

Marietta City Schools

Parent Athletic Handbook

2021-22

***Information, Policies, and Procedures
for Parents & Student-Athletes***

**1171 Whitlock Avenue
Marietta, GA 30064
770-428-2631
www.marietta-city.org**

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

“MARIETTA HIGH SCHOOL AND MARIETTA MIDDLE SCHOOL ARE COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS AS PART OF A LARGER COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND EDUCATION”

The guiding principle behind Marietta’s participation in athletics is our belief in its educational value for our students. School-affiliated athletics promotes character traits of high value to personal development and success in later life. These include the drive to achieve the highest level of performance; embracing the discipline needed to reach high standards; learning to work with others as a team in pursuit of a common goal; and adherence to codes of fairness and respect. Athletics also plays an important role in creating a sense of community within the school.

Marietta’s mission defines expectations both on the field and off. In the name of excellence, Marietta aims for a level of athletic performance that will frequently produce winning seasons and the realistic opportunity to compete for team or individual championships. Our mission also requires that Marietta athletes be students first, that they benefit from Marietta’s academic programs and make judicious progress toward their diploma, and that their graduation rates and academic performance be higher than those of other students.

Marietta is also committed to the physical and emotional well-being of student-athletes and to the social development of the whole person. We recognize that great demands are placed on students who participate in Marietta athletic programs and we are committed to providing support to help them manage these demands and get the most out of their high school experience. Athletes are also expected to adhere to a level of conduct that brings credit to themselves and their school and uphold the values of citizenship and service. *Adapted from Duke University*

HEAD COACH ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Coaches are responsible for the planning and delivery of daily practices**, which will include sport specific fundamentals and techniques, positioning, rules, conditioning and safety.
- **Coaches are responsible for all paperwork**, which includes completing and submitting all school, region, and state requests of information (including eligibility), in accordance with established timelines and procedures.
- **Coaches are responsible for the supervision of all team members** beginning with their arrival in the locker room prior to the start of practices or games, and ending when the last student-athlete has met with transportation home.
- **Coaches are responsible for enforcing compliance with all rules in both the MCS and GHSA athletic handbooks.** They are also responsible for establishing and maintaining specific rules and taking appropriate disciplinary measures when necessary.
- **Coaches are responsible for emphasizing student-athlete welfare**, including the areas of drug and alcohol use, sportsmanship, hazing, academic eligibility, and concussion protocol.
- **Coaches are responsible to stay current with changes and trends in their sport** through college courses, participation in clinics, and professional interaction with fellow coaches.
- **Coaches will interact positively with coaches of other sports, within the building**, and work to promote the best interests of all student-athletes at all times.
- **Coaches are responsible for actively assisting student athletes in achieving their college acceptance goals.** This could mean writing letters of recommendation, meeting with prospective college coaches, sending videotape when appropriate.
- **Coaches are responsible for maintaining all applicable safety standards** with regards to student-athletes, field, facilities, equipment, and training as a matter of routine. Also, conform to general injury/training procedures and emergency medical procedures, as well as GHSA rules governing the care of student-athletes with concussions.
- **Coaches are responsible for their personal conduct and player conduct** during all practices, games, and any other time representing Marietta High School.
- **Coaches are responsible for meeting with parents before the season begins.** Each Head Coach must create a Participation Contract or “Constitution” to be signed by all parents. Required information includes a written lettering policy and written consequences for missing games and/or practices. A schedule of games and practices with all dates and times that require attendance should be provided before the season begins.
- **Coaches are responsible for leading the Booster club associated with their team.** As the Head Coach, you are the Executive Officer of the Booster Club and must be in charge. Inability to appropriately manage the Booster Club and its members may result in the school disassociating itself with the Booster Club.

ASSISTANT COACH ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Assistant Coaches are responsible for supporting the mission of the program** and the Head Coach, at all times.
- **Assistant Coaches are responsible for assuming the role of Head Coach**, in their absence, and understanding the role and responsibilities of the Head Coach. Including, but not limited to, all of the responsibilities outlined on the previous page.

BOOSTER CLUB ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

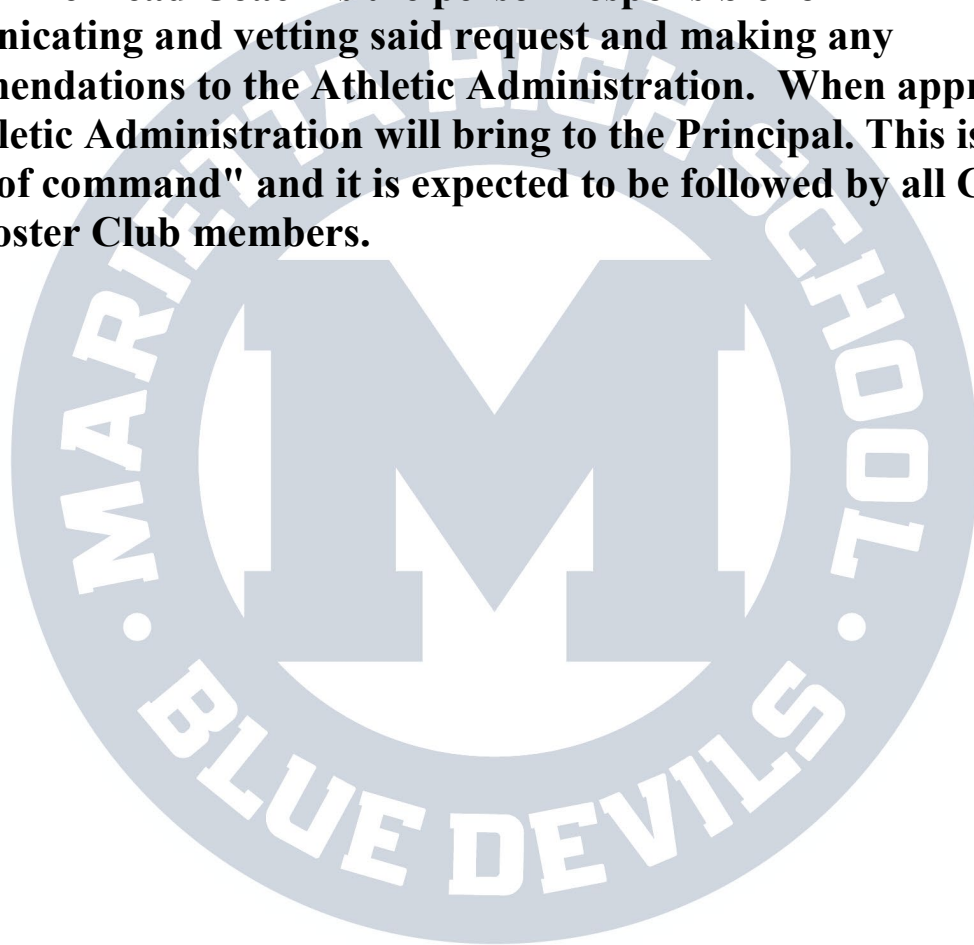
- Support athletic and academic excellence in all student athletes.
- Promote active and involved parent and community leadership.
- Promote sportsmanship and provide supplementary financial support to all Marietta athletic teams.
- Promote a tradition of excellence which exemplifies our student athletes, coaches and teams.
- Raise money through approved fundraisers
- Provide additional funding (equipment, supplies, travel, coaches, support staff, facility improvements)
- Organize team events such as pre-game meals or social events
- Listen and work closely with the Head Coach
- Submit annual expenditure reports

IMPROPER BOOSTER CLUB ACTIONS

- Evaluations or performance reviews of coaches and teachers

- Playing time concerns
- Officiating Concerns
- Hidden agenda items that may detract from the mission of the booster club

The Head Coach is the Executive Officer of the Booster Club. Head coaches are required to oversee all Booster Club activities. Booster Club officers make requests and recommendations to the Head Coach. The Head Coach is the person responsible for communicating and vetting said request and making any recommendations to the Athletic Administration. When appropriate the Athletic Administration will bring to the Principal. This is our "chain of command" and it is expected to be followed by all Coaches and Booster Club members.



PROFILE OF ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Marietta High School is a member of the GHSA Region 3-AAAAAAA. Other members are: Harrison, Hillgrove, North Cobb, North Paulding & Walton

STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING

Brian Grundmeyer, bgrundmeyer@marietta-city.k12.ga.us

Fall Sports Offered:

- Football (Varsity, JV, 9th). Head Coach-*Richard Morgan*, rmorgan@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Softball (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Alishia Sexton*, asexton@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Cross Country (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Jack Coleman*, jcoleman@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Jeff Black*, jblack@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Cheerleading (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Stanecia Nelson*, snelson@marietta-city.k12.ga.us

Winter Sports Offered:

- Boys Basketball (Varsity, JV, 9th). Head Coach-*Markus Hood*, mhood@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Basketball (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Derrick DeWitt*, ddewitt@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Basketball Cheer (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Stanecia Nelson*, snelson@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Swimming (Varsity). Head Coach-*Kristen Slifko*, kslifko@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Wrestling (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Tommy Carthers*, tcarthers@marietta-city.k12.ga.us

Spring Sports Offered:

- Baseball (Varsity, JV, 9th). Head Coach-*Phillip Rogers*, progers@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Boys Golf (Varsity). Head Coach-*Scott Brunet*, sbrunet@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Golf (Varsity). Head Coach-*Haley Powell*, hpowell@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Boys Lacrosse (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Joe Connaughton*, jconnaughton@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Lacrosse (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Kate Casagrande*, kcasagrande@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Boys Soccer (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Robert Holman*, rholman@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Soccer (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Thomas Buresi*, tburesi@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Boys Track (V, JV). Head Coach-*Nick Houstoulakis*, nhoustoulakis@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Girls Track (V, JV). Head Coach-*Nick Houstoulakis*, nhoustoulakis@marietta-city.k12.ga.us
- Boys Tennis (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*TBD*
- Girls Tennis (Varsity, JV). Head Coach-*Sara Worley*, saraworley@marietta-city.k12.ga.us

Marietta High School Staff

Principal: Keith Ball
Director of Athletics: Craig McKinney
Administrator: Brandon Mann
Administrator: Shatala Cain
Administrator: Jason Meade
Administrator: Julie O'Meara
Administrator: Lucena Ross
Administrator: Desirae House
Administrator: Jennifer Williams
Assistant Athletic Director: Tommy Carthers
Athletic Coordinator: Markus Hood
Athletic Secretary: Kelly Hastings
Head Athletic Trainer: Jeff Hopp

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible to participate in interscholastic activities at Marietta High School if you:

- Attended school full-time last semester
- Earned credit for 70% of attempted courses the previous semester
- Have earned course units that count toward graduation equivalent to years you have been in high school
- Have been in high school no more than four consecutive years after your first entry into ninth grade
- Have not attained your 19th birthday prior to May 1st preceding the year of participation
- Had a bona fide move into the school district as a transfer student or have met the GHSA exceptions
- Have completed the Marietta City Schools Athletic Physical/Concussion Form.
- Are in compliance with the Athletic Code of Conduct

Academic Eligibility

To be eligible to participate, practice, and/or tryout in interscholastic activities, a student must be academically eligible. A student is required to pass at least 70% of the classes counting toward graduation the semester immediately preceding participation, earning a minimum of 2.5 credits. Summer school grades are considered part of the second semester.

Students must also accumulate Carnegie Units towards graduation according to the following criteria:

- a) First-year students entering 9th grade are eligible academically
- b) Second-year students must have accumulated five (5) total units in the first year, and passed courses carrying at least 70% of the Carnegie units attempted in the previous semester
- c) Third-year students must have accumulated eleven (11) units in the first and second years, and passed courses carrying at least 70% of the Carnegie units attempted in the previous semester
- d) Fourth-year students must have accumulated seventeen (17) units in the first three years, and passed courses carrying at least 70% of the Carnegie units attempted in the previous semester

A student has eight (8) consecutive semesters or four (4) consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into the ninth grade to be eligible for interscholastic competition.

Athletic Transfers

A transfer student who has established eligibility at a former school in grades 9-12 shall be immediately eligible at Marietta High School if:

- a) The student moved simultaneously with the entire parental unit or persons he/she resided with at the former school, and the student and parent(s) or persons residing with the student live in the service area of Marietta City Schools. This is known as a “bona fide move”.
- b) The student must be enrolled in Marietta High School before he/she can begin athletic participation in workouts or practices.
- c) The student must be approved by GHSA before he/she can participate in any varsity contests. The official Form B document to GHSA for clearance to participate in varsity activities must be filed by the athletic director.
- d) Non-resident students who enter MHS on the first day of their 9th grade year are automatically eligible for varsity sports.

School Attendance

Students must attend school on the day of an event in order to participate in any extra-curricular event that occurs after the school day. Approved field trips or school activities will constitute attendance. The school Principal or Athletic Director must approve all exceptions to the attendance rule.

Marietta City Schools Athletic Physical/Concussion Form

This required GHSA form must be on file in the Marietta High School Athletic Office prior to any student participating in any athletic try-outs, practices, voluntary work-outs or games. The concussion form also must be individually signed in each sport that the athlete participates. The form is good for twelve months from the date of the physical exam. The form should only be submitted to the Athletic Office or directly to the Athletic Trainer. It should not be given to a coach or left at another school office.

Parent/Player Waiver Forms

- Athletic Physical/Concussion Form to athletic trainer
- Online Forms signed digitally through Rank One account

CONDUCT

Name _____ Grade _____ Sports _____

The Marietta City School's administration, coaches, and staff believe that students who are selected for the privilege of membership on athletic teams should conduct themselves as responsible representatives of the schools. Since athletic completion on our sports teams is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate will be expected to follow the Code of Conduct established by the administration, and other specific rules established by respective coaches per their sport. As recognized representatives of our schools, members are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior during the season or out of season, in uniform or out of uniform, and on campus or off campus. The principal, athletic director, and head coaches shall enforce all rules and regulations as described in the Code of Conduct for athletes.

Competitive Interscholastic Activity Council

The Council shall be comprised of a school administrator from the school the student attends, the Director of Athletics, a coach/sponsor of the student, one additional coach/sponsor selected by the Director of Athletics, and one teacher from the school in which the student is enrolled. The Competitive Interscholastic Activity Council will determine the guilt or innocence of the student, but under no circumstance shall assign discipline outside the guidelines established in Infraction Consequences. Any Council discipline decision rendered outside the guidelines established for Infraction Consequences shall be voided by the Superintendent of Schools, and appropriate discipline shall be assigned by the Superintendent within the guidelines provided herein.

Infractions:

Regardless of whether infractions occur on or off campus, during or after the school day, during or after the school year, the following infractions will be reviewed by the Competitive Interscholastic Activity Council

- Use, possession, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco products, illegal drugs or related paraphernalia, and the abuse of prescription or non-prescription drugs.
- Vandalism of school property.
- Acting in an un-sportsmanlike manner.
- Any act which results in external suspension from school.
- Inappropriate, threatening, or embarrassing information or pictures transmitted by a student-athlete via written or electronic transmission (email/text) or via posting on a public domain (social media).
- Any offensive act, which, in the opinion of coaches/sponsors, and/or administration, reflects in a negative manner on the competitive interscholastic activities program at Marietta High School, Marietta Middle School, or Marietta City Schools in its entirety.

Enforcement:

Any student-athlete who is found to have violated the Competitive Interscholastic Activity Code will receive the following consequences:

First Offense:

Based on the decision of the Competitive Interscholastic Activity Council, the range of penalties shall be suspension for part or all of the current season and/or part or all of the next season in which the student participates to permanent suspension from participation in competitive interscholastic activities. The student shall not complete the season in which the suspension is in effect.

The school reserves the right to permanently dismiss a student from all competitive interscholastic activity programs for the remainder of their school career at Marietta High

School and/or Marietta Middle School upon arrest, conviction or plea, including nolo contendere, for any misdemeanor or felony crime.

Second Offense:

Suspension from all competitive interscholastic activity programs for a period of not less than one year from the date of the second violation to permanent dismissal from all competitive interscholastic activity programs for the remainder of their school career at Marietta High School and/or Marietta Middle School.

Third Offense:

Permanent suspension from all competitive interscholastic activity programs for the remainder of their school career at Marietta High School and/or Marietta Middle School.

Athletic Policies that stand without review by the Competitive Interscholastic Activity Council:

- Any student-athlete convicted of **selling, or with intent to distribute drugs** will be permanently banned from athletics.
- A student-athlete who is **arrested for, or charged with, a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony** shall be automatically suspended from athletics until the Competitive Interscholastic Activity Council has an opportunity to review the situation and make a determination about the appropriate consequences.
- Marietta City Schools will not condone **bullying or hazing** among its students. Marietta City Schools will treat bullying and hazing as it does intimidation and harassment. Students suspected or guilty of bullying or hazing will be immediately referred to the principal. A student-athlete or parent should report any concerns directly to the coach, athletic director, or principal.
- **Cell phones and cameras** may not be used inside a locker room for any purpose by a student-athlete. This means no texting, no calling, and no pictures. Should an athlete receive a call or text after school hours while in the locker room, he or she must take the phone (still in backpack, book bag, gym bag, etc.) out to the hall or outside the building before use. Cameras and cell phones may not be in use or out in view in the locker room for any reason. A violation of this rule may result game suspensions or dismissal from team.
- A student-athlete who **loses their equipment or fails to return equipment or uniforms** to their coach must financially repay for the respective loss. The student-athlete is not allowed to participate in another sport or attend the sports awards program until all debts are cleared.
- A student-athlete who is placed in **ISS** cannot participate in or attend any games or practices during the suspension.
- A student-athlete who **quits a team, or is removed from the team**, once it has begun official practices, cannot begin another sports season or practices until the sports season ends that he quit. If there is a mutual decision by the coach and player to discontinue a player's participation on a team, then the player can begin practice with another sport without penalty.
- Each coach of a student-athlete has the prerogative to establish additional rules pertaining to the activity supervised. These rules may include attendance at practices, curfew, dress, locker room cleanliness, horseplay, being on time, and general conduct on buses or at off-campus activities.

A student-athlete and his or her parents may appeal a decision to the Director of Athletics within three days of the disciplinary decision. The Director of Athletics will hear the appeal and will take action upon which he or she considers to be in the best interests of the student-athlete, the team, and school. This decision will be communicated to the School Principal as the next point of appeal.

As the Parent/Guardian:

- I will encourage my child to focus on daily and weekly improvement, not wins and losses.
- I will inspire my child to work through disappointments and failures, and that quitting or giving up are seldom the correct choices.
- I commit to helping my child with his fund-raising responsibilities and with his community service opportunities.
- I will notify my child's coach of any schedule conflicts well in advance, if at all possible.
- I pledge to communicate with my child's coach in a professional manner when issues arise, and that I will never approach my child's coach during or after a contest or practice. I acknowledge that I must request an office appointment with my child's coach to discuss any concerns.
- I understand that appropriate concerns to discuss with the coach are: the treatment of my child mentally and physically, ways to help my child improve, and concerns about my child's behavior.
- I understand that issues not appropriate to discuss with the coach are: playing time, team strategy, play calling, other student-athletes.
- I will express my concerns directly to the coach.
- I will contribute to the goal of a "family" environment within Marietta Athletics by promoting good sportsmanship, by celebrating team accomplishments, and by giving value to my child's opportunity to be a part of a team.

My signature acknowledges that I have read the Athletic Code of Conduct and agree to abide by all rules and regulations contained herewith.

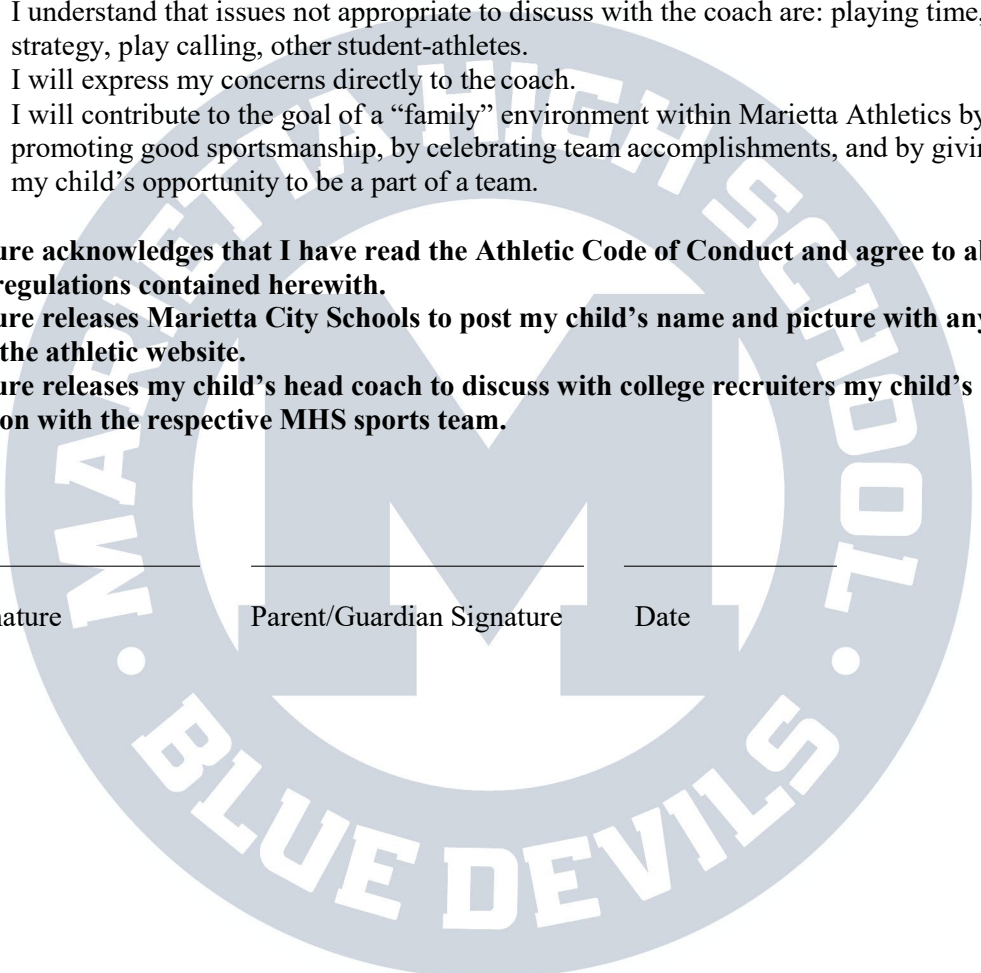
My signature releases Marietta City Schools to post my child's name and picture with any team rosters on the athletic website.

My signature releases my child's head coach to discuss with college recruiters my child's participation with the respective MHS sports team.

Player Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNICATION

The Athletic Department of Marietta High School strives to keep open lines of communication between athletes, parents, coaches and the general public.

Parental Support:

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we strive to be able to better accept the actions of the other for the benefit of the student-athlete. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed upon your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

It is essential that parents and athletes demonstrate respect for coaches. The coach has been appointed to a leadership and decision making position. His/her responsibility is to the individual participant, the team, and the school system. As a result, all coaches have been instructed to make the best decisions they can and not to bow to parent or fan pressure relative to athletic and/or coaching decisions. In all instances, an environment of mutual respect and civility should prevail and the appropriate steps for a solution should be followed.

Communication Your Child Can Expect From Coaches

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as the players on the team
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements; i.e., fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
5. Procedures should your child be injured during participation
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
7. The availability of the coach to speak with you about your child if you should have a concern

Communication Coaches Expect from Parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance (planned vacations)
3. Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations

As your children become involved in programs at Marietta High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times respectful discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
2. Ways to help your child improve
3. Concerns about your child's behavior

It is difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those that follow, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

1. Playing time
2. Team strategies
3. Game play-calling
4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the others position. When these conferences are necessary, please follow the steps outlined in the Chain of Communication, to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

Solving Conflicts-Chain of Communication

1. Athlete and Coach
2. Athlete, Parent, and Coach
3. Parent, Coach, and Athletic Director
4. Parent and Principal

The 24-Hour Rule will be utilized for any in-season communication with the coaching staff about concerns. Contact with the coaching staff will not be allowed until 24 hours after an athletic event. The only exception to this rule is reporting an injury, illness or emergency situation. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution. The correct procedure to contact a coach is to email him/her or by telephone. Parents are urged to contact the coach directly at the phone numbers distributed at the pre-season orientation meeting. Please do not contact the coach at home unless requested to do so. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest, a practice, or event. If the coach does not respond to your phone call, contact the Athletic Office at 770-428-2631, extension 5033 and we will set up an appointment on your behalf.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The school system of Marietta City Schools believes that sports programs serve educational purposes in the lives of the students. One of these purposes is the development of good sportsmanship. The primary focus of the challenge of achieving good sportsmanship is on the student-athlete, but others are involved.

Individuals who are involved in athletic activities that represent Marietta City Schools should make every effort to meet the following expectations:

School Administration

- ✓ Provide appropriate supervisory personnel for athletic events
- ✓ Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches, and fans
- ✓ Show commitment to students and school activities by regular attendance at school events
- ✓ Apply sportsmanship policies and rule equitably
- ✓ Be prepared to address fan and participant behavior at both home and away events

Coaches

- ✓ Accept decisions of officials
- ✓ Avoid offensive gestures and language
- ✓ Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- ✓ Avoid public criticism of game officials
- ✓ Lead by example: respect the rules, the officials, and opponents

Student-Athletes

- ✓ Show respect at all times for coaches, opponents, and game officials
- ✓ Accept the decisions of contest officials
- ✓ Avoid offensive gestures or language
- ✓ Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- ✓ Show respect for public property and equipment
- ✓ Remember that as a participant for Marietta that you represent the school

Spectators

- ✓ Avoid criticism and harassment of game officials and coaches
- ✓ Appreciate good performances by opposing players and teams
- ✓ Respect and show appreciation for coaches
- ✓ Stay off the playing area at all times. Only coaches, players, officials and trainers are permitted.
- ✓ Show respect for public property and equipment
- ✓ Take part in cheers with the cheerleaders
- ✓ Work cooperatively with school officials and supervisors in keeping order

Cheerleaders and Band

- ✓ Know the contest rules and perform at the proper times
- ✓ Encourage support for any injured player
- ✓ Show respect for opposing players and cheerleaders, game officials, and spectators
- ✓ Lead positive cheers and praise for your team
- ✓ Show respect for public property and equipment

Appropriate Behaviors

- ✓ Applause during introduction of athletes, coaches, game officials
- ✓ Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest
- ✓ Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants
- ✓ Everyone showing concern for an injured athlete
- ✓ Showing respect for another school's logos, banners, Alma Mater, etc.
- ✓ Spirit leaders leading fans in positive manner

Unacceptable Behaviors

- ✓ Using disrespectful, taunting, or derogatory yells, chants, songs, or gestures or any cheers that gloat in victory
- ✓ Singling out individuals on an opposing team for derogatory or insensitive treatment
- ✓ Doing own yells instead of following lead of cheerleaders
- ✓ Using hand-held signs containing derogatory language or pictures
- ✓ Throwing of any objects onto or near the field of play
- ✓ Displays of temper with an official's call
- ✓ Using yells to antagonize opponents
- ✓ Refusing to shake hands or to give recognition for good performance
- ✓ Unauthorized visiting of other school's rooting section
- ✓ Using profanity or displays of anger that draws attention away from the game

Any individual violating this code of behavior will be warned and/or may be removed from the contest and banned from future sporting events.

SPORTS MEDICINE

Sports Medicine Staff

Jeff Hopp, Head Athletic Trainer	404-788-7888
Erika Davis, Assistant Athletic Trainer	484-643-2169
Olivia King, Assistant Athletic Trainer	706-726-2534

MHS athletic trainers, Jeff Hopp, Erika Davis, and Olivia King are available for injury evaluations, treatment and rehab free of charge to all MCS athletes.

All injuries/illnesses must be reported to the MHS athletic trainers as soon as possible for evaluation. In the event of any significant injury, the athletic trainers will communicate a treatment plan or possible referral to a physician, with parents. Any athlete seen by a physician must have written clearance from that physician prior to returning to play. The MHS sports medicine staff has final return to play decision in regards to all injuries. If the MHS athletic trainers determine an athlete is not fit to return to play, the athletic trainers will hold the student-athlete out of participation as long as they deem necessary, regardless of a physician release.

High School Student Athletic Training Aides

High school students interested in exploring careers in athletic training or other sports medicine fields may volunteer in the athletic training room. Student Athletic Training Aides (SATA's) may provide basic first aid and assist with treatment, taping, rehabilitation programs, and administrative tasks assigned by the certified athletic trainer. SATA's **WILL NOT** perform injury evaluations.

College Student Athletic Trainers

The MHS athletic trainers serve as clinical instructors for the Life University Masters in Athletic Training program. The Life Student Athletic Trainers will be closely monitored by the MHS athletic trainers at all times. They will be allowed to evaluate injuries and provide treatment with supervision.

Athletic Training Clinic Locations

The main athletic training clinic is located in the Field House next to the Practice Fields. An auxiliary athletic training clinic is located near the main gym. Injury prevention, management, and treatment will take place at each location. All rehab will be done in the field house athletic training clinic.

Athletic Training Clinic Hours

The Fieldhouse Athletic Training Clinic is open on school days, Monday through Friday, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Any changes will be posted on the door. Hours may vary on non-school days, such as winter break, spring break, and holidays. The athletic training clinic will be open in the summer on a limited basis and hours will be posted prior to the beginning of summer break.

Physicals and Insurance

Every MCS athlete **MUST** have a valid physical on file in the MHS Sports Medicine office prior to any workouts (pre-season or in-season) with an MCS team. In order to be valid, physicals must be done on or after April 1st of the year for that current school year (i.e. April 1, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year). All MCS athletes must have valid insurance while participating in MCS athletics or purchase insurance through Marietta City Schools.

OTHER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Inherent Risk:

Any student who participates in athletic competition must understand that a risk of injury always exists. The Athletics Staff at Marietta High School will do everything possible to minimize risks for student-athletes, both in practice and competition.

Multi-Sport Participation

Marietta High School recognizes many benefits from multi-sport participation and insists that coaches avoid promoting sport specialization. Our coaches do support all of the sports programs and will encourage students to participate in all sports where unique talents exist.

Athletes may also participate in more than one sport during a sports season if the two respective coaches can work out a practice and game schedule that meets all the requirements for both sports. The athlete may be required to designate one sport as the primary sport causing the secondary sport to become a sport of mostly sub-varsity participation or of a non-starting status.

Multiple School Activities

Marietta High School believes that students can potentially benefit by participating in a variety of school curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Co-curricular and extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, athletics, performing arts, and academic competitions. The coaches and leaders of these activities will not discourage students electing a variety of activities when conflicts are manageable. They will work together to resolve and minimize scheduling conflicts. Furthermore, coaches and sponsors must communicate concerns to students and parents whose combination of activities present irresolvable conflicts or unreasonable stress on the student. In these rare cases, students may be required to make a choice.

Travel

Marietta High School athletes are required to travel to and from athletic events in school approved vehicles and under certified school staff supervision provided by Marietta High School. Extreme circumstances must be cleared by the Principal or Athletic Director. Students may be released to their parents (if the head coach is in agreement) after a road contest if the official Transportation Release Form is signed and received by the parent in advance of the contest. Students will never be released to ride home from a contest with other students.

Athletes represent Marietta High School on all road trips. Appropriate dress will be determined by the coaching staff. Athletes will act in an acceptable manner while on all school trips. Equipment, facilities, fans, opponents and staff members at opposing school sites will be treated with respect at all times. Any damage or improper behavior on the part of Marietta athletes and/or support staff will result in appropriate disciplinary action.

Early release time from class for athletic activities is not part of the structure of the Marietta High School. Special exceptions will only be granted with the prior approval of the Principal.

Equipment:

It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to maintain and return all equipment and uniforms issued. Parents will be financially responsible for equipment and uniforms that are stolen, lost, or misplaced. The price of replacing these items will be the actual cost to the school for purchasing new replacement items. Failure to adhere to these procedures will cause the student-athlete's name to be placed on the debt list with the school administration.

Weight Room & Gym Policy

The following guidelines must be observed when students are using the weight rooms, gymnasiums and any other athletic facilities at Marietta High School:

1. Students may use the weight room, gymnasiums and other athletic facilities only while under the direct supervision of a Marietta High School certified staff member
2. Students working out in the weight room, gymnasiums and other athletic facilities must be dressed in proper attire. Shirts and shoes are always required.
4. Weights and other equipment should be returned to the proper racks or storage areas before students and coaches leave the area.
5. All facility usage shall be scheduled in advance and placed on the school calendar by the head coach in cooperation with the Athletic Director and Assistant Principal.

Information for the College-Bound Student-Athlete

All high school students who wish to practice and compete for a Division I or II institution must register and be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse will determine a student/athlete's initial eligibility status for all Division I and II institutions by reviewing an official high school transcript and the official SAT/ACT scores. All athletes interested in playing a college sport should contact the Guidance Office for a detailed hand-out on NCAA eligibility. You may also view information at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

All coaches and student/athletes should be aware of NCAA regulations regarding recruiting and academic requirements. All school personnel and student/athletes should be aware of NCAA recruiting rules concerning tryouts and/or auditions. The NCAA does not sanction or endorse any scouting service; therefore, you should determine whether the scouting service meets NCAA requirements.

NCAA Initial-Eligibility Resources

The following documents and presentations will assist colleges, the high school community, coaches, as well as students and parents with the initial eligibility, recruiting and college selection processes. Please refer to www.eligibilitycenter.org or the new outreach site, www.2point3.org for more information.

Informational Guides

[Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete](#) –The Guide is a highly comprehensive tool that has been designed to help you understand the NCAA initial-eligibility process and to prepare student-athletes for transitioning from high school to becoming an NCAA Division I or II student-athlete.

[NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards](#) – The NCAA Guide to International Academic standards for Athletics Eligibility provides specific requirements needed for college-bound student-athletes who have completed any portion of their secondary education in a non-United States educational system wishing to study and compete at an NCAA Division I or II college or university.

College Sports Interest

Most student/athletes at the high school level will not be offered college athletic scholarships; therefore,

the following recommendations are for your use in pursuing financial aid and/or acceptance to the college or university which best matches your abilities and interests:

- Discuss with your guidance counselor the range of colleges for which you are academically qualified.
- Talk with your coach about the level of competition he/she feels you might be best suited to participate in (i.e. Division I, II, III, or Junior College).
- Narrow your college selection list to a reasonable size, taking into consideration the quality of academic and athletic programs, determining whether they are right for you. Be realistic about your choice.
- Find the name of the coach in your sport at each college on your list. (Use the National Directory of College Athletics in the guidance office).
- Request your high school coach to write a personal letter to the college coach highlighting your transcript, academic achievements, and interests as well as a thorough and detailed discussion of your athletic accomplishments (statistics, clippings, letters earned, records set, and honors). A DVD should be made during the season for availability to college coaches.
- Decide where you wish to apply. Few college coaches will take an interest in you unless you formally apply. Initiate, don't react.
- Remain in touch with the coaches after applying. Inquire about the status of your application and financial aid. If possible, visit the college and the coach - sell yourself as a person and a student athlete.
- A letter from a college coach is an overture, NOT an offer.
- Be familiar with NCAA visitation rules (check with your coach).
- Financial Aid is based on need. Applications for financial aid as well as other scholarships are available in the guidance office.
- You may choose to continue your sports career even though you are not involved in intercollegiate competition. Most colleges and universities have extensive, competitive intramural programs for men and women.

