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Streamwood High School Athletic Handbook

Introduction to the Streamwood Athletic Handbook

Greetings! On behalf of the more than 60 athletic coaches, the administration, the athletic trainers, and support personnel, we welcome you to Streamwood High Schools athletic program. We hope you enjoy the many activities of the 23 sports offered to you at Streamwood High School.

The main objective of this handbook is to make information available regarding athletics to prospective athletes enrolled at Streamwood High School. Please keep this handbook as a reference and guide throughout your athletic years at Streamwood. A main objective for the athletic program is to foster participation, competition, sportsmanship, skill, and social development.

The athletic staff and administration welcome you to Streamwood High School's athletic program. It is a pleasure to work toward continuing the quality athletic program in a quality educational school.

Athletic Information

Streamwood High School Main Telephone Number.....	(630)213-5500
Athletic Office.....	Ext. 5509
Athletic Director – Steve Gertz.....	Ext. 4999
Athletic Secretary – Mary Lou Felker.....	Ext. 5509
Assistant Athletic Director – Beth Riser.....	Ext. 4900
Assistant Athletic Director – Steve Diversey.....	Ext. 4944
Athletic Trainer – Jason Chisholm.....	Ext. 4982
Athletic Hotline – Dial school number then hit 7 (updated daily at 2:30 PM)	
Athletic Website: www.athletics2000.com/streamwood	

Philosophy

Interscholastic sports at Streamwood High School form part of a diverse co-curricular program. The activities are regarded as vital parts of the total educational offerings of our school. The sound development of the physical capacities of youth compliments and enhances the intellectual, emotional, and social development of every young man and woman. These opportunities are useful tools in the achievement of the goals of a comprehensive education.

We encourage student participation in the athletic program and would like to involve as many students as possible in an educationally sound and successful competitive, interscholastic experience. High school athletics is a competitive experience, therefore not all who try out make the team, nor do all those who make the team receive the same participation opportunities in contest. Ultimately, the participation level of individuals is a staff decision.

Streamwood High's dedication to excellence extends to our competitive athletic program. In this venture the Interscholastic Athletic Program serves as an extension of the classroom, attempting to provide many learning opportunities and enhancing the learning which occurs in the classroom. All team members, regardless of ability, will be afforded opportunities to develop their work ethic, sense of commitment, as well as social and athletic skills.

Objectives

To be considered an educational experience, athletics must have specific and worthwhile objectives. These objectives include:

- Physical fitness and skills
- Mental alertness
- Positive morale qualities
- Constructive social abilities
- Emotional maturity

All objectives and principles in athletics must be primarily concerned with the welfare and educational development of the student-athlete. The principles, which are to be achieved from the interscholastic athletic program, are to provide students with the opportunity to:

- Develop their physical talents to their maximum potential.
- Engage in competitive activities, while promoting sound health, safety and physical fitness.
- Exemplify good sportsmanship as a means of portraying good citizenship.
- Learn to appropriately experience both winning and losing in a competitive environment.
- Learn from experience that consequences follow the violation of a rule.
- Experience working as a team member, exercising self-discipline and self-sacrifice in order to achieve team goals.
- Learn how to be a good teammate, making positive contributions, regardless of the role on the team.
- Experience a feeling of self-worth and to develop self-confidence.
- Experience in problem-solving and decision-making.
- Engage in organized activities with other students whose backgrounds may be dissimilar from their own.
- Learn to develop trust and accept the responsibility that comes with earning trust from others.
- Create a positive atmosphere to help develop school spirit and loyalty.

Scope of Athletics

Streamwood High School sponsors twenty-three interscholastic sports which compete in the Upstate Eight Conference. The athletic program is organized and conducted under the rules, regulations, and recommendations of the Illinois High School Association; the National Federation of State High School Athletic Association; the American Association of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; the National Association of Secondary School Principals; the Rules and Regulations of School District U-46, and the Upstate Eight Conference.

The sports program is organized and administered upon education values. Athletics contributes to education objectives and aids in establishing standards of behavior for good citizenship. In addition to stressing the will to win, athletic programs should also produce such virtues as truthfulness, fair play, honesty, modesty, courtesy, self-discipline, courage, generosity, self-restraint, and loyalty.

The athletic program recognizes the abilities and contributions of all participants and offers a wide range of activities to include individual and team sports at varying levels of competition.

Policies and Procedures

Sports Registration

All athletes must have the following forms completed in order to participate in a sport:

- Current physical examination (good for one year)
- Insurance or Waiver of Insurance
- Athletic Participation Fee
- Emergency Card
- U-46 Code of Conduct
- Information about IHSA Eligibility Rules

The Athletic Department is responsible for the registration of all athletes; therefore a registration schedule is established for each sport prior to each season. Registration is a time-consuming responsibility and is scheduled at specific times prior to the beginning of each season's first practice. All athletes must have all of the above-mentioned paperwork in order to register or they will be turned away until all paperwork is completed.

No athlete will be allowed to participate in a sport until all athletic paperwork is complete and turned in to the Athletic Office! No Exceptions!

Eligibility

On the first day of practice, the Head Coach and all coaches in charge of specific teams must clarify eligibility rules with candidates. There are certain requirements that must be met:

- Athletes must have passed FIVE (5) subjects during the persons last semester.
- Athletes must have had a physical examination within a ONE (1) year period.
- Athletes must reside within the Streamwood High School attendance area.
- If a transfer student, see the Athletic Director.

IHSA rules require that a weekly check be made on the eligibility and an eligibility list is developed. Each coach will receive the eligibility list. Under no circumstances are athletes who are ineligible permitted to dress for a contest.

It is the coaches' responsibility to help athletes maintain their eligibility. Coaches can do this indirectly through reminders and talks after receiving notice that an athlete is not meeting all eligibility requirements..

Major requirements are that the athlete must:

1. Be amateurs, cannot play under an assumed name, receive money or valuable awards, or sign a professional athletic contract.
2. Not have reached their 19th birthday prior to August 15 of any school year.
3. Receive passing grades in five (5) or more subjects.

The athlete is:

1. Ineligible after the class in which they entered the 9th grade has graduated.
2. Ineligible to participate in an athletic event the following week after he/she is declared ineligible on the weekly eligibility report.

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46 **CO-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT**

Participation in competitive co-curricular activities, interscholastic athletics, Cheerleading and Poms is a privilege available to every student in School District U-46. The student, by accepting this privilege, is a representative of both our high school and school district on the playing field, in practice, in school, and in the community.

The acceptance of participation in activities and/or athletics involves a commitment by the participant to adhere to the "Co-Curricular Code of Conduct" as developed by School District U-46. It is the responsibility of the sponsors, coaches, and Athletic/Activity Director to inform participants of the Co-Curricular Code and to enforce the Co-Curricular in a fair and consistent manner; it is the participant's responsibility to be aware of the Code of Conduct and to adjust behavior accordingly so that it becomes unnecessary for a coach, sponsor, and Athletic/Activity Director to have to enforce the Co-Curricular Code.

Infractions have been listed in four specific areas: I. Conduct, Personal Integrity; II. Team/Activity Cooperation; III. Chemical Use/Possession*; and IV. Tobacco Products Use/Possession*. A range of possible consequences for each infraction is listed dependent upon the severity and in some cases, the repetitiveness with which an infraction occurs. Infractions are to be dealt with in an orderly and consistent manner within the high school and the school district according to the following guidelines:

1. Minimum and maximum consequences have been identified for each infraction.
2. The opportunity is available to the coach/sponsor to use judgment in the use of consequences and each coach/sponsor is able to enforce reasonable specific team/activity rules not identified in the list of infractions (i.e. dress, curfew, general conduct of team/Activity members during practice, games, meetings, trip, etc.)
3. Consequences for an infraction will occur as a result of direct observation of a school official and/or as the result of the investigation of the school administration. Reports of infractions from non-school sources will not be acted upon unless school officials (coach/sponsor or administration) substantiate the report by thorough investigation. The student should be informed of the infraction and given an opportunity to speak to the accusation prior to a decision by the administration.
4. An initial infraction will result in a less severe consequence; however, repeated occurrences of the same infraction and/or multiple infractions will in a more severe consequence which may include suspension from the team/activity.
5. The severity of each infraction will vary from incident to incident; therefore, judgment of the sponsor and administration is significant. For example, "abusive language" may involve swearing by a participant angered at himself or herself, at another team/club member, or at a coach/sponsor. The coach sponsor would need to determine the difference in severity.
6. The consequence for substance abuse and the use of tobacco products is specifically identified; therefore, less judgment by the coach/sponsor is required.

A participant suspended from team/activities for the remainder of a season/activity for disciplinary reasons is not eligible to compete in another sport/activity.

A student who quits an athletic team/activity after the first official day of practice may participate in another sport during that same season only with the permission of the Athletic/Activity Director and the two coaches involved.

A Participant "cut" from a team/activity for non-disciplinary reasons may report to another sport/activity during the same season.

The right of appeal is available to the parents of a participant suspended from a program. The appeal process begins with the Athletic/Activity Director. If the appeal is not resolved, the Athletic/Activity Council within the high school will convene to review the suspension. Parents may appeal the decision of the Athletic/Activity Council to the Board of Education via a school district "Hearing Officer" who will hear the incident and present the findings to the Board of Education for final review.

*Following is the definition of Areas III and IV (dealing with substance, tobacco and look-alike use): Regardless of the quantity, a student shall not use, consume, possess, buy, sell, or give away 1. A beverage containing alcohol; 2. Tobacco products; 3. Any controlled substance or look-alike. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use from his/her doctor.

INFRACTIONS:

I. Conduct, Personal Integrity Offense:

- disrespect
- insubordination
- abusive language
- negative attitude
- gang symbolism
- gang-related activities
- improper behavior (i.e. bus, locker room)
- fighting

- improper dress/personal hygiene
- other conduct as determined by the coach/sponsor(s) which could cause embarrassment or criticism to/of the team/activity and/or school
- theft (personal/school); conviction for criminal offenses
- equipment (destruction/loss)
- vandalism
- lying/forgery

II. Team/Activity Cooperation Offense:

Unexcused Absence

- practice
- contests
- vacation (without coach/sponsor permission)
- conflicting school activities (i.e. Prom, trips, Senior Dinner, etc.)

Tardiness:

- practice
- contests
- bus

III. Chemical Use/Possession**

A. Student agrees to undergo assessment of potential chemical abuse/misuse within one (1) week and provide results to school official

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. First infraction | 1. Suspension for 20% of the season. |
| 2. Second infraction | 2. Suspension for the remainder of the season and up to one-third of the next season. |
| 3. Third infraction | 3. Suspension for the remainder of high school career, unless appealed with documentation of successful rehabilitation. |

B. Student refuses to undergo assessment of potential chemical abuse/misuse.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. First infraction | 1. Suspension for remainder of the season and up to one-third of the next season. |
| 2. Second infraction | 2. Suspension for the remainder of high school career, unless appealed with documentation of successful rehabilitation. |

**This category is accumulative throughout a student's high school career.

IV. Tobacco products Use/Possession

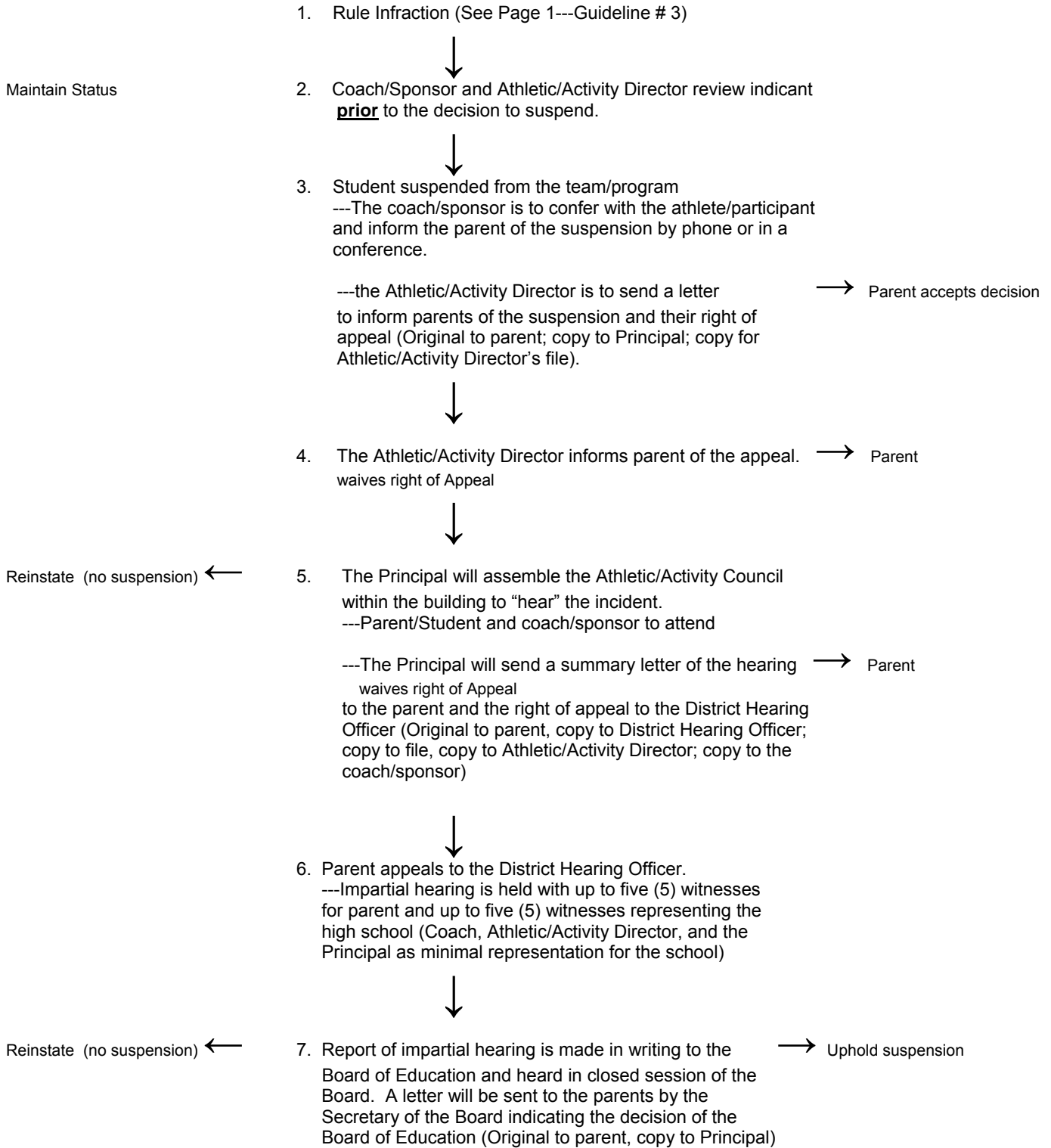
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|----------------------|---|
| 1. First infraction | 1. Suspension for 20% of the season |
| 2. Second infraction | 2. Suspension for the remainder of the season and up to one-third of the next season. |
| 3. Third infraction | 3. Suspension for the remainder of high school career, unless appealed with documentation of successful rehabilitation. |

RANGE OF POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS:

1. Conference with student and coach; parent and coach; parent, coach, student and Athletic/Activity Director
2. Temporary suspension from practice/contests
3. Suspension for one-third of season by contests
4. Suspensions for remainder of season
5. Suspension for remainder of season and up to one-third of next season
6. Withhold athletic/activity
7. Monetary restitution for vandalism, destruction of property

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46
CO-CURRICULAR APPEAL PROCESS

The following School District U-46 Co-Curricular Student/Parent appeal process is available to parents of students suspended from an activity/athletic team or club, Cheerleading or Poms.



Sportsmanship Mission Statement

Good sportsmanship is the attitude and behavior that exemplifies positive support for the inter-scholastic programs of IHS school members, as well as for individuals who participate in these programs. People involved in any facet of Streamwood's interscholastic programs are expected to demonstrate respect for others and display good sportsmanship. Emphasizing and improving the sportsmanship of our students, athletes, parents and staff is one of our highest priorities. Each coach, student and parent has a role and responsibility to model and teach good sportsmanship.

Behavior Expectations of the Participant

Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing the school and the community.

Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Never direct remarks at opponents in a taunting manner.

Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Respect the job and position of the officials and respect them as people. Treating them with dignity and respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, is a fundamental behavioral expectation.

Behavior Expectations of the Spectators

Remember that school athletics are learning experiences for students and the programs are part of the educational process. Adolescents learn proper behavior from observing how adults behave.

A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally abuse others. Positive fan support is essential to the performance of the players, coaches and other spectators.

Show respect to opposing players, coaches, other spectators and officials. Respect their roles even if you disagree with the judgment. Negative comments or the berating of players, coaches and officials are not in keeping with our philosophy or good forms of modeling and will not be tolerated.

Parent / Athlete / Coach Expectations

Parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's expectations, we are better able to accept the actions of both parties and provide greater benefits to the student/athlete. When a child becomes involved in a co-curricular activity, parents and coaches have to understand what EXPECTATIONS are going to be placed on the athlete and on each other. This begins with clear communication from the athlete, parent, coach and athletic department.

Communications/Expectations Parents/Athletes Should Expect from the Coaches:

1. The expectations the coaches have for the athletes and all team members.
2. Location and times of all practices
3. Team requirements, fees, special equipment, game dress, off-season expectations.
4. The policy dealing with excused and unexcused absences. (Consequences)
5. The Elgin U-46 Code of Conduct requirements for eligibility.
6. Team rules.
7. The lettering requirements.
8. The coach's act as a role model for good sportsmanship, use of appropriate language, promoting a healthy environment and safe teaching techniques.
9. Well-planned practices.

Communications/Expectations Coaches Should Expect from the Athlete and Parents:

1. Notification of any scheduled conflicts that may occur, well in advance of the season.
2. Special concerns regarding coaching expectations. (Practice requirements)
3. Support for the Elgin U-46 Guidelines and all team rules.
4. If the athlete has a concern, the parents should encourage their son/daughter to speak with the coach or coaching staff.
5. Support for all team members and the coaching staff.
6. Positive support at games for their son/daughter, their teammates and the coaching staff.
7. Exhibit good sportsmanship and appropriate language by the athlete and parents at games and/or practices.
8. A great work ethic at practices and in games.

Appropriate Concerns Athletes/Parents May Address with Coaching Staff:

1. The treatment of the athlete mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help the athletes improve his/her performance and skill level.
3. Concerns about the athletes' behavior in school/practice/games.

Areas That Are Not Appropriate for Parents to Discuss with Coaches:

1. An individuals playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play selections.
4. The make-up of the team and decision as to who plays on a particular team.
5. Other members of the team, other parents, and other coaches.

The Proper Method to Address a Concern:

Step 1 – The athlete speaks with the coach or coaches.

Step 2 – The parent asks for a meeting with the coaches. Athlete must be present at meeting.

Step 3 – If the meeting between the parent/athlete and coach does not resolve the concern, there will be a meeting set up by the Athletic Director. The AD will moderate the meeting. The meeting will take place in a non-threatening environment to address the specific issues that the parent/athlete has.

Transportation Policy

Please be aware of the policies concerning transportation of student athletes to and from Streamwood's competitions.

1. SHS provides transportation to and from all athletic contests. All athletes are required to use the school transportation. Athletes may not participate in any contest if they drive themselves to the event or if they use alternate transportation without permission for the coach and the Athletic Director.
2. In extenuating circumstances, parents may need to drive their own children to or from a contest, but coaches need written notification and approval from the coach must be granted in advance.

Athletic Awards

Lettering

The coach shall recommend the members of his/her team who have met the requirements for a letter. If any problems arise as a result of extenuating circumstances, a committee composed of the Principal, Athletic Director and coach involved shall make the final decisions.

Requirements for earning a letter will be established and athletes should be informed of these requirements prior to the season.

Special athletic awards shall be given to those members who compete on teams that win their conference championship, state or sectional titles or go undefeated. Types of awards are to be determined by the coach, Athletic Director, and principal.

Requirements for Letter

1. The following factors may guide each in the granting of awards:
 - Amount of actual game participation
 - Length of time spent in practice and faithfulness to attendance
 - Number of seasons engaged in activity
 - Attitude toward self-improvement, team play, and general practice regulations
 - Observance of training regulations
 - Special factors such as injuries, illness, etc.
 - General conduct and sportsmanship in all school activities, including athletic and non-athletic activities.
2. An award may be withheld for failure to meet the requirements in any of the above factors.
3. No athlete may win a letter in more than one sport during any one athletic season.

Letters and Certificates

Types of letters:

Varsity Letter	Eight inch black and gold letter
JV Letter	Six inch black and gold letter
Sophomore Letter	Five inch black and gold letter
Freshman Numeral	Numerals (Graduation Year)

Pins will be awarded in lieu of a second varsity letter.

Awarding of a Letter

During the participant's school career, the first time the athlete meets the requirements for a letter, he / she shall receive the appropriate letter for the level of completion.

Certificates

An appropriate certificate shall be presented to all athletes when they successfully fulfill the requirements for a subsequent letter. They will receive a certificate in lieu of a letter after the initial letter award.

Awards Banquet

In order to receive your award, the athlete must be present at the awards banquet. If you are not present, you will forfeit your award.

Equipment

An athlete is responsible for each item of equipment issued to him/her. **Lost or stolen equipment must be paid for at the replacement cost.** An athlete will not be allowed to receive awards, participate in a subsequent sport or receive his/her diploma until the equipment record has been cleared.

Please do not abuse the equipment. Considerable money is expended to supply the best equipment for player use and safety, please treat it with respect.

Booster Club

The Streamwood High School Athletic Booster Club supports and encourages the athletic activities of Streamwood's student-athletes. It also provides moral and financial support to encourage participation in athletic activities for the benefit of all students. The Booster Club has been responsible for facilitating the purchase of a vast array of valuable athletic equipment and uniforms.

Numerous opportunities exist to participate in Streamwood's Athletic Booster Club. You can help with concessions, the Pasta Dinner, the Chili Dinner, the Pancake Breakfast or selling Sabrewear.

The Streamwood High School Athletic Director and coaching staff recognize the importance and value of the Booster Club's support and commitment and strongly encourage all parents to be part of this organization. Forms are available on the athletic website or in the athletic office.

Prospective College Athletes

Some student-athletes have a goal to participate in athletics at the collegiate level. The Streamwood High Athletic Department and counselors are very willing to help student-athletes pursue this goal. To this end, we offer several important tips.

1. Communication with the coach is imperative. Student-athletes who have a strong desire to compete at the collegiate level should schedule an appointment with their coach to discuss this important decision.
2. The driving force behind college selection should ultimately be the academic fit. Athletic opportunities are important, yet secondary to the academic fit and opportunities.
3. Coaches and student-athletes should work in conjunction with the high school counselors to develop a "reality" list of potential college choices.
4. The student-athlete should create a resume that represents their overall high school experience and highlights academic accomplishments.
5. The student-athlete should create a letter of interest to be sent or emailed, along with the resume, to the coaches at the respective schools.
6. The student-athlete should register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.NCAA.org

Who is eligible for Division 1 school?

- Graduate from high school
- Complete a minimum of 14 core Courses
- Present a minimum grade point average
- ACT Score

2005-2007 – Division 1 (14 – Core Classes)

4 Years of English, 2 Years of Math, 2 Years of Science, 2 Years of Social Studies , 1 Year of Additional Math, English, Science and 3 Years of additional courses – such as foreign language.

2008 and After (16 Core Classes) – 3 Years of Math plus previous core.