

## **SPORT SEASON BEGINNING DATES**

Fall 2007 - August 13  
Winter 2007/08 - November 19  
Spring 2008 - March 24

Fall Sports teams begin practice on August 13, 2007.  
Incoming freshmen participants will meet with YHS Fall Coaches at YMS in June.  
Date TBA.

Fall Sports Information Night and Parent/Coach meetings  
will be held on August 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the YHS gym.

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## **ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

The York High School athletic program's goal is to provide positive educational experiences through interscholastic competition. We believe that promoting good sportsmanship and appropriate conduct while striving for excellence fosters positive growth in our student athletes. It is most important that students understand their place on the team. Communication with the coach is key. Varsity Teams place more emphasis on winning and are tournament driven. Playing time is not guaranteed. Sub-Varsity Teams place less emphasis on winning and more emphasis on skill development. All participants play but not necessarily equally, amount of playing time is earned.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINING**

The role of an athletic trainer is to assist and supervise with the athletes health and safety. The athletic trainer specializes in the prevention, assessment, and management of athletic injuries from participation in athletics. The athletic trainer works as a link between the athletes, coaches, parents, and medical community for communication, injury prevention, emergency care, and rehabilitation.

Our athletic training coverage will be available for all teams Monday through Friday from 2-5 p.m. on a daily basis for practices and will be present at all home athletic events.

Kip Humphrey, athletic trainer and physical therapy assistant, will be serving York High School provided to us by York Hospital. Dick Berry P.T. will also be available to provide coverage as needed. If a parent or coach has any questions or concerns about a child, Kip can be reached at the school during practice hours (2-5 p.m.), games, and also during the day at York Hospital Physical Therapy at 351-2360.

## **HINTS FOR PARENTS ATTENDING ATHLETIC CONTESTS**

- *Attend your child's contests.*
- *Show interest, enthusiasm, and support for your child.*
- *Model good sportsmanship and promote fair play.*
- *Demonstrate respect and civility by not making insulting comments to players, officials, coaches or opponents.*
- *Cheer for your child and team and leave the coaching to the coach.*
- *Be in control of your emotions and comments.*
- *Remember that other parents also want the best for their children.*
- *Thank the coaches, officials, and*
- *others who conducted the event.*
- *Make an appointment with the coach to discuss individual concerns about your child.*

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

A student must be academically eligible to participate in athletics. A student must be passing four subjects and is not allowed to fail or be incomplete in more than one. Grades are reviewed quarterly and eligibility may not be made up in summer school. A student who fails off a team is not eligible for awards.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Students must be in school by 11:00 a.m., and be in attendance the remainder of the school day in order to be eligible to participate in games or practices. Attendance is required on Friday to be eligible for Saturday games. In case of family emergencies, doctor appointments, or other excused absences, approval from the Athletic Director is required.

### **TRAVEL POLICY**

All athletes will travel to games on school-approved transportation unless prior approval has been granted by the Athletic Director. Students are expected to return on the bus unless the coach has granted prior approval. Students will groom themselves in a manner prescribed by the coach.

## NEW CODE OF ETHICS

Students shall not use, transport or be in possession of alcohol, use or be in possession of tobacco in any form, use, have in possession, buy, sell or give away drug paraphernalia, marijuana or any other substance defined by law as a drug or look-alike drug including the unlawful use of anabolic steroids. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally prescribed drug for that students' own use.

All violations are cumulative over an individuals' high school career, and carry over into all other sports seasons and extra-curricular activities. Students are required to meet with the Wellness Counselor upon violation. Prior to this meeting, the Wellness Counselor will call the parents of the student in question to provide an introduction to Wellness services and to acquire background information on the student.

**First Offense:** 3-week suspension from all games/contests/activities; week one allows no formal contact with the team/activity. Weeks two and three the student is allowed to resume practicing, travel to and attend games/activities with the team/club but not be in uniform and participate. Within this 3-week suspension, all students must meet with the Wellness Counselor to complete a Juvenile Automated Substance Abuse Evaluation (JASAE), Day One's Positive Choices Curriculum, and a Personal and Academic Goals Statement. Confirmation of completion as well as a copy of the students' Personal and Academic Goals Statement will be sent in writing to the appropriate coach/advisor before formal reinstatement to the team/club is granted.

**Second and Subsequent Offenses:** Student is suspended and not allowed on any teams/activities for one calendar year. For each of the second and subsequent offenses, an additional meeting with the Wellness Counselor is required. Personal and Academic Goals Statements will be reassessed and parental contact will once again be made. The Wellness Counselor will be available for further consultation with students and parents.

## ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AND PARENT APPROVAL FORM

Participation forms must be turned in before the student is allowed to compete in practices or games. This form indicates student/parent agreement with the Code of Ethics, proof of insurance and physical examination. The form is valid for one year. All students are required to have a physical examination. The school will provide physicals each year in the spring. All athletes are required to have health insurance. Student insurance may be purchased through the school (with the exception of football).

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Good Sportsmanship is the attitude and behavior that exemplifies positive support for the interscholastic programs of York High School as well as for the individuals who participate in these programs. People involved in all facets of the interscholastic program are expected to demonstrate respect for others and display good sportsmanship. One of the goals of York High School for interscholastic competition is to teach important values while enriching the educational experiences of young men and women. Good sportsmanship is one of those values.

## **EJECTION RULE**

Ejection or disqualification from a game for unsportsmanlike behavior of any form shall result in the suspension of that player from that game and the next regularly scheduled game. Suspension may carry over to the next season.

## **SPORTS INFORMATION MEETING**

Athletes and Parent/Guardians will be required to attend a pre-season Sports Information Meeting. The purpose of these meetings is to review athletic policies, team guidelines and goals.

**NO "HAZING"** or initiation of any kind will be tolerated.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP MISSION STATEMENT**

The Maine Principals' Association and York High School believe they have a responsibility to teach, to promote, and to model good sportsmanship in all co-curricular activities. Good sportsmanship is a visible demonstration of an individual's ethical behavior and personal integrity. It is a commitment to fair play, graciousness towards an opponent and a genuine concern and respect for others.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES**

Always set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior. Instruct participants in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship the number one priority. Respect judgment of contest officials, abide by rules of the event and display no behavior that could incite fans. Treat opposing coaches, participants, and fans with respect. Shake hands with officials and opposing coaches in public. Develop and enforce penalties for participants who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS**

Treat opponents with respect, shake hands prior to and after contest.  
Respect judgment of contest officials, abide by rules of the event and display no behavior that could incite fans.  
Cooperate with officials, coaches, and fellow participants to conduct a fair contest.

Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing school and community: display positive public action at all times.  
Live up to high standards of sportsmanship established by the coach.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF OFFICIALS**

Accept role in an unassuming manner. Showboating and over-officiating are not acceptable. Maintain confidence and poise, controlling the contest from start to finish.

Know rules thoroughly and abide by established Code of Ethics. Publicly shake hands with coaches of both teams before contests. Never exhibit emotions or argue with participants and coaches when enforcing rules.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF SPIRIT GROUPS**

Stimulate desired crowd response using only positive cheers, signs and praise without antagonizing or demeaning opponents.

Treat opposing spirit groups and fans with respect.

Recognize outstanding performance on either side of the playing field or court.

Know rules and strategies of the contest in order to cheer at proper times.

Maintain enthusiasm and composure, serving as a role model.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS AND OTHER FANS**

Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support activities, not a license to verbally assault others to be generally obnoxious.

Respect decisions made by contest officials.

Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.

Respect fans, coaches and participants.

Be a fan ... not a fanatic.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS**

Develop a program for teaching and promoting the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship within the school, the league/conference and state.

Provide appropriate supervisory personnel for each interscholastic event.

Support participants, coaches and fans who teach and display good sportsmanship.

Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches and fans.

## **EXAMPLES OF A GOOD SPORT**

- Exhibits spirit of benevolence and genuine concern for the opponent.
- Accepts results gracefully and acts fairly and courteous at all times.
- Maintains self-control in all circumstances.

## **ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents who may foul out while both sets of fans recognize Player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive school cheers, in positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at end of contest.