that third parties--including media, faculty, future employers, and college coaches--could easily access your profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments, and posters. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects and perception of the student athlete and our school. This can also be detrimental to a student-athlete's future options (i.e college, profession). Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
- Photos, videos, comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posters and condone drug-related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity (examples: Derogatory comments regarding another school; taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach or team at another school and derogatory comments against race and/or gender). No post should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use)

In addition, students are not permitted the use of cameras or recording devices in locker rooms or restrooms at any time.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as those of Southeastern High School. Remember, always present a positive image and do not do anything to embarrass yourself, the team, your family or Southeastern.

Failure to follow the social media guidelines may result in consequences that include suspension from your athletic team, and you may be subject to additional penalties imposed by the school. The guidelines, rules, and consequences listed are not meant to be all inclusive.

EJECTION FROM THE CONTEST

OHSAA POLICY—Any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for the next two games (one game in football) in the sport from which the student was ejected. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season, the student shall be ineligible for two games in the next sport in which the student participates. A student under suspension may be on sidelines/ team bench, accompany and/or travel with the team but may not participate in pregame warmups and may not wear team warmup or game uniform while on the sidelines/ team bench, and or traveling with the team. A student who is ejected a second time shall be denied participation for the remainder of the season in that sport. Any student ejected from a contest cannot appeal the decision to the athletic office or the OHSAA.

EQUIPMENT

All equipment purchased by the school or donated to the school is the property of the school. An athlete caught stealing any equipment will be denied participation for the remainder of the season. If the athlete is not involved in a sport at the time, they will be denied participation in all athletics for the next two sports seasons. The athlete will also be disciplined under the rules and regulations of the Southeastern Student Handbook.

When equipment is issued to the athlete, s/he becomes responsible for that equipment and upon request of the coach the athlete must return that equipment in the condition s/he received it. Failure to do so will result in the holding of all awards earned by the athlete as well as preventing her/him from going out for any other athletic team at Southeastern Local schools until all equipment has been returned or a reimbursement of replacement cost has been made. Grades will also be held.

Athletic equipment is for practice and game use only. No game or practice equipment is to be worn to school or altered in any way unless you have the permission of your coach. Any athlete who wears athletic equipment or uniforms in violation of this policy will be denied participation in the next game or contest.

Remember, we try to furnish you, the athlete, with the best equipment we can afford. The cost of this equipment is tremendous. For this reason we hope you will cooperate with us in trying to take the best care of the equipment as possible. Please wear the uniform the way it was designed and with pride.

FIGHTING IN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

Fighting in any sport shall be construed to consist of an invitation to fight, closely following an opposing player during a disturbance, making any taunting gesture of sound, punching or slugging with fists whether or not a punch is landed, wrestling or tackling an opponent outside a legal play situation. Protecting yourself by covering up, retreating, etc. is not considered fighting. Swinging back, throwing punches, kicking, etc. is considered fighting.

Violation of this policy shall result in the same discipline as being ejected from a contest. The same denial of participation applies to any member of the playing squad who leaves the bench area during a fight or enters into any disturbance. The athlete will also be disciplined under the rules and regulations of the Southeastern Student Handbook.

FUND RAISERS

On occasion athletic teams will have fundraisers to help support their program and the Athletic Department. The fundraiser will be coordinated by the head coach of the sport and have the approval of the Athletic Director and Principal. Coaches should follow the procedures listed in Administrative Guideline 5830. Fundraisers will be limited to two per team per year. All money received will be deposited into the Athletic Department account for that sport.

GROOMING AND DRESS POLICY

A member of an athletic team is expected to be well groomed. “He shows up best that shows off least.” Appearance, expression, and actions always influence people’s opinions of athletes, the team, 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. Hairstyles and facial hair are to be maintained in a neat and clean manner so as to present a positive image for both the team and school.

2. Visible tattoos will not be permitted. Body markings (painting, etc.) must be approved by the coach.
3. An athlete shall dress presentably at all times; on trips, at assemblies, or at banquets.
4. Only uniforms issued by the Department of Athletics will be permitted to be worn for the contest. The uniforms must be worn as designed by the manufacturer.
5. Athletes will not be permitted to participate until deviations of the above rules are satisfactorily corrected.
6. Athletes must meet student handbook guidelines.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

When hazardous road conditions exist to close school, special attention is given to assure the safety of all students involved in extracurricular activities. If hazardous road conditions exist, all athletic activities at the Junior High level will be canceled. If school is canceled for a non-weather reason (i.e. no electric) decisions about holding practices or games will be made on a case by case basis by the Principal. Decisions about holding athletic activities at the High School level will be determined by the Principal. Practices, if held, will not be mandatory. When it comes to O.H.S.A.A. sponsored tournaments, we have very little input if any.

Thunder and Lightning-According to O.H.S.A.A. regulations, outdoor competitions or practices shall be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is required to wait at least 30 minutes after the flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competitions. Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30 minute count shall reset the clock and another count shall begin.

When hazardous road conditions exist on non-school days, decisions about holding athletic activities will be determined by the Principal at both the Jr. High and High School.

INDIVIDUAL COACH'S RULES

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Athletic Director for their respective sports. These rules must be given in writing to all team members and explained fully at the start of the season. Penalties for violation of team rules will be in writing and shall be administered by the coach. A copy of all team rules are on file in the Athletic Director's office.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

OHSAA POLICY—Athletes in the sports of: Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Baseball and Softball are subject to the Instructional Program regulations. Please refer to the OHSAA Handbook: General Sports Regulations Non- Interscholastic Participation and Individual Skill Instruction section for regulations, policies, limitations, violations, and penalties for specific sports information on this topic.

INSURANCE

The Southeastern Local School District does not provide medical insurance for the athlete. Proof of insurance is required by all athletes before they will be allowed to participate. The Ohio High School Athletic Association does carry Catastrophe Insurance with a \$25,000.00 deductible.

LOCKER ROOM RESOURCES

1. Rough-housing, horseplay, etc. is not permitted.
2. All showers must be turned off. The last person to leave the shower room is expected to turn off the showers.
3. People with permission only are allowed in locker rooms.
4. No metal or hard-plastic spikes or cleats are ever allowed in any part of the school building or bus.
5. Athletes may place locks on lockers during the season. Locks are available upon request in the main office.
6. Students/Athletes are not allowed in the athletic training room without proper supervision.

NCAA/COLLEGE ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

The Athletic Director has all the information pertaining to college athletic eligibility. If you aspire to play college athletics you need to start meeting requirements your freshman year of high school. The NCAA has established a NCAA Clearinghouse to certify student eligibility. Students who want to participate in Division I or Division II sports should start the certification process

early, usually by the end of their junior year. Forms can be obtained from the Athletic Director or Guidance Counselor.

NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC PARTICIPATION

Rules to allow athletes to participate in non-interscholastic competition prior to and after the school year under the following conditions:

1. The number of players from the same school on the squad roster is limited to: basketball-3, volleyball-3, soccer-6, baseball or softball-6. This rule is not in effect from June 1 to July 31. Football squad members are prohibited from non-interscholastic participation except from June 1–July 31.
2. A player may continue to play with a non-interscholastic team in a national qualifying tournament after July 31 until the team is eliminated but no later than Labor Day.
3. During the school year outside the school’s sports season, an athlete may try out, practice and compete in a non-interscholastic program except in football.
4. Participation in a non-interscholastic contest while a member of a school squad in the same sport is prohibited.
5. An athlete may have no contact with the school coaching staff in a non-interscholastic program except from June 1–July 31.

PENALTY: The penalty for violation during the school season for any athlete is ineligibility for the remainder of the season. The maximum penalty for violation of the out-of-season regulations for any athlete except a senior is ineligibility for the ensuing season. For a senior, the maximum penalty is ineligibility for all sports for the remainder of the school year. To be safe, check with the Athletic Director before participating on a non-interscholastic team. School activities, practices, banquets, etc. take priority over out-of-school activities.

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Southeastern Local School District is a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, which is the governing body of athletics in this state. The Policies and Guidelines of the O.H.S.A.A. must be followed by all member schools. O.H.S.A.A. policies and guidelines supersede all Southeastern policies. The O.H.S.A.A handbook is available via a web link on the Southeastern school website.

OPEN GYM/FIELD–WEIGHTS POLICY

OHSAA POLICY—An “open gym/field-weights” is a facility in which the doors or gates are unlocked and open for unstructured free play, and no one is restricted from observing the play. The school may designate the sport to be played.

Athletes may participate provided:

1. Participation is not limited to a select group of students from within the school.
2. There is no designation of who shall play on which team or who shall play except by the students who participate.
3. Regulation time is not kept.
4. Written scoring is not kept.
5. No individual invitation, oral or written, is extended.
6. There is no coaching or instruction.
7. Students must be academically eligible to participate.

These regulations pertain to both school and non-school facilities.

Athletes will not be required to attend open gym/field–weights.

Penalty for violation: ineligibility for interscholastic athletics not to exceed one year.

SOUTHEASTERN POLICY—Open gym/field–weights are open to any student at Southeastern. It is not mandatory to attend open gym/fields–weights to be on any team. Any athlete that is participating in a sport may attend if it does not interfere with that sport and they obtain permission from the in-season coach stating the stipulations for participation. It is then the responsibility of the athlete to honor these stipulations. Failure to comply with these stipulations will result in denied participation from the in-season sport. An athlete that quits a team after the first scrimmage cannot participate in any school sponsored open gyms/fields–weights until that sport is over. (This includes transfers.)

PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Practice sessions are a very important part of the learning process in athletics. Athletes are expected to attend all practice sessions. Coaches will have team rules covering missed practice and games. Facilities, personal work schedule of the coach,

conflicts with other activities and the weather have an effect on when practices are scheduled. Practice or team activities on Sundays and legal holidays (very rare occasions) must be approved by the Principal and will not be mandatory. Practice on a school day is limited to three hours in length (two hours recommended). A practice schedule with dates and times will be handed out at the beginning of the season by the head coach. Please be aware schedules do have to be changed from time to time. Coaches will try their best to have players out on time. Coaches are not permitted to leave the facility until all their players are gone.

RECRUITING OF ATHLETES

OHSAA POLICY—You will be ineligible if you are recruited by a person or group of persons to change schools. It may also affect the eligibility of the school athletic teams.

SOUTHEASTERN POLICY—The recruiting of Southeastern athletes by Southeastern coaches is prohibited if that student has been a member of a team during the same season. If the student is not already playing a sport during the same season, we encourage coaches to try and get them out for a sport. In the event an athlete should be contacted personally by a college recruiter, they have an obligation to work through their coach and the athletic department. Please inform your coach of such a contact as soon as possible. College recruitment information and N.C.A.A standards are available in the Athletic Director's Office.

REPORTING OF AN INJURY

All injuries which occur while participating in athletics should be reported to the trainer and/or coach. If the injury requires medical attention by a doctor or treatment center, it will be necessary to have an injury report form completed. Once the athlete is treated by a physician, the athlete must obtain the doctor's written permission to return to the activity. For your own safety, please keep coaches informed about your physical well being. According to Ohio Revised Code, athletes that show symptoms of a concussion must be medically cleared by a physician in writing. *Authorization to Return From a Concussion* forms are available on the school website.

SEASON PARTICIPATION RULE

Once a student becomes a team member in a sport, which is the first day of practice attended, the athlete is not permitted to try out for another team unless they are cut from the team, they have an injury that would be detrimental to the athlete's health and safety (must have a note from a Doctor), decides to quit within the athlete's first five days of practice or the team is disbanded because of lack of participants.

If an athlete quits a team after the first five days of practice or is removed for disciplinary reasons, he or she may not go out for another sport in that season or any other season or participate in out of season activities (open gym, weight lifting, etc.) until the season of the sport he or she quits has completed its entire season. Athletes should note that in many cases, seasons overlap. Quitting a sport in one season may affect your ability to begin the next season on time.

Students may participate in more than one sport per season provided the following criteria is followed:

- 1) Students should declare your interest in participating in multiple sports to the coaches involved.
- 2) Students should declare your interest in participating in multiple sports to the athletic director.
- 3) The athletic director and/or principal will consider the request and base approval on:
 - a. Grades and athletic eligibility
 - b. School attendance issues
 - c. Behaviors and the student's attitude in past sports seasons and the current primary sport may also be a determining factor.
- 4) If approved, the Athletic Director and/or Principal will select which sport will be considered the athlete's primary sport with input from the coaching staff, parents, and player. The overriding philosophy is that the primary sport will be the sport where the athlete's participation during practice and events is necessary for the team to function.
- 5) Once the primary sport is selected, priority for practice and games will go to the primary sport over all practices and games in the other sport. The athlete may participate in the secondary sport when it doesn't interfere with practices or games in the primary sport. Should an athlete participate in a secondary sport when attendance is required at the primary sport, the athlete is subject to removal from both sports.
- 6) Should a student quit a sport while participating in multiple sports:
 - a. If you quit your primary sport, you are immediately ineligible in the other sport.

b. You may request to quit your secondary sport to the administration. The administration will determine if you are eligible to continue to participate in the other sport.

SQUAD SELECTIONS

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics, and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in athletic programs while at Southeastern Local Schools, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without upsetting the integrity of their sport. Time, place, facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport. Choosing the members of the athletic squad is the sole responsibility of the coaches of that squad.

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. Number to be selected.
4. Practice commitments if they make the team.
5. Game commitments if they make the team.

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

1. Competed in a minimum of three practice sessions.
2. Been informed by the coach in person of the cut, including the reason for the action.

A student who wishes to participate in athletics, but begins attending Southeastern High School/ Junior High after the start of a sports season will be permitted to join a team if the following criteria are met:

1. The student meets all academic and residence eligibility standards set forth by the OHSAA and Southeastern Local School District.
2. An empty roster spot exists on the team.
3. The player participates in a three- day tryout period with the team, and meets the coaches criteria used to select the team members.

STEROIDS

OHSAA POLICY—A student who uses anabolic steroids or other performance enhancing drugs is ineligible for interscholastic competition until such evidence can be presented that the student’s system is free of anabolic steroids or other performance enhancing drugs.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

OHSAA Bylaw 4—Please refer to OHSAA Bylaw 4 in the OHSAA Handbook for all OHSAA Student Athletic Eligibility concerns and questions.

TEAM AWARDS

The Athletic Department provides a picture for the Hall of Champions for conference championships, sectional, district, regional or state championships. The Athletic Department provides team plaques for State Champions, State Runner-ups, Regional Champions, and Regional Runner-ups. The Principal can add to these criteria if s/he sees fit.

TICKETS/PASSES

Ticket prices are set by the conference and approved by the Southeastern Board of Education. Tickets will be sold through halftime of the contest.

GAME TICKET PRICES

	<u>Students</u>	<u>Adults</u>
Varsity Football	\$7.00	\$7.00
Reserve Football	\$5.00	\$5.00
Soccer	\$7.00	\$7.00
Volleyball	\$7.00	\$7.00
Boys' Basketball	\$7.00	\$7.00
Girls' Basketball	\$7.00	\$7.00
Track	\$7.00	\$7.00
Junior High—all sports	\$5.00	\$5.00

Senior Citizen Year Passes may be purchased for \$30.00. This would allow for entrance to all Southeastern/Miami View home regular season games. Note: due to large crowds, season pass-holders would need to pick up a ticket in advance during school hours on that day for some games.

Event (10 contests) passes will be available to Adults for \$50.00. The event pass will be good for any 10 events during the school year.

Student passes will be made available for \$35.00 for the entire school year.

TRANSPORTATION

The Southeastern Board of Education will provide the transportation to and from athletic contests. All school bus rules apply during athletic trips. *All athletes will ride the transportation to and from the contest.* In special situations the parent/guardian or their adult designee (21 years or older) may provide transportation if it is approved ahead of time by the Principal or a designee. Parent/guardian must receive permission from the Principal or designee completing the release from travel form prior the end of the school day of the event. Parent/guardian must complete the contest travel release form. Forms are available in the office or on the school website. *Permission will only be granted for special situations.*

Failure to obtain permission to not ride to an event will result in suspension for any activities in that trip. The OHSAA Lifetime Catastrophe Accident Insurance Policy covers team or group travel directly to and from a covered event. It does not cover any athlete that travels by any other method to an athletic event.

At times, coaches may be required to transport athletes by private vehicle. Coaches will follow the administrative guideline 8660 for transporting students by private vehicle.

Transportation to and from practice is the responsibility of the athlete. Parents need to be aware that students may be riding with other students to and from practice. If you as a parent do not want your child to ride with another student, please inform the coach, and arrange for other means of transportation.

VACATION 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. If an absence due to the vacation is unavoidable, an athlete must:

1. Inform the head coach prior to the vacation.
2. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on that squad as a starter, 2nd string, 3rd string, etc.
3. Be willing to make up physical conditioning that they missed.

VARSITY AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Baseball and Softball:

Athletes must participate in at least 33% of the total innings played in the season as a valid participant.

Basketball:

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the total quarters played in the season as a valid participant.

Bowling

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the games played.

Cross Country:

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the total meets played in the season as a valid participant.

Football:

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the total quarters played in the season as a valid participant. To be credited with a quarter of play, they must participate in at least two plays that quarter.

Cheerleading:

Athletes must participate in at least 75% of the total quarters played in the season as a valid participant.

Golf and Tennis:

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the total matches played in the season as a valid participant.

Soccer:

Athletes must participate in at least 60% of the total halves played in the season as a valid participant.

Track:

Athletes must score 8 or more points in varsity competition.

Volleyball:

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the total games played in the season as a valid participant.

Wrestling:

Athletes must participate in at least 50% of the total matches played in the season as a valid participant.

Seniors with two years of consecutive varsity service as a valid participant will receive their first varsity award if they do not meet the participation requirement for that sport.

If an athlete sustains an injury during the season, the coach will make the determination on his/her award based on expected playing time if the injury did not occur.

The head coach, with the approval of the Athletic Director, has the discretionary power in special situations to give an award not earned by the guidelines above.

7th and 8th Grade Sports

Any athlete participating on one of our teams as a valid participant will receive an award.

AWARDS

Upon recommendation of the coach, a student who has fulfilled the requirements and finished the season in good standing shall be awarded a letter for the sport in which s/he has participated. Seniors may be awarded letters for conscientious attendance at practice if they failed to play the required length of time or score in meets. Injured players, on the recommendation of the coach, may also receive a letter.

Varsity Awards

First Year Awards

- Six-inch letter plus an insert symbolic of the particular sport.
- All other first-year awards in other sports will receive an insert symbolic of that sport

Second Year Awards

- Silver medal symbolic of the sport

Third Year Award

- Gold medal symbolic of the sport

Fourth Year Award

- Plaque symbolic of the sport

Reserve Awards/Freshman Awards

- The first reserve award shall be the numerals of the year of graduation.
- All reserve awards thereafter shall be a service bar.

Cheerleading Awards

- Freshman cheerleaders will receive their numerals if they have not played another sport along with a service bar.
- Reserve cheerleaders will receive a service bar.
- First year varsity cheerleaders will receive a cheerleading pin along with a letter if they have not played another varsity sport.
- Second year varsity cheerleaders will receive a cheerleading medal.
- Third year varsity cheerleaders will receive a plaque.

Jr. High Awards

- Receive a certificate of participation

Statisticians

- Statisticians and other student helpers shall receive recognition at the sports banquets. They may receive a special award upon the recommendation of the head coach and approval by the Athletic Director

Manager Awards

- First-year managers shall receive reserve awards along with a manager pin.
- Second- year managers and trainers, in that particular sport, shall receive a first-year varsity award.
- Third-year managers and trainers, in that particular sport, shall receive a second-year varsity award.
- Fourth-year managers and trainers in that particular sport shall receive a third-year varsity award.

State Awards

Students may qualify to have their picture placed in the Hall of Champions if they meet the following criteria:

- 1st or 2nd team for bowling.
- 1st, 2nd, or 3rd team football, basketball, softball, baseball, volleyball, soccer
- All other sports by placing or scoring in the state- sponsored meet.
 - track and wrestling: 1st through 8th place
 - golf & cross country: place in the Top 16 at State
 - Gymnastics: 1st to 6th place.
- Students must demonstrate citizenship and be in good standing with the staff and administration. The Principal has the final decision. Special Mention/Honorable Mention will not be placed in the Hall of Champions.

Team Plaques

- State Champions, State Runner-ups, Regional Champions, Regional Runner-ups

Team Pictures

- Champions of Conference
- Champions of sectional, district, regional or state. (Special pictures can be given with the approval of the Principal.)

SPECIAL AWARDS

Football

Offensive Back

Defensive Back

Offensive Lineman

Defensive Lineman

Buck Memorial

Carl Pierano

Big Brother

Tim Banion Leadership Award

John West

***B/G Track, Softball, B/G Basketball, Baseball,
B/G Golf, Volleyball, B/G Bowling, Soccer,
B/G Wrestling, Cross Country**

Coach can choose up to 2 special awards (ex. Most Improved, etc..)

SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

1. Participation is a privilege, not a right.
2. Athletes must ride the bus to and from athletic contests. *The only exceptions must be granted by the Principal and his or her designee ahead of time.* (in case of emergency the coach may grant exception)
3. An injured athlete who has been denied participation by a doctor must have a doctor's release before resuming competition or practice.
4. Conflicting events: Contests or performances take precedence over practices. In the case of conflicting performances the athlete will alternate choices between the two events.
5. Conflicting events: School sponsored sports practices or contests take precedence over non-school sponsored athletic programs or clubs.
6. A member of an interscholastic squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, preview of a regular season/tournament games as a substitute or starter) sponsored by the Southeastern Board of Education shall not participate in a non-interscholastic program (tryouts, practice or contest) as an individual or a member of team in the sport of which they are playing during that sport's season. (OHSAA bylaw 10-3-1) Examples of non-interscholastic programs include, but are not limited to, church leagues, AAU, CYO, J.O., City Recreation, Intramural, and Hi-Y.
7. Southeastern does not support the use of Creatine or any other performance-enhancing substances.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

All Head Coaches must, by Board of Education requirements, read and discuss regulations and procedures with students in his/her program. By requirement of the Principal, a copy of these regulations and procedures must be read and signed by the parents of each participating student. The signed copy will be kept on file in the Athletic Director's office.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

1. A physical examination annually.
2. School insurance or parents signing a waiver of insurance.
3. Completed and signed Emergency Medical Form for the athlete.
4. Meet all requirements of the Ohio High School Athletic Association.
5. Signed OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Form.
6. Signed Athletic Handbook by both student and parent/guardian.
7. Signed Parent Acknowledgement of Risk and Release Form.
8. Signed Student Acknowledgement of Risk and Release Form
9. Enrollment and participation in the Districts Random Drug Testing Policy pursuant to Board Policy 5530.01
10. Concussion awareness form Ohio Department of Health

BOARD POLICY 5610.05—PROHIBITION FROM EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports, is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, Principal, Assistant Principals, and other authorized personnel employed by the District to supervise or coach a student activity program to prohibit a student from participating in any particular or all extra-curricular activities of the District for offenses or violations of the Student Code of Conduct/Discipline Code.

In addition, student athletes are further subject to the Athletic Handbook and may be prohibited from participating in all or part of any interscholastic sport for violations therein.

Student athletes in grades 7-12 are subject to random drug testing pursuant to Board Policy 5530.01

Students prohibited from participation in all or part of any extracurricular activity are not entitled to further notice, hearing, or appeal rights.

MAJOR TRAINING RULE INFRACTIONS

Major training rules are in effect year around (12 months). Consequences of a major training rule violation shall be deemed either as in-season or out-of-season. Use or possession of alcohol, tobacco (in any form), illegal drugs (including nicotine), or any substance used to enhance performance are deemed as major training rules. This includes any and all positive drug tests while participating in the Districts' Random Urine Drug Testing of Students Program.

Out-of-Season Consequences:

The first violation of a major training rule will result in the completion of a Drug/Alcohol Program as recommended by the school administration and submission to a minimum of 2 follow-up drug tests, all expenses paid by the parent/guardian/student. These follow up tests will be scheduled for the next random testing date as determined by the building administrator. The test will be conducted by the Board of Education's approved drug testing vendor. For the athlete's first (initial) "out-of- season" offense, completion of the program results in the immediate reinstatement of the athlete's eligibility.

1. Failure to complete the program will result in handling the violation as an in-season violation.
2. If the Drug/Alcohol program cannot be completed before the student-athlete's season begins, eligibility will be allowed providing the athlete is moving toward completion of the program based upon the school administration's evaluation.
3. After the athlete's first (initial) out- of- season offense, any and all future violations will be treated as In- Season Offenses, and all consequences related to In- Season violations/ offenses will apply.

In-Season Consequences (for all non-tobacco products):

1st Offense: Loss of participation in thirty percent (30%) of regular season games. If thirty percent (30%) is not a whole number it will automatically be rounded up as opposed to rounded down. The student-athlete will be required to participate in all practices during his/her infraction period.

The student-athlete will be required to be with the team on game nights dressed in street clothes. This means on the field or on the bench. Failure to attend one of these games will result in missing one additional game of his/her suspension. (Prior approval to miss a game can only be granted by Principal)

The student-athlete will complete a Drug/ Alcohol Program as recommended by the school administration and submission to a minimum of (2) follow-up drug tests; all expenses paid by the parent/guardian/student.

An athlete completing a first in-season offense must finish the season that the consequence was handed down in good standing. Failure to do so will result in the carryover of consequences to the next sport of participation.

2nd Offense: Denial of participation in athletic practice or athletic games for exactly one (1) calendar year from the date of the rules infraction. Prior to reinstatement the student-athlete must show results from a program recommended by a certified substance abuse professional. The student-athlete will continue or repeat the minimum of (2) necessary follow-up drug screens at the parent/guardian/student expense.

3rd Offense: Denial of participation in athletic practices or athletic games for a minimum of two (2) calendar years from the date of the rules infraction.

Any additional infractions following the 3rd offense will follow the 3rd offense guidelines with the denial of participation for two years starting at the date of the last infraction.

Reinstatement

1. The student may apply for reinstatement after two calendar years. The reinstatement process will include:
2. The student's notification to the Athletic Director of her/his desire to apply for reinstatement.
3. A faculty council will make a decision for or against reinstatement based upon the following criteria:
 - a. Behavior (discipline, records, citizenship)
 - b. Academics (grades, eligibility)
 - c. Attendance
 - d. Attitude
4. Prior to reinstatement the student-athlete must show results from a program recommended by a certified substance abuse professional.
5. The reinstated student-athlete must take and pay for four (4) mandatory drug tests (2 each semester) during the reinstated school year.

In-Season Consequences (for all tobacco products):

1st offense

Completion of a Drug/Alcohol Program as recommended by the school administration and submission to a minimum of two (2) follow-up drug tests; all expenses paid by the parent/guardian/student. If the student athlete and/or parent refuses to have the student athlete attend such a program, the student athlete cannot participate in any athletic activity for one calendar year from the date of refusal/failure to participate.

2nd offense

Loss of participation in twenty percent (20%) of regular season games. If twenty percent (20%) is not a whole number it will automatically be rounded up as opposed to rounded down. The student athlete will be required to participate in all practices during his/her infraction period.

The student-athlete will be required to be with the team on game nights dressed in street clothes. This means on the field or on the bench. Failure to attend one of these games will result in missing one (1) more of his/her suspension. (Prior approval to miss a game can only be granted by the principal.)

Completion of a Drug/Alcohol Program as recommended by the school administration and submission to minimum of two (2) follow-up drug tests; all expenses paid by the parent/guardian/student. If the student athlete and/or parent refuses to have the student athlete attend such a program, the student athlete cannot participate in any athletic activity for one calendar year from the date of refusal/failure to participate.

3rd offense

Loss of participation in thirty percent (30%) of regular season games. If thirty percent (30%) is not a whole number it will automatically be rounded up as opposed to rounded down. The student athlete will be required to participate in all practices during his/her infraction period.

The student-athlete will be required to be with the team on game nights dressed in street clothes. This means on the field or on the bench. Failure to attend one of these games will result in missing one (1) more of his/her suspension. (Prior approval to miss a game can only be granted by the principal.)

Completion of a Drug/Alcohol Program as recommended by the school administration and submission to minimum of two (2) follow-up drug tests; all expenses paid by the parent/guardian/student. If the student athlete and/or parent refuses to have the student athlete attend such a program, the student athlete cannot participate in any athletic activity for one calendar year from the date of refusal/failure to participate.

4th offense

A fourth positive result by MRO ruling or adulteration will result in the participant being barred from participation in any athletic activity, extra-curricular activity and/or parking on District property as described in the drug testing policy for one (1) calendar year. Prior to reinstatement, the student must show results from a program recommended by a certified substance abuse professional. The student will continue or repeat the minimum of two (2) necessary follow-up drug screens at parent/guardian/student expense.

Any future positive results for tobacco use will result in a repeat of the fourth positive infraction for tobacco.

Points to remember:

1. These training rules apply to athletes in grades 7-12.
2. Those students currently holding rules violations will still be held accountable for their previous violations.
3. If a student-athlete is in two sports (e.g. volleyball and cheerleading) s/he will be punished in both sports equally.
4. If less than the percentage of the games of the schedule is left that corresponds with the assigned consequence, the athlete will be denied participation in the rest of the season and attendance at the awards presentation. The remainder suspension will carry over to the next sport in which the athlete participates in. However, s/he will receive her/his award. (The athlete can be denied participation in postseason play to help meet the remainder of the suspension.)
5. If the violation occurs on school grounds, the incident will be dealt with through the Student Handbook as well as the Athletic Handbook in accordance with Board Policy.
6. In general, Southeastern will honor all consequences issued by an athlete's previously attended school(s) concerning issues dealing with any issues in the Athletic Code of Conduct and the Athletic Handbook.
7. Students must enroll in the drug testing program in order to be eligible to participate in athletics. Students must pay their enrollment fee (\$15.00 dollars) no later than the first day of the season. Athletes participating in a fall sport have until the first contest/scrimmage to pay their enrollment fee. Drug Testing shall not be waived due to the fact that athletics are considered an extracurricular activity. Enrollment begins with having the proper release form on file in the Athletic Director's office and payment of enrollment fee. No initial test will be required but all athletes will be subject to random tests throughout the school year.

Great Lakes Bio Medical		Sports Safe
25660 Dixie Hwy	OR	18 Grace Dr.
Perrysburg, OH 43551		Powell, OH 43065
(419) 872-5343		(614) 847-0847
		OR
		Compunet Clinical Labs
		2105 E. High St.
		Springfield, OH 45505
		(937) 325-5327
8. Consequences will begin on the date of infraction. In the case that offenses overlap, the higher offense will take precedence over the lower offense. Dates will not run consecutive.

Communication Guide

The goal of the Southeastern Local Schools Athletic program is to provide rich and meaningful experiences in athletics, through which the student will develop to the greatest degree the talents and skills needed in the performance of his/her duties as a responsible citizen in our society. The administration and Board of Education believe that his goal may not be realized without appropriate lines of communication between all parties involved. This 'Communication Guide' has been developed to help coaches, parents, administrators, and student-athletes communicate more effectively.

Communication you should expect from your coach

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectations the coach may have from your child and team.
- Location and times of all practices and contests.
- Team requirements i.e. attendance, special equipment, off-season opportunities.
- Procedures to follow should your child become injured during participation.
- Additional team rules.
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

Communication the coach should expect from parents and athletes

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach FIRST.
- Notification of schedule conflicts in advance.
- Special needs of the athletes i.e physical limitations that may not be known or obvious to the coach.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with the coach

- The treatment of your child mentally and physically.
- Ways to help your child improve.
- Concerns about your child's behavior.

When your child is involved in the various athletic programs at Southeastern, it is everyone's hope that he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is important to understand that things may not go as you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be desirable (in fact is encouraged) to clear up the issue and avoid any misunderstanding.

Many aspects of the highly emotional and dynamic setting of interscholastic athletics are often questioned. These may include decisions made by coaches, administration, officials, athletes, parents, and fans. As you have seen from the lists above, certain concerns can and should be addressed with your child's coach. Other items must be left to the discretion of the coach. Our coaches make decisions based on what they believe to be best for their program and for all of the student athletes under their watch. Therefore, there are some issues that should not be brought up in a meeting with your coach.

Areas not appropriate to discuss with the coach

- Playing time/Position Assignment
- Team Strategy/Play calling
- Matters concerning other student athletes

Procedure to follow if you have a concern to discuss with a Coach:

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. Such a meeting is encouraged when necessary. It is important that both parties have a clear understanding of the other person's position. Each should be willing to listen. The following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution of the issue.

- Contact the coach to set up an appointment
- If the coach cannot be reached in a reasonable amount of time, call the Athletic Director. An appointment with the coach will be arranged for you.
- Allow at least 24 hours to set up a meeting. Any issue that the parent feels should be immediately addressed should be brought to the administrator/site manager on duty.

The Next Step

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution. Although total agreement may not always be reached after a meeting between the coach, parent, and athlete; most often such a meeting does afford the opportunity for productive discussion and a better understanding of every one's position. If the parent desires further communication, please call the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. The appropriate next step will be determined.

Chain of Command

The staff, administrators, and Board of Education feel open communication between parents, students and Southeastern employees are crucial in creating a successful environment for all involved. There are situations and concerns that you as a student, athlete, or parent may feel need to be addressed. The best way to resolve these situations is to start with a dialogue between the people directly involved with the situation. We ask that you observe the order below if you elect to pursue any concerns you may have with regard to the athletic program

1st step: Head Coach

2nd step: Aaron Perry, Athletic Director, (937) 462-8308 x 2011 or aperry@sels.us

3rd step: PJ Bertemes, Principal (937) 462-8308 x 2010 or pbertemes@sels.us

4th step: David Shea, Superintendent (937) 462-8364 or dshea@sels.us

5th step: Board of Education

We hope that this communication guide will help you and your child have a rewarding athletic experience

(Sign, detach, and return the signature section below to the head coach or Athletic Director.)

We have read and agree to abide by the Southeastern Athletic Handbook.

Student		Date
Parent/Guardian		Date