

Potter County Athletic Co-Op

Gettysburg School District 53-1

Hoven School District 53-2



PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

2020 – 2021

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ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Welcome to Potter County Athletics. The school districts of Gettysburg and Hoven support the athletic programs as a positive extra-curricular activity. We will use the following guidelines:

1. Athletic participants are treated as regular students. No special consideration is given to them for grades or assignments.
2. The athletic programs are conducted for the benefit of the participants with maximum concern for their safety, health, and well-being.
3. Full allegiance must be given to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and its constitution and by-laws.
4. Coaches employed, the same as regular faculty members, are expected to exhaust all legitimate channels for promoting the highest level of excellence in the program, and are to be evaluated on the basis of their loyalty and contribution to the total school program.
5. All involved must be mindful that participation in athletics is a privilege earned by meeting certain expectations.
6. It is the policy of Potter County Athletics that educational activities, employment programs and services are offered without regard to race, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or age. The superintendents at each school district are the contacts for Title IX compliance, Section 504 and ADA compliance.

In pursuance of these policies and beliefs, the activities are organized under the direction of the Athletic Directors of each school, who are directly responsible to the Superintendents of the Potter County Co-Op.

Students are encouraged to participate in activities offered by the Potter County Athletic Co-Op to bring added fulfillment to their school experience.

Vern Smith

Jonie Abler

**Athletic Director
Gettysburg School District 53-1**

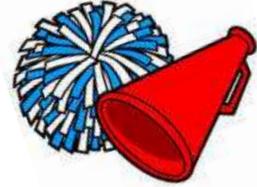
**Athletic Director
Hoven School District 53-2**

POTTER COUNTY ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

FALL:

High School (9-12)

- Football
- Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Cheerleading



Grades 6-8

- Football
- Volleyball (1st Quarter)
- Cross Country



WINTER:

High School (9-12)

- Girls Basketball
- Boys Basketball
- Wrestling



Grades 6-8

- Girls Basketball (2nd Quarter)
- Boys Basketball (3rd Quarter)
- Wrestling



SPRING:

High School (9-12)

- Track and Field
- Golf



Grades 6-8

- Track and Field
- Golf



PHILOSOPHY

The programs of extracurricular activities of the Potter County (Gettysburg-Hoven) Sports Co-Op are organized and conducted as an integral part of the total educational programs of the schools involved. The objectives of the programs must conform in every respect to the general purpose of the schools.

Strong and healthy bodies, alert minds, a high sense of sportsmanship, enjoyment, and a love of teaching and coaching should be the outcome of the activities, and programs at the school. For the students and alumni alike, the values include the development of a sense of pride in the total educational program, the development of tradition and school spirit, sportsmanship, and loyalty.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

This being the activities philosophy of the Potter County Co-Op, it follows that we adhere to certain principles.

- Coaches shall meet all expectations of faculty members and shall abide by the same rules and regulations and privileges pertaining to all other faculty members.
- All participants shall be afforded the utmost protection while engaged in school sponsored events both on the field, and while travelling to and from events. The participants' general health and physical welfare must be the FIRST priority.
- Sound equipment, safe playing conditions, and channels for assuring proper training and medical attention shall be available at all times.
- No member of the staff or faculty shall feel that his/her job depends on winning or losing. Coaches will always strive to their best effort.
- Activities during school hours will be kept to a minimum.
- When a school has an early dismissal due to inclement weather, no practices will be held at that school, and the student/athletes from that school will not practice even if the practice is held at the other school.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The Potter County Athletics Department believes that sports programs serve educational purposes in the lives of the district's students. One of the purposes is the development of good sportsmanship. The primary focus of the challenge of achieving good sportsmanship is on the student, but others are involved.

The administrators of the Potter County Co-Op insist that good sportsmanship is the goal. Activity Directors must realize the value of sportsmanship and set the tone for implementation and its good practice.

The coaches must accept the responsibility of making each contest a showcase for education. Coaches are expected to be role models of self-control and dignity for participants and spectators.

The participants must be taught to handle themselves in a sportsmanlike way at all times. Students/Athletes are expected to project sportsmanship in the activity in which they participate.

Good sportsmanship practices will be demonstrated by administrators, coaches, student/athletes, parents, and spectators, and all will be held accountable for their actions. Spectators will be reminded and encouraged to be appropriate role models for young people.

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

As parents/guardians it is often a difficult task to keep track of all the events in which our children participate. Potter County Co-Op provides web access to the most current events and changes in our activities schedules through rSchool Today scheduler. This information can be accessed from our school websites.

CO-CURRICULAR ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students must be recorded as present in all eight periods of the school day of an activity in order to participate. This includes practice, extra-curricular or co-curricular activity later that day. Parents must contact the principal/superintendent before the start of the school day if exceptions are being requested. Students who are ill during the day are presumed to be too ill to participate in the activity later that day.

Exceptions to this rule will be made under the following conditions:

1. Absences due to school related activities.
2. Absences due to family emergency, medical appointments, religious observances, family emergencies or other advance requests **approved by the school administration**.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

A chain of command is established by the Potter County Sports Co-Op to make sure that concerns are handled at the lowest level first prior to coming to administrators. Parents and their student athletes must follow the following chain of command regarding concerns and issues relative to an athlete, their playing time, a coach's philosophy and organized practices, and any other concerns relative to the sport or the athletic program. Parents are expected to follow the chain of command listed below:

1. Player to Coach
2. Parent and Player to Coach
3. Parent, Player, and Coach to Athletic Director.
4. Parent, Player, Coach, and Athletic Director to Principal
5. Parent, Player, Coach, Athletic Director and Principal to Superintendent

The 24-Hour Rule will be utilized for any in-season communication with the coaching staff. 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.

It is important to note that the Potter County Coop, it's athletic directors and administrators do not guarantee a resolution to all extra-curricular concerns. Further, not all concerns will be granted a step #4 or #5 meeting at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

DUAL ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

A student/athlete may participate in two activities during the same season provided that the practice times for both are not in conflict so that a student may not miss any regularly scheduled practice or contest in an activity without the consent of each coach or advisor.

The purpose of this rule is to prevent a student from trying out for more than one activity occurring at the same time, thus eliminating another student from participation, and then not fulfill his/her obligation to practice and perform in both of them. Request for dual participation requires a meeting between the student, AD, and both coaches for establishing a participation plan.

PRE-SEASON PARENT MEETING

Coaches are required to hold a Pre-Season Parent Meeting annually. This meeting should provide parents/students with the philosophy of the coach, schedules, practice times, team requirements, rules, and injury procedures. This meeting also includes parents of student managers and student statisticians.

Handbooks, permission forms, physical forms, and concussion fact sheet forms are distributed and discussed at the meetings. **Students cannot participate in Potter County Athletics until the required forms are turned in to the activities office.**

WEDNESDAY/CHURCH NIGHT & SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

There shall be no school events, practice sessions, or meetings of any sort on Wednesday evenings after 5:45 PM, or on any Sunday unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent of either school district. There will be no practices of any kind on Wednesday for Grades 6-8 unless they hold a varsity position.

The only exceptions to this policy are Grades 6-8 students who are competing at the Varsity level. Student athletes in Grades 6-8 who currently hold a varsity position may practice with signed permission from their parents/guardians and only while slotted in the Varsity position. This permission slip must be filed with the administration.

TRANSPORTATION FOR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

When school is in session, Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 will be responsible for transporting student/athletes to and from practices and games.

All students participating in extra-curricular activities will ride in school-designated transportation both to and from out-of-town activities. Exceptions may be granted according to the following provisions:

1. Parent/guardians that choose to have their child(ren) drive to the other district for practices or games must complete a transportation agreement form and turn it into the Athletic Director's office before driving. Parents who wish their students to ride with them either to or from an event must make arrangements in advance with the principal/superintendent by writing a note specifying the name(s) of the student(s) affected by the reason for the request, the planned destinations, and the name of the driver. This note must be in the hands of the principal/superintendent prior to the departure of the activity trip. The principal/superintendent will determine whether the request is to be granted. Requests will be granted by the principal/superintendent ONLY when the circumstances warrant an exception and ONLY with the understanding that a parent will be driving the car until the students return home.
2. If the student/athlete is to transport siblings or other students, they have to be listed on the transportation agreement and a consent signature from a parent/guardian(s) of the driver AND parent/guardian(s) of the passenger(s). Students missing the return bus to their home district or who

are staying to attend other activities where practices are held will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian(s).

3. If a situation arises at the out-of-town event that could not have been anticipated and the principal, athletic director, or superintendent is not present at the event, the advisor of the activity may accept the note and make the decision. This provision may not be applied to ride with other students' parents.
4. The principal/superintendent may grant exceptions for special circumstances. These considerations must also include parental notification.
5. If a note is written to the principal/superintendent or coach that upon later information proves to be false or if it is determined that a parent was not the driver of the car, further requests from the parent signing the note for exceptions to the policy will be denied.
6. Failure to follow transportation rules may result in disciplinary actions, as determined by the Administration and Coaching Staff.

TRAVEL/PARTICIPATION WHILE INELIGIBLE

Students who are ineligible either academically or through suspension will **NOT** be allowed out of school for an early dismissal to attend activities. Ineligible students will not be allowed to represent the school during contest-public performances. Students will be allowed to attend all practices during the time of ineligibility. The head coach can apply additional consequences above what is listed, with approval from Athletic Director.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Every athletic participant will need an up to date physical exam. The physical form should be turned into the Athletic Directors of each school to be kept as record and distributed to coaches at the beginning of each season. Physical examinations must be completed on an **annual basis** starting the 2020-2021 school year. The reason for having annual physicals is for the safety and well-being of athletes in our athletic program as health conditions can change over the course of a school year that may prevent a student athlete from being healthy to participate. **An athlete not having an up to date physical exam prior to or on the first day of practice will not be able to participate in athletics until an exam form has been handed in to the coach or the Athletic Director's office.**

CONCUSSION POLICY/MANAGEMENT

A concussion is any alteration of mental status due to a sudden, and violent, rocking of the brain inside of the skull caused by a traumatic blow to the head or upper body. Concussion symptoms, which can last various lengths of time, may include: headache, nausea, vomiting, balance problems, dizziness, fatigue, drowsiness, sensitivity to light, sensitivity to noise, irritability, sadness, feeling foggy or groggy, visual problems, nervousness, feeling more emotional, difficulty concentrating, trouble sleeping, and difficulty remembering.

Most athletes who experience an initial concussion can recover completely as long as they are not returned to exertion or contact too soon. An athlete who returns to play too soon before the brain has had time to heal is at greater risk for further, more serious injury.

In accordance with improved understanding of concussions the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has instituted the following rule regarding concussions. Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.

Understanding the danger of concussion injuries to our student athletes the Potter County coaching staff will adhere to the following action plan:

1. The coach will remove the participant from play. Athletes may be sent off the field of play by an official who **suspects** a head injury. (Officials are not making a determination of a concussion but can send a player out of a contest for evaluation. It is important to note that the responsibility of the officials is limited to activities that occur on the field, court or mat.) Once the participant has been removed from a contest due to a suspected concussion, the coach or appropriate health-care professional(s) assumes full responsibility for that athlete's further evaluation and safety.
2. The coach, an assistant coach, or administrator will inform the student athletes' parents or guardians about the possible concussion.
3. The coach will keep the student athlete out of play the day of the suspected concussion injury and will not allow them to return to play. **IF IN DOUBT, THE COACH WILL SIT THEM OUT.**
4. The Return to Competition form must be completed before the student athlete will be allowed to return to participate after a concussion.

It will be the policy of the Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 that when an athlete exhibits signs of a concussion either at a game or practice that the athlete will not participate until they have been cleared to play by a healthcare professional and their parents. The Return to Competition Form may be found at the end of the handbook.

All athletes in Grades 6-12 prior to participation will be required to take an impact concussion test. The test is valid for two years. All participants must also turn in a signed Concussion Fact Sheet to the Athletic Director's office, prior to participation.

Progressive Physical Activity Program Steps:

- (1) 5-10 minutes of an exercise bike or light jogging; no weight lifting, resistance training, or any other exercises
- (2) Moderate aerobic exercise 15 – 20 minutes of running at moderate intensity in the gym or field without a helmet or other equipment – Day 1 of Return To Play with consent from MD, DO, LAT
- (3) Non-contact training drills in full equipment. May begin weight lifting, resistance training, and other exercise – Day 2 of Return To Play with consent from MD, DO, LAT
- (4) Full contact practice or training – Day 3 of Return To Play with consent from MD, DO, LAT
- (5) Full game play – Day 4 of Return To Play with consent from MD, DO, LAT.

All athletes are subject to a Return To Play Impact Concussion Test. If symptoms of a concussion re-occur, or if concussion signs and/or behaviors are observed at any time during the activity program, the athlete must discontinue all activity and be re-evaluated by an appropriate health care provider.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY

Participation in all Grades 6-8 and High School extra-curricular activities is dependent on scholarship. A student must be passing in all his/her classes to be considered eligible for extra-curricular participation in trips, games, or competitions. In the event the student is not passing in one or more classes, the following procedures will be in effect:

- Academic eligibility will be reported every week beginning on **September 7th**.
- All subsequent grading reports will be posted on the first school day of the week.
- If a student has a (D+) or lower in any class, they will be put on the eligibility list for the week.
- If a student has a (F) or lower in any **one** class, they will be placed on academic probation.
 - If a student is on academic probation, he/she will have one week to bring this grade up to passing if the student has not brought the grade up to passing in that class by the following weeks grade check they will be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities, including SDHSAA sponsored activities or events until the next week's eligibility report is published
- The student may be allowed to continue to practice while on probation.
- If a student has a (F) or lower in **more than one** class, they will immediately be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities, including SDHSAA sponsored activities or events during that week.
 - The student may be allowed to continue to practice while ineligible.
- Students that are ineligible will not be allowed to miss any school time for activities.
- Upon entering into a third consecutive week of probation/ineligibility, that student will not be allowed to travel to events with the team.
- Grades will be posted on **October 21st**. These grades will be for the end of the 1st nine weeks. Any probation at this time will be in effect until **October 28th**.
- No new grades will be posted until **November 4th**. These grades will be the first posting on the 2nd nine weeks' grades.
- Grades will be posted on **December 18th**. Any probation at this time will be in effect until **December 28th**. The end of the 2nd nine weeks will be on **December 18th**.
- Grades for the 3rd nine-week period will begin to be posted on **January 19th**.
- Grades will be posted on **March 17th**. These grades will be for the end of the 3rd nine weeks. Any probation at this time will be in effect until **March 26th**.
- Grades will be posted again on **March 26th**. These grades will be the first posting on the 4th nine weeks' grades.
- Grades will be posted on **May 14th**. The end of the 4th nine weeks will be on **May 18th**. Any probation at this time will be in effect until **May 31st**.
- If at any posting date a student's grade(s) fall below a 70%, they will be placed on probation immediately. If at any weekly eligibility posting a student's grades are all 70% or above, they will no longer be on probation and will be allowed to participate in all scheduled activities.
- Students who have un-served detentions and study time will remain ineligible to participate until the detention or study time is served.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE POTTER COUNTY CO-OP REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING:

1. The use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs is not permitted by students representing Potter County Sports in any school sponsored activity. **School Board and faculty members as well as other employees have an obligation to report violations.**
2. The advisor in charge of the activity will set up other training rules that may be necessary.
3. If, at any time, during any extra-curricular season, a student is ineligible due to a SDHSAA training violation, the student may participate in that sport once eligibility is reinstated, however, the student will not receive any awards from the school for that activity.
4. Parents will be responsible to provide transportation home from any activity in which a student is disciplined due to behavior issues (legal or otherwise).

ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITY TRAINING RULES

The following regulations are minimum school regulations. Regulations exceeding these in each sport may be determined by the Head Coach of a particular sport, provided that such regulations are approved by the Activities Director and the Principal, and provided that written notification is given to students involved in the particular sport and to their parents.

The Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 recognize the use of mood-altering chemicals as a significant health problem for many adolescents, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning and the total development of each individual. The use and abuse of mood-altering chemicals for some adolescents affect co-curricular and extra-curricular participation and development of related skills.

There are two categories of activities. One category includes all activities that have a regular season including speech, drama, cheerleading, student managers, statisticians, sports, etc. A second category does not have a regular season; All-State Band, All-State Chorus, FCCLA, FFA, Jazz Band, NHS, etc. To be fair to both categories the training rule for mood-altering chemicals applies on a 12-month basis.

The violations of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, mood altering chemicals, and controlled substance policies have an accumulative effect on the participant's eligibility. These rules and regulations will be applied on a twelve-month basis. Should law enforcement officials give notification of rules infractions that have occurred during times in which school or activities are not in session (i.e. Summer, and breaks between seasons), these rules and regulations will apply. It is understood that the specified length of time a student would not participate in games or contests could extend from one sport or activity as per the requirement set forth in the penalty code. Penalties are accumulative and carry-over from one year to the next

Grades 6-8 and High School extracurricular activities are completely voluntary programs. No student is obligated to take part in school athletics or cheerleading or other extracurricular activities. Participation is not required for advancement or graduation. Therefore, to prevent adverse public reaction, prevent dissension on teams, and for the general welfare of teams and participants, the following rules will be enforced for extracurricular participants.

Philosophy and Purpose

A. Philosophy

The Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 recognize the use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, mood altering chemicals, and controlled substances as a significant health problem for many adolescents that results in negative aspects on behavior, learning, and the total development of the individual.

B. Purpose of this Policy

1. To encourage the growth of responsible citizenship among students.
2. To emphasize the school's concern for the health of the students in areas of safety while participating in activities, and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
3. To promote equity and a sense of order and discipline among all students.
4. To confirm and support existing state laws which restrict the use of alcohol, tobacco, mood altering chemicals, and controlled substances.
5. To establish standards of conduct for students who are leaders and standard bearers among their peers.
6. To assist students who desire to resist peer pressure directed toward alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, mood altering chemicals, and controlled substances.
7. To assist students who should be referred for assistance or evaluation regarding their use of alcohol, tobacco, mood altering chemicals, and controlled substances.

In accordance to SDCL 13-32-9, any student who is adjudicated, convicted, or the subject of suspended imposition of sentence for possession, use or distribution of controlled substance or marijuana shall be ineligible to participate in SDHSAA extracurricular activities for one year. If, however, the student participates in an assessment with a certified chemical dependency counselor or completes an accredited intensive prevention or treatment program, the suspension will be reduced to sixty school days. If the assessment indicates a need for a higher level of care, the person will be required to complete the prescribed care before becoming eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Upon a second offense, the ban becomes permanent.

C. Levels of Training Violations

The following rules apply to a member of an athletic team or cheerleader or school activity member who **uses** alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, mood altering chemicals, or controlled substances or is arrested and/or referred to the court system for purchase, possession, or consumption of alcohol, tobacco, mood altering chemicals, or controlled substances:

- First Violation: will have a minimum of ten **(10) calendar days** (which is to include at least two (2) regularly scheduled extra-curricular activities/events) suspension. The student will meet with the principal and the parents will be notified.

- Second Violation: Upon the second violation the student shall lose eligibility for **six (6) weeks or six (6) extra-curricular events**, whichever is longer. Parent and student will meet with the principal.
- Third Violation: Upon the third violation the student shall lose eligibility for **all extra-curricular activities for one year from the time of the violation**. Parent and student will meet with the principal.
- Fourth Violation: Upon the fourth violation the student shall lose eligibility for **all extra-curricular activities. Parent and student will meet with the principal/superintendent.**
- Suspensions at the 3rd or 4th level will be moved down one level upon completion of an approved drug/alcohol counseling program. This does not erase the violation.
- If a student is questioned by staff, coaches or administration as to the possible involvement in a violation and it is later shown that the students initial statement was falsified, the punishments for the violation will be doubled.

The Gettysburg School District and Hoven School District prohibits student **presence** at a gathering where alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, mood altering chemicals or controlled substances are being illegally used. Student presence at such a gathering will be regarded as possession. The building Principal/Superintendent will take into consideration whether or not the student was at a gathering, where the student had knowledge that alcohol, tobacco, or a controlled substance was being illegally used, and whether or not the student had a reasonable opportunity to remove him/herself from said location.

The following rules apply to a member of an athletic team or cheerleader or school activity member who is found to be **in the presence of** alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, mood altering chemicals or controlled substances that are being consumed in an **illegal manner**.

- First Violation: will have a minimum of **five (5) calendar days (which is to include at least one (1) regularly scheduled extra-curricular activity/event)** suspension. The student will meet with the principal and the parents will be notified.
- Second Violation: Upon the second violation the student shall lose eligibility for **two (2) weeks or two (2) extra-curricular events, whichever is longer**. Parent and student will meet with the principal.
- Third Violation: Upon the third violation the student shall lose eligibility for all activities for the **remainder of the school year, or for a minimum of twelve (12) consecutive extra-curricular events a student is a participant**. Parent and student will meet with the principal.
- Fourth Violation: Upon the fourth violation the student shall lose eligibility for **all extracurricular activities. Parent and student will meet with the principal/superintendent.**
- Suspensions at the 3rd or 4th level will be moved down one level upon completion of an approved drug/alcohol counseling program. This does not erase the violation.
- If a student is questioned by staff, coaches or administration as to the possible involvement in a violation and it is later shown that the students initial statement was falsified, the punishments for the violation are subject to being doubled.

It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the individual student's use by his/her doctor.

Penalties for students who violate the activity training policy while participating in or at a student activity.

- A student, who is a member of a student activity group: and, while the group is performing, the student uses or is under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarette, mood altering chemicals, or controlled substances will be suspended from participation in all activities for a period of 18 weeks of school.
- In accordance to SDCL 13-32-9, any student who is adjudicated, convicted, or the subject of suspended imposition of sentence for possession, use or distribution of controlled substance or marijuana shall be ineligible to participate in SDHSAA extracurricular activities for one year. If, however, the student participates in an assessment with a certified chemical dependency counselor or completes an accredited intensive prevention or treatment program, the suspension will be reduced to sixty school days. If the assessment indicates a need for a higher level of care, the person will be required to complete the prescribed care before becoming eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Upon a second offense, the ban becomes permanent.
- The student(s) will serve in-school or out-of-school suspension for five (5) days. During the period of suspension, the student(s) will not be permitted to attend or participate in any school function or activity.

Individuals may travel with or sit with the team at home or away events but may not be in uniform. These individuals may practice with the team at the coach's discretion. The previous rules apply if the report is made by the following only: Any Gettysburg School District 53-1 or Hoven School District 53-2 coach or teacher, any Gettysburg/Hoven administrator, the parent/guardian of the student, the voluntary admission of the student, or any written notification from law enforcement or the court system.

- Parent/guardian will be notified of every violation of the rules. They will be advised of any penalty that has been administered.
- The head coach of the sport/activity involved, athletic director, cheerleading advisor, and the individual principal, reserve the right to take disciplinary action for any conduct unbecoming of an athlete or cheerleader.
- Students who have assumed a leadership role such as team captain or who were elected to an office (Student council, FFA, FCCLA, etc.) will forfeit their leadership role with violation at level two or higher.

Due Process procedures following state rules, as applicable, will apply to suspensions under these Activity rules.

D. Violation of Other Misconduct Policies

Students who violate student conduct policies not covered by SDHSAA bylaws may be subject to suspension or removal from extracurricular activities for a period to be determined by the School Administration and coach/activity advisor of the activity(s) in which the student participates. Such consequences shall be imposed in addition to other disciplinary consequences imposed under the applicable policy.

E. Suspension Procedure

When the Principal/Superintendent, as a result of his/her investigation, concludes that a violation of this policy or SDHSAA bylaws has occurred, s/he shall issue notice to the student of this suspension.

F. Off-Season Violations

In addition to the penalties delineated in this policy, in the event the suspension is administered during a season when the student is not actively participating (e.g., summer for all students, fall for a student participating in track), the student's suspension shall be extended to include two (2) full days of competition/performance from the student's next activity. "Next activity" shall be defined as the next activity in which the student begins practicing at the appropriate date and concludes at the end of the season (i.e., does not start and quit). Should the student's next activity not be until the following school year, the two-week or two-contest rule will be applied at that time.

G. Due Process Appeal Procedure

Before being suspended, the student will be advised of the nature of the violation, the evidence against him/her, and the right to request an appeal hearing within three school days of the building Principal/Superintendent's decision. If a student wishes to appeal the decision, an appeal hearing must be requested to the building Principal/Superintendent within three school days of being notified of the suspension. Once the request is made, the appeal hearing will take place as soon as possible, preferably within three days of the request to have such hearing.

1. Appeal Hearings: The following parties may be involved: the participant being charged, parents/guardians of the participant, witnesses to the violation, the investigating building Principal/Superintendent, and legal counsel for the participant if he/she desires. The participant being charged will be allowed to testify, to have witnesses, and to question all witnesses.
2. Initial Appeal: The initial appeal hearing will be heard by the Superintendent or if Superintendent and Principal are the same position, the school board. Once the appeal hearing is over, the Superintendent or School Board will render a decision. If a student wishes to appeal the decision of the Superintendent, an appeal hearing to the respective School Board must be requested to the Superintendent within three school days.
3. Final Appeal: The final appeal hearing will be heard by either the Gettysburg School Board or Hoven School Board. The School Board may delay its final decision if they feel it necessary to investigate the incident further.

Note: During the time between notification and the hearing, the suspension may be deferred for good cause shown. However, if the school administration believes that clear and substantial evidence shows that the student is in violation of this policy, the student will be suspended immediately. SDHSAA regulations state

that if the suspension is not immediately imposed and the student is found to be guilty at a later date, any interscholastic contests or activities participated in by that student have to be forfeited.

Minimum Practices Required

Each athlete is required to participate in a minimum of 10 practices before he/she is able to compete in their first event of the season, unless extenuating circumstances warrant the administration and coaching staff to allow exceptions based on an individual's request/status.

Student Appearance And Dress

Student athletes must adhere to the same dress regulations during practice as during the school day. Clothing must be appropriate length and under garments must be adequately covered. Male athletes will wear shirts at all times and female athletes must have their sports bras adequately covered.

Activity Ticket Policy

Activity tickets will be sold for grades 1-12, with the price to be set each year by the Gettysburg and Hoven School District boards of education. These tickets provide admission to all regular season Battler Sporting Events with the exception of tournaments.

Adult athletic tickets providing admission to all regular season Battler Sporting Events, with the price to be set each year by the school board.

Football parking places for home football games in Gettysburg, including playoff games, are sold yearly, with the price to be set by the school board.

POTTER COUNTY SPORTS CO-OP RETURN TO COMPETITION FORM

This form is to be used after an athlete is removed from and not returned to competition after exhibiting concussion symptoms. The athlete should not be returned to play until written authorization is obtained from an appropriate health care professional and the parent/guardians. Appropriate health care professional shall be determined by each SDHSAA member school. This form should be kept on file at the school and need not be forwarded to the SDHSAA Office.

Athlete: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Sport: _____ Date of Injury: _____

REASON FOR ATHLETE'S INCAPACITY

Guidelines for Returning to an Activity after a Concussion

Note: Each step should be completed with no concussion symptoms before proceeding to the next step.

1. No activity, complete rest with no symptoms.
2. Light exercises: walking or stationary cycling with no symptoms.
3. Sport specific activity without body contact and no symptoms.
4. Practice without body contact and no symptoms. Resume resistance training.
5. Practice with body contact and no symptoms.
6. Return to game play with no symptoms.

Note:

1. If symptoms return at any time during the rehabilitation process, wait until asymptomatic for 1 full day, then re-start at the previous step.
2. Never return to competition with symptoms.
3. Do not use "smelling salts".
4. **When in doubt, sit them out.**

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL'S ACTION

I have examined the named student-athlete following this episode and determined the following:

_____ **Permission is granted** for the athlete to return to competition

_____ **Permission is not granted** for the athlete to return to competition

Health Care Professional Printed Name & Title

Health Care Professional Signature

Parent/Guardian

School Administrator

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

POTTER COUNTY SPORTS CO-OP

TRANSPORTATION WAIVER

Student Transportation Policy

The Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 provides transportation to school activities and students are expected to ride to and from the activity on the transportation provided by the school. Students may ride home with parents/guardians only if the parent/guardian is at the activity and asks the activity advisor permission to do so. In such cases, the parent/guardian must complete a transportation waiver form and submit it to the activity advisor. In no instance will students either provide their own transportation or travel with anyone other than their own parent/guardian to or from a school sanctioned event. We highly recommend that student participants always travel with school provided transportation. Violations of this policy may result in the loss of the privilege of participating in the event as well as loss of the transportation waiver.

Acknowledgement of Liability Limitations and Assumption of Risk

South Dakota law provides that governmental entities, including school districts and their agents or employees, are not ordinarily liable for personal injury or accidental death, except in instances of gross negligence. Accordingly, parents assume risks any time students are permitted to travel and/or participate in school-related events and school districts must assure that student transportation to and from events is done so in the interests of student safety and school liability. The Gettysburg School District and Hoven School District acknowledges that you are not waiving your child’s or your personal rights, as defined under the liability limitations (outlined in the state’s tort claims law) by signing this permission authorization. However, the below-signed parent/guardian acknowledges disclosure that the Gettysburg School District and Hoven School District reserves all rights, immunities, and qualified defenses available to it under the law in connection with the permitted activities subject of this authorization.

Parent Release Of Liability

I am requesting permission to personally transport my student to/from this event. Furthermore, my request releases the Gettysburg School District and Hoven School District from any responsibility or liability for my student’s safety and welfare associated with the student travel from this event. I understand that by being released into my custody my child may not personally drive a vehicle to or from this activity.

Having read the student travel policy and the transportation waiver, I acknowledge that I understand the policy and accept full responsibility for my student’s transportation from this event. Additionally, I hold the Gettysburg School District and Hoven School District, its officers, employees, and agents harmless from all liability and claims as a result of my request for the removal of my child from District Transportation. It is my request that Gettysburg School District and Hoven School District NOT provide transportation for the following activity:

Circle One: To the Event Home from Event Both to the event and back home

Name of Student: _____

Name of Activity: _____

Location: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Coach/Employee Signature (When Student is released): _____

CONSENT FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

I am the _____ (Mother-Father—Legal Guardian) of,

_____ who is a student participating in Potter County

Co-Op Sports as part of either the Gettysburg School District 53-1 or Hoven School District 53-2 and/or

who participates in;

- a. Potter County extra-curricular activities
- b. Co-curricular activities for the Gettysburg Public School
- c. School sponsored field trips

I understand that in the event of a medical emergency involving my child, I will be notified immediately if possible. However, in the event that I cannot be reached at the time of the emergency, I hereby consent to any medical services that may be required while said child is under the supervision of an employee of either the Gettysburg School District 53-1 or Hoven School District 53-2. I hereby appoint employees of the Gettysburg School District 53-1 or Hoven School District 53-2 to act on my behalf in securing necessary medical services from any licensed physician or osteopath. It is understood that the Gettysburg School District 53-1 or Hoven School District 53-2 and its employees are not responsible for any financial cost incurred as a result of securing medical service.

Dated this _____ day of _____, _____.

Parent's Signature: _____

Known Allergies: _____

Current Medications: _____

Emergency or Cell Phone Number(s): _____

CONSENT OF STUDENT

I, _____, have read the above Consent form signed by my _____ (Mother-Father-Legal Guardian) and join with _____ (him/her) in consent.

Dated this _____ day of _____, _____.

Student's Signature: _____

Potter County Co-Op

Student-Athlete Parent Expectations

How I Can Help My Child's Athletic Experience

1. Allow your child to perform and progress at a level consistent with their ability. Athletes mature at different ages and some are more gifted than others.
2. Teach your child to enjoy the thrill of competition and that improving skills and attitude are important.
3. Don't relive your athletic life through your child! This creates added pressure that your child does not need. This is your child's experience, let them enjoy it.
4. Don't compete with the coach. Keep in mind that they are balancing the development of your child with the growth and progress of an entire athletic team. Often coaches have many considerations that are not obvious to parents.
5. Remember, young athletes tend to exaggerate when being praised and/or criticized. Temper your reaction until you investigate.
6. An athlete's self-confidence and self-image will be improved by support at home. Comparison to others is discouraged. Encourage the athlete to do their best regardless of family or friends who may have been outstanding players.
7. Insist on positive behavior in school and a high level of performance in the classroom. Numerous studies indicate extracurricular involvement helps enhance academic performance.

The job of an athlete parent is tough and takes a lot of effort to do it well. However, it is worth the effort when you hear your child say, "My parents really helped. I am lucky in this respect."

How I Can Get Ready For The Game

1. Cheer for our team and players. Opponents and referees deserve respect. Realize that players and officials will make mistakes. Your support is needed when things aren't going well.
2. Concentrate on what is best for the team. Preoccupation with statistics can be very distracting.
3. Attempting to communicate with coaches, players, or officials during a game only creates tension and is completely unacceptable. Be a respectful spectator.
4. Conduct that draws unwanted attention to oneself usually leads to embarrassment for your child. Please keep their well-being in mind at all times. Don't jeopardize losing the opportunity to watch your child participate.

How Do I Communicate The Right Way

Coaches have the authority over who becomes a participant of the team and when the participant plays or is removed from the team. The coaching staff determines coaching strategy. Acceptance of a position on the team includes acceptance of this policy. It is a privilege, not a right, to be a member of an athletic team.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. Situations involving your child.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Your child's attitude, work ethic, and eligibility.
4. Concerns about your child's behavior

Issues that are not appropriate to discuss with coaches or AD:

1. Playing time of any student-athlete
2. Team strategy, practice organization, or play calling.
3. Other student-athletes

Procedures to follow if there is a concern to discuss with a coach:

1. Your child should speak to the coach about an issue, before you intervene. This will help our student athletes grow into young adults.
2. Contact the coach to set up an appointment. Give the coach a brief summary of what you want to discuss. This enables the coach to prepare to give you the best possible answers to your question(s). If the coach can not be reached, contact the athletic director. The athletic director will assist you in arranging a meeting. Coaches will not talk to you unless you have arranged an appointment.
3. If a meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, call to schedule an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.
4. **The 24-Hour Rule** will be utilized for any in-season communication with the coaching staff. 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.

Athletics Media Use Policy

In an attempt to highlight the athletic achievements within our athletic program, Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 will utilize social media and news outlets to recognize the accomplishments of its teams and student athletes throughout the school year.

Signing below acknowledges that you have given Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 permission to include your child's picture and name for both individual and team recognition on all forms of social media and news outlets approved by the school districts. In the instance that a parent does not want their child to receive recognition through social media and news outlets, a signed parental letter declining usage must be submitted to each district Superintendent.

Please read the paragraph and sign it and return it to the coach by the end of the first week of practice. Failure to sign this document will exclude the athlete from participation in practices and athletic events until it has been signed. Please keep the expectations and policy handout. Only return the signed part of the form.

POTTER COUNTY ATHLETICS PARENT/STUDENT SIGNING FORM

Potter County students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities to round out their educational program. However, it must be clearly understood that participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right, and with privileges come certain responsibilities.

As a parent I have read the Student-Athlete Parent Expectations, Sportsmanship Policy, and Athletics Media Use Policy. I understand the ways I can help my child have the best athletic experiences possible, as well as the procedure for communicating with my child's coach and will adhere to guidelines set forth for doing so. Furthermore, I understand the importance of Good Sportsmanship and agree to the school's policies outlined in this document.

Students are representatives of Gettysburg School District 53-1 and Hoven School District 53-2 at all extracurricular events. The conduct of the students at such events determines the reputation of our school and its students. Disciplinary action could result if any student's conduct is detrimental to his/her school or community. In addition to the SDHSAA rules, the Potter County Athletics program have established the following:

- I have read and agree to follow and abide by all South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) policies and procedures.
- I have read and agree to abide by all academic eligibility policies of each school district.
- I have read and agree to follow extracurricular school attendance policies.
- I have read and agree to follow Potter County's Social Media Policies for Athletes.
- I have read and agree to the conditions of the Potter County Athletics concussion policy.
- I have read and understood the Potter County Athletics transportation policy.

Student's and parent's signatures are receipts and adherence to the Potter County Coop's athletic department's parent/student handbook and must be on file with the Athletic Director before a student will be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity.

CERTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF AND ADHERENCE TO THE POTTER COUNTY COOP ATHLETIC'S STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

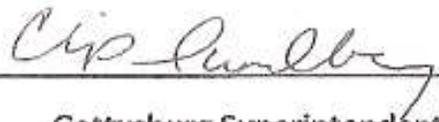
School District Administrative Signatures

This document was approved by both school districts in the month of August 2019 and presented in front of the school boards of both Gettysburg and Hoven as a mutual agreement between for the 2019-2020 school year and will remain in effect for the 2020-2021 school year.

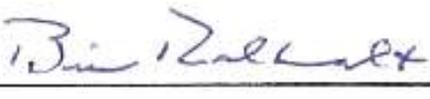

Hoven Athletic Director


Gettysburg Athletic Director


Hoven Superintendent


Gettysburg Superintendent


Hoven School Board President


Gettysburg School Board President



Potter County Athletics Co-Op

Handbook Addendum 2020-2021



Addendum for the 2020-2021 school year due to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic the following has been added to the handbook. This addendum will be taken down at the conclusion of the pandemic.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact via respiratory droplets. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of large groups of people.

The Gettysburg and Hoven School Districts have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the Districts cannot guarantee that individuals will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, school attendance and the participation in activities could increase the risk of contracting COVID-19.

- ANY SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST RESULT MUST HAVE THE RETURN TO PLAY FORM COMPLETED PRIOR TO RETURN TO ACTIVITIES.
- ANY SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONFIRMED CLOSE CONTACT MUST SELF-QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS FROM DATE OF POTENTIAL EXPOSURE AND COMMUNICATE DAILY SCREENING PER SDDOH GUIDANCE.

Additional Considerations for activities:

- Personal Hygiene is critical in stemming the spread of the coronavirus. Showers following practice is strongly encouraged before getting on buses following activities or practice.
- Masks are required in school vehicles by all students, coaches, and drivers.
- Seating charts are required in school vehicles with distancing as much as practical.
- Participants while not playing at indoor events are required to mask. (Example: when players are not in uniform and on the bench participating. Varsity players will mask during sub-varsity games, and sub-varsity players will mask during varsity games)
- On days that there is no school and there are games or practice; coaches will screen students before they get on the bus to travel.

Remember that this health crisis is very fluid and changes can take place very quickly. The Gettysburg and Hoven School Districts will work with the South Dakota Department of Health to give you as much information as we are able, as soon as we are able. This plan can change quickly when it is necessary.

If a participant/coach/official/judge/team personnel has tested positive for COVID-19, he/she must be cleared for progression back to activity by an approved health care provider (MD/DO/PAC/ARNP).

Individual's Name: _____

DOB: _____

Date of Positive Test: _____

THIS RETURN TO PLAY IS BASED ON TODAY'S EVALUATION

Date of Evaluation: _____

Criteria to return (Please check below as applicable)

- 14 days have passed since symptom onset
- Symptoms have resolved for **7 days**, to include fever without use of fever-reducing medication
- Individual was not hospitalized due to COVID-19 infection.
- Cardiac screen negative for myocarditis/myocardial ischemia (All answers below must be no)

Chest pain/tightness with exercise, Unexplained Syncope/near syncope, Unexplained/excessive dyspnea/fatigue w/exertion, New palpitations, Heart murmur on exam **YES/NO**

NOTE: If any cardiac screening question is positive or if participant was hospitalized, consider further workup as indicated. May include ECG, cardiac biomarkers, Echocardiogram, CXR, PFT's, Chest CT, or cardiology consult.

- Individual HAS satisfied the above criteria and IS cleared to return to activity.
- Due to moderate or severe symptoms with COVID-19, the participant should perform the stages of the Graduated Return to Play Progression prior to full clearance.
- Individual HAS NOT satisfied the above criteria and IS NOT cleared to return to activity

Medical Office Information (Please Print/Stamp):

Evaluator's Name: _____ Office Phone: _____

Evaluator's Address: _____ Evaluator's Signature: _____

Graduated Return to Play (RTP) Progression After COVID-19 Infection

In participants who have had moderate or severe symptoms with COVID-19 or their provider had any concerns for rapid RTP, the athlete should complete the progression below without development of chest pain, chest tightness, palpitations, lightheadedness, pre-syncope, or syncope. If these symptoms develop, the participant should be referred back to the evaluating provider who signed the form.

• **Stage 1: (2 Days Minimum)** Light Activity (Walking, Jogging, Stationary Bike) for 15 minutes or less at intensity no greater than 70% of maximum heart rate. NO resistance training.

• **Stage 2: (1 Day Minimum)** Add simple movement activities (EG. running drills) for 30 minutes or less at intensity no greater than 80% of maximum heart rate

- **Stage 3: (1 Day Minimum)** Progress to more complex training for 45 minutes or less at intensity no greater than 80% maximum heart rate. May add light resistance training.
- **Stage 4: (2 Days Minimum)** Normal Training Activity for 60 minutes or less at intensity no greater than 80% maximum heart rate
- **Stage 5: Return to full activity** Student-Athletes who had moderate to severe symptoms of Covid-19 are required to be assessed by a health care provider, and that the participant has completed the 5 stages of the RFP progression under the supervision of school personnel.