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Dear Athletes and Parents:

Welcome to interscholastic athletics at Yorktown High School. The coaches and administration are committed to making your experience a positive one. In order to accomplish this goal we intend to conduct our athletic programs following these principles:

1. All students are invited and encouraged to try out for every activity in which they have an interest.
2. Coaches will make all decisions regarding team selection, playing time and position based on objective criteria.
3. Team rules are enforced consistently with all team members. Coaches have the right to institute team policies/rules as they deem appropriate.
4. Coaches are available to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. Playing time is not considered a “concern”.
5. Everyone is expected to operate under the concept that “team goals come first.” Quality athletic experiences emphasize cooperation, discipline and team collaboration to achieve success. Individual accomplishments and recognition are side benefits of successful team performances.
6. Everyone is expected to exhibit good sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity while participating in an athletic program and when attending athletic events. Teammates, coaches, opponents and officials should be treated with respect.

Athletic Department Goals

1. To always strive for excellence within the bounds of good sportsmanship.
2. To provide a positive image of interscholastic athletics at Yorktown High School.
3. To provide sufficient activities to respond to a wide variety of student interests and abilities.
4. To provide opportunities to deal with success and failure.
5. To create a desire to succeed and excel.
6. To provide activities that help create unity in the school and community.
7. To provide activities for learning self-discipline, loyalty, leadership qualities, personal pride, respect for the rights of others and the drive to be successful and reach individual and team goals.
8. To teach attitudes of responsibility and cooperation and to help students realize that participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege with accompanying responsibilities.
9. To develop high ideals of fairness in all human relationships.
10. To have fun and enjoy your experience while competing in athletics at Yorktown High School.

We hope to see you at our athletic contests giving positive support for all of our student-athletes. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this athletic code of conduct, please contact your coach or the Yorktown High School athletic department. Remember that good sportsmanship is a tradition at Yorktown High School.

Respectfully,

Yorktown Athletic Department
Sports by Season:

**FALL**
- Cheerleading – Football
- Boys Cross Country
- Girls Cross Country
- Dance - Football
- Football
- *Girls Golf
- Boys Soccer
- Girls Soccer
- Boys Tennis
- *Girls Volleyball

**WINTER**
- *Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Cheerleading – Basketball
- Dance - Basketball
- *Boys Swimming & Diving
- *Girls Swimming & Diving
- *Wrestling

**SPRING**
- Baseball
- *Boys Golf
- *Softball
- *Girls Tennis
- *Boys Track
- *Girls Track

*Denotes Team State Finalists or Champions since 1998*

130 Delaware County Athletic Association Titles
62 Hoosier Heritage Conference Titles
127 IHSAA Sectional Titles
28 IHSAA Regional Titles
10 Semi-State Titles
8 IHSAA State Runner-Up Finishes

Member of the Indiana High School Athletic Association
Member of the Hoosier Heritage Conference
Member of the Delaware County Athletic Association
The purpose of the Yorktown High School Athletic Program is to encourage, unify, and give direction for wholesome and competitive amateur interscholastic competition for Yorktown High School students. The athletic program is extra-curricular and as such will remain subservient to and complimentary to the academic curriculum and classroom instruction that are primary functions of Yorktown High School. It is the goal of the YHS Athletic Department to establish and adhere to guidelines that are parallel to and exceed those established by the Indiana High School Athletic Association in regard to eligibility, competition, and sportsmanship.

GENERAL STANDARDS

1. Participation in high school athletics is a privilege not a guarantee. This privilege carries with it honor, responsibility and sacrifice. It requires that a student makes a commitment to practice before or after school with perfect or near perfect attendance, to work hard to excel, to learn cooperation and team effort, and to exemplify good behavior both at school and away from school. Team selection is a coach’s decision. Factors such as athletic skill, attitudes, past experiences, etc. can all be factors.

2. A student-athletes conduct in and out of school should not reflect or discredit his/her school, or create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment of the school.

3. As representatives of Yorktown High School, athletes are held to a higher standard of scholarship, conduct, and sportsmanship. Athletes who adhere to these standards will be rewarded with the opportunity to participate on Yorktown High School athletic teams. Athletes who fail to uphold these standards are subject to discipline and may forfeit their position on the team.

4. A student is considered an athlete for one year (365 days) from the time he/she becomes a member of a Yorktown High School athletic team. Each time an athlete becomes a member of a Yorktown High School team, they are declaring their intentions of being an athlete for another full year. When a student is considered to be an athlete, he/she will be held accountable for rules, guidelines, and policies of this handbook. Consequences for violating club/academic team rules do not take the place of athletic consequences for teams sanctioned by the IHSAA.

5. Being a member of a Yorktown High School athletic team carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built overnight. It takes hard work of many people over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad, you have inherited a wonderful tradition that you must uphold.

   A. Our tradition has been to win with honor. We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our school and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. Over many years, our teams have achieved numerous county, conference and IHSAA tournament championships of which we are extremely proud.

   B. It will not be easy to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. When you wear your school colors, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but also are willing to assume the responsibilities that go with them. However, the contributions you make should be a satisfying accomplishment to you and your family.

   C. The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your school experiences. Your studies, your participation in other extracurricular activities as well as sports, prepare you for life as an adult.

   D. Another responsibility you assume as a student-athlete is to your school. Yorktown High School cannot maintain its position as having outstanding programs unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in athletics to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of the school.

   E. You assume a leadership role when you become a student-athlete. The student body and citizens of the community know you. The student body, community and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field of competition. You can contribute to school spirit and community pride because of this leadership role as a student-athlete. Do your best to make Yorktown High School proud of you and the community proud of your school by exhibiting great sportsmanship, leadership and positive school spirit at all times.
ACADEMIC PHILOSOPHY

Athletics are an integral part of school life. Athletic activities provide a valuable opportunity for developing character, positive human relations, and skills that are important for future individual success. Research has shown that extra-curricular activities are one of the best predictors for individual success. Because sports require a large time commitment, it is crucial that the athlete develops time-management skills and the parent and coach work in partnership to make sure that the athlete completes and turns in all assignments on time. While it is desirable for students to participate in athletics to further their educational and personal development, it is extremely important that such participation not jeopardize student academic achievement.

The label, student/athlete, is an important one and there is a reason the “student” is listed first. Parents, students, coaches, and administrators must stress that a student’s first responsibility is to academics. Athletes are public representatives of the school and they need to reflect the philosophy of the school and the athletic department in terms of academic and citizenship standards. Athletic participation is a privilege. Athletic eligibility at Yorktown High School will be the standard set by the Indiana High School Athletic Association. Athletics cannot supersede the importance of academics.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

1. To be academically eligible, the IHSAA and Yorktown High School requires athletes to pass a minimum of five full credits or at least 70% of the classes in which the student-athlete is enrolled.
2. Semester grades will take preference over the end of the nine weeks grades.
3. Students who are ineligible may practice with teams but may not dress or participate for competitions until academically eligible.
4. Students new to Yorktown High School who have transferred in from another high school must first be enrolled at Yorktown High School and must have completed an IHSAA Transfer Form before they can begin practice with a team.
5. Students new to Yorktown High School who have transferred in from another high school are ineligible until an IHSAA Athletic Transfer Form from the previous school has been completed and ruled upon by the IHSAA. The new student, through the athletic office at Yorktown High School, must initiate the transfer. The athlete will not be allowed to participate with a team until the transfer has been completed.
6. The transfer student must have been in good standing in their previous school to begin participation at Yorktown High School. Penalties imposed by the athletic department and/or the previous schools administration will be applied or the equivalent Yorktown High School athletic department penalty will be applied to those students transferring into Yorktown High School. Student-athletes who have been denied athletic participation at their previous school will be denied participation at Yorktown High School.

STATE FAIR ACTIVITIES

The Indiana General Assembly passed 2014 Senate Bill 114, [I.C. §33-2-17.7], which provides another exception to Indiana’s Compulsory Attendance Law for attendance, for up to five (5) days, at Indiana State Fair activities. As with the other exceptions to the Indiana’s Compulsory Attendance Law, this exception provides for an excused absence for a student at an Indiana school. This current provision is not directed at or binding upon the IHSAA or its rules, and will have no impact upon the current pre-competition practice rules, Rule 50-1 or Rule 101-1; these rules promote health and safety by requiring students have ten (10) separate days of practice under the direct supervision of the coaching staff prior to athletic participation and competition. Given the health and safety nature of the pre-competition practice rules, the IHSAA does not anticipate waiving these requirements for students attending State Fair activities; this position is in accord with the IHSAA’s handling of other students excused from the Compulsory Education Law under the numerous other exceptions. In addition, after considering the available calendars, the IHSAA believes that, even with attendance at State Fair activities, students still have a realistic opportunity to meet the requirement of ten (10) separate days of practice prior to participation and competition.
CONSENT AND RELEASE

Prior to participation, student-athletes shall have on file in the Athletic Office:

A. A current physical examination by a physician holding an unlimited license to practice medicine.
B. Written consent of a parent or guardian for such participation.
C. Written or electronic confirmation that this document has been received and that the athlete and parents agree to abide by them.
D. Written or electronic consent of a parent or guardian to travel on team buses to and from athletic contests.
E. The Consent of Release Certificate shall be on file in the Athletic Office prior to the athlete’s first practice. The physical examination must be completed on or after April 1st and is valid for the entire following school year.
F. Written consent to travel and Constitution forms must be on file in the Athletic Office prior to the athlete’s first contest.
G. A signed concussion form by both the student-athlete and parent/guardian must be on file in the Athletic Office.
H. It is highly recommended that all student-athletes have health insurance.
I. Students who are physically unable to practice or play due to illness or injury must present a medical release to the athletic director or athletic trainer from a physician licensed to practice medicine when they are released to resume participation in interschool athletics.

HEALTH /STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Yorktown High School administrators, coaches and athletic trainers are safety conscious and are trained to instruct athletes in safe and proper techniques of their particular sports; however, due to the nature of athletic activity, injuries do occur. The school provides the opportunity for participation while the parent retains the right of denial for such participation. Parents/Guardians will be responsible for all medical costs associated with athletic participation. The athletic department strongly advises that parents purchase insurance to cover athletic injuries and the cost of treatment.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS

When participating in any type of athletic activity, there is always a possibility that an injury can occur. Statistically, an athlete will suffer at least one injury during their athletic career that requires that he or she miss a number of practices and/or games.

There are several types of injuries that can force an athlete to miss practices and/or games. Some of the more common injuries that occur in athletics are strains (stretching or tearing of muscle and tendon tissue), sprains (stretching or tearing of ligaments) and contusions (bruises of soft tissue or muscle tissue). These three types of injuries can vary in their severity. In the case of mild strains, sprains and contusions, the athlete will feel some discomfort but will be able to continue his or her participation in athletics. In severe cases of strains, sprains and contusions, the athlete may miss a large amount of time participating in his or her sport. Some severe injuries may need to be surgically repaired and require an extended period of physical therapy.

Athletes can also experience more serious injuries such as fractures, dislocations, concussions, internal injuries, spinal injuries or death. Fortunately, most of the injuries that occur with athletics are mild strains, and contusions and the athlete misses little or no participation. It is important to remember that statistically other types of physical activity present a greater risk to its participants than athletics. Therefore, statistically, athletes are much safer than those who participate in riskier types of physical activity.
Athletes can decrease their chance to be injured by following the following guidelines.
1. Use the proper athletic techniques that are taught by the coaches.
2. Condition properly during the preseason and work to stay in condition.
3. Get proper rest and nutrition.
4. Refrain from risky behavior on the athletic field or in the locker rooms.
5. Wear proper fitting protective equipment.
6. Keep all protective equipment in working order.
7. Stay alcohol and drug free.
8. Following coaches rules and regulations.

Remember that some serious or severe injuries still occur when the athlete follows the above guidelines. However, those who disregard the above guidelines are at greater risk to sustain a serious or severe injury. Athletic participation benefits people by teaching self-esteem, team unity, proper health and fellowship. Most people agree that the benefits of participating in athletics outweigh the risks. The coaching staff and athletic training staff at Yorktown High School want its athletes and parents to understand that there are risks involved with participating in athletics. The coaching staff will continue to teach and practice only those techniques that promote safe participation, but the staff realizes that some athletic injuries will continue to occur. The staff hopes that athletes and parents alike will take the time to learn more about their athletic injuries and how best to avoid them. It will take a “team” effort from coaches, athletic trainers, athletes and parents to continue to provide the safe participation for all of those involved. We hope that we can count on your support in this endeavor.

TRANSPORTATION

1. All transportation needs of athletic teams will be arranged through the Athletic Office.
2. All team personnel, including coaches, will travel to and from contests in a school team bus and/or activity bus unless arranged different through the Athletic Office.
3. It is the responsibility of the coach to maintain a high level of discipline on all team trips, whatever the mode of transportation.
4. When private cars are used to transport a team, adult drivers must be used and parental consent obtained through the athletic director.
5. Athletes must provide prior written request in advance to the athletic director and/or coach not to go and/or return on school transportation. Any administrative personnel may give permission in the absence of the athletic director. A copy of that written request must be on file in the athletic department and also given to the head coach. Coaches, in emergency situations, may grant permission without advance notice but must alert the athletic director immediately.

Overnight Trip
You represent your school, your team, our community, your family and yourself. The following guidelines, procedures and processes will be in effect at all times. You are expected to conduct yourself in an exemplary manner. The following list is not all inclusive.
- All school rules and school board policies are in force during the entire duration of the trip.
- Your luggage is subject to search by school personnel or school appointed chaperones at any time before, during or after the trip under the same guidelines found in the student handbook.
- Your room is subject to search by school personnel or school appointed chaperones at any time before, during or after the trip under the same guidelines found in the student handbook.
- You are expected to report any violation of rules, policies or state/federal law to school personnel or a chaperone.
- You are expected to obey all state and federal laws.

An athlete who is in violation of any of the above is subject to a disciplinary hearing with a potential punishment that may range from a warning to removal from the team. The athlete is also subject to the potential removal from any leadership roles, in addition to any penalties assessed by the school.
1. Athletes must be present for the last half of the school day in order to participate in athletic contests or practices on the same day. Exceptions in rare cases can be made by YHS Administration.
2. “Excused absences”, as defined in the Student Handbook, are acceptable reasons for missing the first part or all of the school day.
3. Parent and/or guardian notes will NOT be allowable for the second half of the day absences.
4. Students who are absent from school the last day of the week for an excusable reason may participate in practices and/or contests on the following day provided their health has sufficiently improved and both the parent and administrators approve.
5. It is the responsibility of the student to see his/her teacher(s) the day before he/she is to be released to participate in an interscholastic activity. All work shall be made up at the convenience of the teacher.

Vacation Policy
Vacations by team members during the season are discouraged. A student-athlete has made a commitment to his/her team and that comes with certain sacrifices. In the event that a family vacation cannot be avoided, an athlete must:
   1. Notify the head coach in advance of the trip.
   2. Be accompanied by his/her parents.
   3. Be willing to accept change in team status/playing time (2nd team, JV etc.) when returning to the team.

Other vacations are considered unexcused absences, which will result in consequences established by each coach in his/her team rules, and could result in dismissal and/or removal from the team.

SOCIAL NETWORKING
Student-athletes are responsible for all information contained in written or electronic transmissions (i.e. e-mail) and any information posted on a public domain (i.e. Internet, chat rooms, blogs, Facebook, YouTube, My Space, Twitter etc.). Inappropriate, embarrassing or disrespectful information or pictures should not be posted in any public domain. Student-athletes are not precluded from participation in online social networks: however student-athletes should be reminded that they serve as representatives of their team, the athletic program and Yorktown High School.

Texting, tweeting and uses of other social networks to disparage or criticize the team, teammates, other students, opponents, coaches or other school personnel is inappropriate behavior and unbecoming of a Yorktown High School student-athlete. Any individual identified on a social networking site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior, due to the Code of Conduct or any other policy, will be considered in violation and subject to athletic discipline or suspension per policy guidelines.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include but are not limited to depictions or presentations of the following:
   1. Posting photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol and tobacco (i.e. holding cups, cans, shot glasses, etc.)
   2. Posting photos, videos and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
   3. Posting pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana and other illegal drug paraphernalia.
   4. Demeaning other athletes and/or coaches, Yorktown or otherwise.

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you engage in social networking:
   1. Set your security setting so that only your friends can view your profile.
   2. You should not post your email, home address, local address, telephone number(s) or other personal information as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.
3. Be aware of who you add as a friend on your site – many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes or to seek connection with student-athletes.

4. Consider how the above behaviors can be reflected in all social media applications.

Be aware that potential current and future employers and college admissions offices often access information you place on on-line social networking sites. You should think about any information you post which could potentially provide an image of you to a prospective employer or school. The information is considered public information. Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image that you can be proud of years from now.

RESOLVING CONFLICTS/CHAIN OF COMMAND

Resolving Conflicts
A student-athlete and coach should first attempt to solve any conflict that exists between them. Only if the conflict cannot be resolved between the athlete and coach, the athlete should make an appointment to meet the athletic director. If the problem is still unresolved, then the parent should contact the coach. If the problem cannot be resolved with the coach and parent, the parent should then contact the Athletic Director.

Chain of Command
Positive communication and support from parents/guardians are always welcomed and appreciated. The Yorktown High School Athletic Department has a chain of command for parents wanting to express a concern. When concerns arise, parents are encouraged to contact the coach directly. Parents should follow these procedures and guidelines for contacting a coach with a concern:

1. Call the coach and request a time to meet for a conference.
2. Schedule a time for the conference that is convenient for both the parent and coach. This will allow both parties to be prepared for a productive dialog.
3. Parents shall not attempt to discuss a concern with a coach before, during or after an athletic event.

When concerns arise about athletics, the following chain of command will be followed.

1. The parent should contact the Athletic Director to schedule a conference. If the Athletic Director is not available, please leave a message or voice mail and you will be contacted back.
2. If the parent is not contacted by the athletic director within three school days OR if the concern/situation is not resolved, the parent may contact the principal at 765-759-2551 or email to schedule a conference. If the principal is not available, please leave a message or voice mail and you will be contacted back.
3. If the parent is not contacted by the principal within three school days OR if the concern/situation is not resolved, the parent may contact the Superintendent at 765-759-2722 or email to schedule a conference. If the Superintendent is not available, please leave a message or voice mail and you will be contacted back.

Playing time is not considered a concern. In athletics at the high school level, students are not guaranteed or entitled playing time. Student-athletes are encouraged to discuss with their coaches the skills that need to be developed in order to improve performance and participation in competitions. Also, comparison with other student-athletes will not be discussed.
1. In addition to suspensions and other disciplinary action, which the Principal, or the Principal’s designee might take against a student for behavior at school or school related function, additional disciplinary action directly related to the athlete’s participation in the athletic program may be taken by the athletic director and/or coach.

2. Out of School Suspensions will make an athlete ineligible to participate in any practice or contest on any day included in his/her suspension. A suspension in effect on Friday and the following Monday will make an athlete ineligible for any weekend contests. All out of school suspensions end at midnight of the last day of the suspension.

3. In School Suspensions of an athlete may be dealt with by the coach’s own published rules and/or by the Athletic Director for a continued pattern of behavior.

4. Coaches may choose to suspend for up to an additional five (5) practices and/or two (2) contests for first time offenders or more discipline if it is a reoccurring issue.

**Terms of a Suspension**

A. A student-athlete who has been suspended from a team for one game, 25% of the season, or 50% of the season is expected to continue his/her association with the team in terms of attending practice and following team rules. The student-athlete will attend the contests but is not allowed to participate in the contest and will not wear the jersey or uniform of the team on the sideline during the suspension.

B. A student-athlete who has been excluded from participation for a full calendar year will no longer be assigned to that team or any other Yorktown High School athletic team.

C. A student-athlete who transfers into Yorktown High School while serving suspensions at his/her previous school will serve out the remainder of his/her penalty at Yorktown High School. The previous school’s penalty will be honored in full and will not be increased or decreased in length.

D. If the violation of the code of conduct occurs in the last part of a sport’s season or out of season and the violator cannot fulfill the terms of his/her violation in that sport, the suspension will carry-over to the next sport that the violator participates. The violator must complete the next season in good standing for suspension to be fulfilled. Violator can’t play a new sport and quit after suspension criteria has been met.

**Typical Season Length with Suspension Graph**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Typical Season Length</th>
<th>25% of the season</th>
<th>50% of the season</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>Track</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
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**Specific sport season lengths will be determined on a year-by-year basis depending on current schedule**
• Athletes must attend all practices and games unless excused by the coach.
• Athletes who miss practice must notify the coach or Athletic Office prior to the absence for it to be excused.
• Athletes are expected to be on time for all practices, games, and bus departures.
• Athletes must demonstrate good sportsmanship and must conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen both on and off the field of play. Poor classroom, school, or school-related events behavior will not be tolerated.
• Athletes are to follow rules established by the coaches. These may include the rules of grooming, appropriate dress, curfew, diets, etc. These rules are not to be excessive!
• Athletes will be financially responsible for all equipment issued to them. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in another sport until all previous athletic financial obligations are complete.
• Athletes may not quit one sport in the same season to compete in another sport.
• Cell phones and cameras may not be used inside a locker room or rest room for any purpose. This means no texting, no calling and obviously no pictures. The use of cell phones, regardless if it has a built-in camera or not, is not permitted in the locker room or rest room at any time. NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE. The rule applies to all players, manager, and coaches (coaches may use a cell phone in their office, not the locker room). Should an athlete receive a call or text while he/she is in the locker room or rest room, he/she should take the phone (still in the backpack, book bag, gym bag, etc.) out to the hall or outside the building before use. CAMERAS AND PHONES MAY NOT BE IN USE OR NOT IN VIEW IN THE LOCKER ROOM OR REST ROOM FOR ANY REASON.
• The following (but not limited to) acts by a student on or off school premises will be sufficient cause for athletic discipline, suspension, or expulsion:
  o Disruptive conduct
  o Disobedience of reasonable instructions of school authorities
  o Refusal to identify oneself
  o Unauthorized absence from a practice or game
  o Cheating
  o Immoral conduct
  o Vulgarity and profanity
  o Destruction or defacing property
  o Extortion
  o Intimidation
  o Harassment (racial/ethnic/sexual/religious) of another student or employee
  o Assault of another student or employee
  o Verbal abuse or offensive behavior
  o Gambling
  o Stealing
  o Possession or use of any dangerous weapons or objects
  o The commission of any criminal act defined by law or citation received
  o The use, sale or possession of tobacco
  o The use, sale or possession of alcoholic beverages
  o The use, sale or possession of drugs and/or related paraphernalia.
• The Athletic Code of Conduct deals with specific violations that should be applied within every athletic program; however, this code is not intended to be all-inclusive. Because something is not explicitly mentioned in the code does not mean it is not prohibited. If no penalty is listed in the code for a violation, the head coach has the authority to determine the penalty (consistent with the philosophy of the code) with consultation of the Athletic Director.
CONTEST CONDUCT, CHARACTER AND DISCIPLINE

1. Any athlete ejected from a contest for an unsportsmanlike act shall be suspended from the next interschool contest at that level of competition and all other interschool contests at any level in the interim.
   - The athlete may attend, determined by the coach, the next competition but may not be in uniform or participate.
   - If the ejection is the last contest of the season, the penalty will carry over to the next sport season the athlete participates in and finishes in good standing.
   - A second offense in the same school year involves suspension for 20% of the current or next season in which he/she participates.
   - A third offense will carry a one-year suspension from the date of the third offense.

2. Initiations/Hazing/Harassment will not be tolerated at any time.
   - All initiations/hazing/harassment in school or out of school will require discipline.
   - An investigation by the athletic director will determine the severity of the punishment.
   - Suspension from the team will be at least 25% of the current or next season he/she participates in, but can be more, up to the athlete being removed from the team.

3. Criminal activity will drastically impact athlete eligibility.
   - If formal charges or citations are filed, the athlete will be suspended for a minimum of 50% of the current or next season in which he/she participates.
   - If no formal charges are filed, the athlete could still be suspended for a minimum of 25% of the current or next season in which he/she participates.
   - The Administrator, Athletic Director or Coach can increase the suspension depending on the individual situation and past behavior patterns.

YORKTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANTI-HAZING GUIDELINES

Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment for all students and staff members at Yorktown Community Schools. Hazing in any form is neither tolerated nor consistent with any educational goals of Yorktown Community Schools.

Definition to which be followed
“Hazing” refers to any activity expected of someone joining a student organization that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

Hazing activities are generally considered to be: physically abusive, hazardous, and/or sexually violating. The specific behaviors or activities within these categories vary widely among participants, groups and settings.

Any activity involving personal servitude; sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; brandings; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault.

Any activity involving the consumption of food, liquid, or substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.
Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects a student to extreme mental stress, embarrassment, shame or humiliation that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from remaining in school.

Any activity that causes or requires the student to perform a task that involves violation of state or federal law or school district policies or regulations.

**Reporting Procedures**
Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate Yorktown Community School district official designated by this policy. The building principal or their designee is the person responsible for receiving reports of hazing at the building level. Teachers, administrators, other school district employees as well as contractors and volunteers shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events that might include hazing. Any such person who receives who receives a report of, observes, or has other knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall inform the administration immediately.

**Complaints**
A Student who feels that he or she has been harassed, bullied or subjected to hazing is invited to discuss his or her concerns with a teacher, coach, or administrator. There are no express time limits for initiating complaints; however, every effort should be made to bring complaints to the attention of appropriate authorities as soon as possible while memories are fresh and witnesses continue to be available. Complaints will be investigated and where it is determined that a violation has occurred, prompt corrective action will be taken. During the investigation, confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible. Complainants will be offered counseling and other assistance when appropriate and will be informed of the results of any investigation.

**School District Action**
Student complaints of harassment, bullying or hazing may be brought to any teacher, coach, sponsor or administrator who, after discussing the incident with the student, will contact the principal or their designee. Upon receipt of a complaint or report of hazing, Yorktown Community Schools shall undertake or authorize an investigation by school district officials or a third party designated by Yorktown Community Schools. Yorktown Community Schools may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, reporter, students or others pending completion of an investigation of hazing. Upon completion of the investigation, Yorktown Community Schools will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion or expulsion. Disciplinary consequences will be administered consistently. They will appropriately discipline prohibited behavior and deter others from hazing. Yorktown Community School action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with other school policies.

**Reprisal**
Yorktown Community school district will take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator or other employee of Yorktown Community school district, or any contractor or volunteer who retaliates against anyone who makes a good faith report of hazing, or who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation or hearing about a hazing incident. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

**Myths on Hazing**

**Myth # 1:** Hazing is no more than foolish pranks that sometimes go awry.

**Fact:** Hazing is an act of power and control over others --- it is victimization. Hazing is pre-mediated and NOT accidental. Hazing is abusive, degrading and often life-threatening.
Myth # 2: As long as there's no malicious intent, a little hazing should be O.K.
Fact: Even if there's no malicious "intent" safety may still be a factor in traditional hazing activities that are considered to be "all in good fun." For example, serious accidents have occurred during scavenger hunts and kidnapping trips. Besides, what purpose do such activities serve in promoting the growth and development of group team members?

Myth # 3: Hazing is an effective way to teach respect and develop discipline.
Fact: First of all, respect must be EARNED—not taught. Victims of hazing rarely report having respect for those who have hazed them. Just like other forms of victimization, hazing breeds mistrust, apathy and alienation.

Myth # 4: If someone agrees to participate in an activity, it can't be considered hazing.
Fact: In states that have laws against hazing consent of the victim can't be used as a defense in a civil suit. This is because even if someone agrees to participate in a potentially hazardous action it may not be true consent when considering the peer pressure and desire to belong to the group.

Myth # 5: It's difficult to determine whether or not a certain activity is hazing—it's such a gray area sometimes.
Fact: It's not difficult to decide if an activity is hazing if you use common sense and ask yourself the following questions:

Make the following inquiries of each activity to determine whether or not it is hazing.
- Will active/current members of the group refuse to participate with the new members and do exactly what they're being asked to do?
- Does the activity risk emotional or physical abuse?
- Is there risk of injury or a question of safety?
- Do you have any reservation describing the activity to your parents, to a teacher or Yorktown Community school official?
- Would you object to the activity being photographed for the school newspaper or filmed by the local TV news crew?

If the answer to any of these questions is "yes," the activity is probably hazing.

HAZING VS. TEAM BUILDING

**Hazing**
- Humiliates and degrades
- Tears down individuals
- Creates division
- Lifelong nightmares
- Shame and secrecy
- Is a power trip

**Team Building**
- Promotes respect and dignity
- Supports and empowers
- Creates real teamwork
- Lifelong memories
- Pride and integrity
- Is a shared positive experience!
Athletes are not permitted to possess, consume, use, transmit, or be illegally under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, and other controlled substances at any time except for the direct participation in a religious function or upon the instruction of a physician. Students who have prescriptions from physicians must follow the Student Handbook Medication Policy. The sale, distribution, possession, or use of drugs, alcohol, counterfeit (fake) drugs, steroids, inhalants, or look-a-like drugs as described by Indiana Code will also fall within this rule. This prohibition also includes non-alcoholic beers, wines, steroids, and drug-related paraphernalia.

If there is ever reasonable suspicion that an athlete is possessing, using, transmitting, or under the influence of a prohibited substance, the athlete, his/her belongings, vehicle and/or lockers will be subject to search. A professionally administered drug test, paid for by the individual’s parents, may also be required to regain/retain eligibility.

The rules regarding tobacco, alcohol and/or other controlled substances shall be applicable to a student from the day he/she tries out for any athletic team offered at Yorktown High School. These rules will continue to apply to that student throughout his/her high school career.

A student-athlete who finds himself/herself at places where underage drinking or any other illegal act is taking place is expected to leave the area to avoid being associated with that behavior.

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE ACTION PLAN**

A. Any athlete who violates the tobacco, alcohol, and/or other controlled substances rule for the **first time** will be given the following two options to regain athletic eligibility.
   1. The athlete will be immediately ineligible for all of the sports seasons in which he/she participates for 365 days from the offense.
   OR
   2. The athlete will be immediately enrolled in appropriate education, counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation services at the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) expense. This process will make the athlete immediately ineligible for **30% of the current or upcoming sport season in which they participate**.
      A. The athlete must complete 5 hours of verifiable community or school service prior to each sport season(s) in which he/she participates prior to becoming eligible for any contest for the season.
      B. Written verification of enrollment and completion of education, counseling, treatment, and/or rehabilitation must be given to the Athletic Director.
      C. Provide YHS administration with a copy of a clean, professionally administered, drug test at parental expense.

B. Any athlete who violates the tobacco, alcohol, and/or other controlled substances for the **second time** will be given the following two options to regain athletic eligibility.
   1. The athlete will be immediately ineligible for the entire sports season(s) in which he/she participates for 365 days from the offense.
   OR
   2. The athlete will be immediately enrolled in appropriate education, counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation services at the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) expense for the violation. This process will reduce **ineligibility to 50% of all the sports season(s)** in which he/she participates for 365 days from the second offense.
      A. The athlete must also complete 5 hours of verifiable community or school service prior to each sport season in which he/she participates in prior to becoming eligible for contest.
      B. Written verification of enrollment and completion of education, counseling, treatment, and/or rehabilitation must be given to the Athletic Director.
      C. Provide YHS administration with a copy of a clean, professionally administered drug test at parental expense.
C. Any athlete who violates the tobacco, alcohol, and/or other controlled substance rule for the third time will be declared ineligible for the remainder of his/her high school career.

*If a situation arises where there are not enough contests left in a current season to fulfill a suspension period then it will be carried over to the next season that he/she participates.*

**SELF-REPORT CLAUSE**

We encourage all of our student-athletes to show maturity and integrity by taking responsibility for their actions, good or bad. Our single most important goal is to develop better young men and women. For that reason; if the athlete reports the offense to his/her coach or administrator, in a timely manner, (i.e. within 7 days of the offense) the contest suspension period for the first offense will be reduced from 30% to 15%; the second offense will be reduced from 50% to 25%. The educational and community service requirements of the first and second offenses will remain intact. All requirements must be completed in full to regain eligibility. This self-report clause will only be effective for the first and second offense.

*If a situation arises where there are not enough contests left in a current season to fulfill a suspension period then it will be carried over to the next season that he/she participates.*

**SPORTSMANSHIP**

1. Athletes shall demonstrate respect for themselves and others at all times:
   A. By treating opponents with respect by shaking hands with the opponents and congratulating them for their efforts in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
   B. By being attentive and courteous for opponents during introductions.
   C. Giving only positive comments to teammates, opponents, and coaches.
   D. Accepting and abiding by the decisions of the officials.
   E. By being gracious and respectful when receiving honors or event awards.
2. Never argue or make gestures indicating a dislike for a decision.
3. Athletes are to show respect for their coaches and teammates.
   A. Accept teaching and criticism from coaches without arguing or making excuses.
   B. Accept and abide by the decision of the coach for the benefit of the team.
   C. Show appreciation for the contributions of all teammates regardless of skill or performance
   D. Athletes are to show respect for the integrity and decisions of contest officials.
   E. Show compassion for teammates in defeat and congratulate them in victory.
4. Athletes are to maintain self-control at all times.
   A. Prevent the desire to win from overcoming rational behavior.
   B. Will not use inappropriate language while taking part in any athletic event including travel, social settings, practices and contests.
   C. Though all sports have some level of physical contact, and recognizing that physically aggressive contact is a major and important part of athletics, it is unacceptable for a Yorktown High School athlete to engage in physical play that would result in unsportsmanlike conduct that would jeopardize the safety of the opposing athlete or integrity of the Yorktown High School team.
DUAL SPORT ATHLETES

1. Any athlete who would like to participate in two (2) sports during the same season must request a permission form from the Athletic Director.
2. The Athletic Director, parents, and both coaches will determine whether or not it is feasible for that athlete to participate in both sports in the same season.
3. The athlete must declare which sport will be his/her major sport. Each coach shall determine whether or not that athlete fulfilled requirements to earn a varsity letter in both sports.
4. All practice times and event conflicts will be worked out based on the major sport and the type of event (conference, regular, etc.)
5. Written confirmation of the plan/form will be given to all parties involved.

ATHLETIC DEBTS

Athletes are responsible for any equipment issued to them by either the coaching staff or athletic director. This includes such items as uniforms, bags, sports equipment, locks, money from fund raisers, etc. Failure to return such items in good condition will result in a monetary consequence for the athlete. The athlete will be given an Athletic Obligation form from a coach with the amount owed to the athletic department. The athlete will remain ineligible for any other sports until the debt is paid.

ATHLETIC TRAINING

We encourage our athletes to utilize our certified athletic trainer as a source of knowledge and good athletic health to help them grow as athletes and competitors. It is important that athletes communicate with the parent, coach, and athletic trainer of progress and or further issue during the process of injury rehab and participation. If an athlete seeks the advice of a physician or is referred to a physician, a note stating the athlete is able to return to participation is needed. THE ATHLETE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN WITHOUT THIS NOTE!

CONCUSSIONS & SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

Yorktown Community Schools complies with all state mandated protocols for concussion and cardiac arrest. Parents and students are required to sign off on educational information provided using the infosnap system.
Individual Coaches’ Rules
Coaches may establish rules and regulations with the approval of the athletic director and principal for their respective activities. These rules, as pertaining to a particular activity, must be given by the coach in writing to all team members and explained fully at the start of the season. Penalties for violation of team rules shall be administered by the coach.

Donating Blood During the Season
Student-Athletes in season are strongly discouraged from participating in school blood drives due to the risks involved with strenuous activity and this procedure. Student-athletes who are out-of-season should be excused from conditioning sessions the evening following giving blood.

Participation in Physical Education Classes and Injuries
Any student excused from participating in Physical Education with a parent’s note or doctor’s note shall not be allowed to participate in an athletic event or practice that same day.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS/NCAA RECRUITING

The National Collegiate Athletic Association has established specific standards for participation in any of its member schools’ intercollegiate programs. Parents and student-athletes are responsible for ensuring college or NCAA criteria for eligibility and admission is met. Please visit the National Collegiate Athletic Association website at www.ncaa.org for further information about academic standards.

Upon request, the Yorktown High School Counseling Center will help students determine the number of core classes and academic eligibility as determined by GPA and test scores. A student-athlete planning to enroll in college as a freshman and participating in Division I or Division II athletics must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. Forms and instructions are available at the www.eligibilitycenter.org or www.2point3.org websites.

INDIANA NCAA COLLEGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division I (10)</th>
<th>Division II (4)</th>
<th>Division III (10)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ball State</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>Anderson</td>
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<td>Butler</td>
<td>Oakland City</td>
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<td>Evansville</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
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<td>Indiana State</td>
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<td>Purdue</td>
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<td>Valparaiso</td>
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<td>Wabash</td>
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Planning For Collegiate Sports Recruiting

Congratulations! You are about to begin one of the most rewarding, and yet frustrating, experiences that a high school student-athlete can have. You are being recruited by or will make contact with a college or university for the purposes of participating in collegiate athletics. You are part of a very small and select group of student-athletes that will take part in this process.

While recruitment for collegiate athletics gets a lot of media attention, only a small percentage of high school student-athletes actually take part in collegiate athletics, and, even fewer receive any kind of financial aid.

This pamphlet is designed to help you understand the process by defining terminology involved, providing cautions about the process and outlining what you should be doing during each of your four years at Yorktown High School to insure that the recruiting process is successful.

The key to success is a great game plan between you as the student-athlete, your family, your guidance counselor and your coach. While final decisions always rest with the student-athlete and his or her family, all must work together to insure success.

Regardless of the sport that you participate in, the offers being made or the people that are talking with you and your family, never fail to keep one thought in mind. You are going to college to receive a great education. Your final decision should be based upon what that school would offer to you for academic success and long-term professional growth. Your final choice should be one that if you were unable to continue your athletic participation, you would still wish to remain at that school.

Here are the nine recruiting pitfalls that may keep you from playing collegiate sports.

1. Underestimating the importance of academics.
2. Unrealistic expectations of your ability.
3. Parental over involvement.
4. Burning bridges by bad mouthing other schools and coaches.
5. Under valuing assistant coaches.
6. Talking money too soon.
7. An over confident demeanor.
8. Waiting to be contacted by a school.
9. Limiting your options to only a few schools.

Time Line for the Collegiate Recruiting Experience

Here are several suggestions, by school year, that will insure your eligibility and enhance your ability to be recruited for collegiate athletics. Remember, the eligibility standards for recruitment are different between Divisions I, II, and III. Check eligibility standards with your coach and the athletic department.

These are very brief guidelines. You should check with your counselor, coach and athletic director for more detailed information. Do not make the mistake of focusing only on the biggest and most prominent schools. It is very easy to get caught up in the glamour of NCAA Division I athletics at the expense of a wider range of opportunities and playing time on a Division II or III level. You must make and accept an honest appraisal of your skills and ability. Now choose the right level and school.

Freshman Year

1. Now is the time to commit yourself to the best grades that you can achieve.
2. Remember! The NCAA does not recognize a + or – for your grades. Work for the next higher grade.
3. Make sure you have reviewed your schedule with your counselor.
4. Meet with your counselor to insure that you are enrolled in the proper classes for NCAA eligibility in your sophomore year.
5. Make sure that your counselor knows that you hope to pursue collegiate athletics.
6. Develop a sports resume of accomplishments.
7. Attend a variety of sport camps.
8. Participate in a variety of sports all year around.

**Sophomore Year**

1. Meet with your counselor to insure that you are enrolled in the proper classes for NCAA eligibility in your junior year.
2. Take the PSAT in the fall when it is first offered.
3. Make sure that the varsity head coach is aware of your desire to participate in collegiate sports.
4. Continue to develop an athletic resume.
5. Continue to attend sport camps and participate in a variety of sports.
6. Begin a college and career search in the guidance office.
7. Begin to decide which part of the country you would realistically wish to attend school.
8. Determine what your financial needs will be and what will be best financially for your family.
9. Keep your focus on all appropriate schools at NCAA Division I, II and III levels.
10. Complete your online registration at [www.eligibilitycentr.org](http://www.eligibilitycentr.org)

**Junior Year**

1. Continue to meet with your counselor to insure that you are enrolled in the proper courses for NCAA eligibility in your senior year.
2. Continue your athletic resumes and sport camp participation.
3. Take the PSAT in the fall when it is first offered. Take the SAT and ACT in the spring when they are offered.
4. Contact schools that may interest you and return all cards back to these schools.
5. Respond back to any and all schools that contact you with their return post cards or letters.
6. Make unofficial visits to those schools that you may wish to attend.

**Senior Year**

1. Review with your counselor that you have taken or will take all the classes that will be required for NCAA collegiate eligibility.
2. Retake the SAT/ACT if necessary.
3. Continue to meet with your head coach as to what schools and on what level you are more suited to play.
4. Begin to mail your college applications.
5. Narrow your choice of schools and take your five official visits to the schools that you might like to attend. Remember, it is an education decision first, followed by athletics.
6. Begin to research a variety of resources for financial aid.

**Core Course Standards**

- **NCAA Division I & II require 16 core courses** to be taken.
- **NCAA Division I requires 10 core courses** to be completed prior to the seventh semester (seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become “locked in” at the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
- Beginning August 1, 2016, it will be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.
Test Scores

- **Division I** uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA).
- **Division II** requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes only the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a sum of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.

Grade-Point Average

- **Be sure** to look at your high school’s List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Only courses that appear on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- **Division I** students enrolling full time before August 1, 2016, should use Sliding Scale A to determine eligibility to receive athletics aid, practice and competition during the first year.
- **Division I** GPA required to receive athletics aid and practice on or after August 1, 2016, is 2.000 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B).
- **Division I** GPA required to be eligible for competition on or after August 1, 2016, is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B).
- The **Division II** core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sliding Scale A</th>
<th>Use for Division I prior to August 1, 2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Courses</td>
<td>SAT Scores</td>
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For more information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at www.eligibilitycenter.org.
Recruiting Terminology

- **Contact**: Any face-to-face meeting between a college coach, yourself or your parents.
- **Core Courses**: Recognized courses specified by the NCAA.
- **Evaluation**: Any off-campus activity used to assess your academic or athletic abilities.
- **Official Visit**: College paid trip to a campus during your senior year. You may visit up to five different schools that have your application.
- **Partial Qualifier**: Eligible to practice during your freshmen year but you cannot play due to academic deficiency.
- **Qualifier**: You have met all NCAA requirements.
- **Recruited Prospective Student-athlete**: You become this when approached by a coach or representative of a school about enrolling and playing a sport.
- **Red Shirt**: You may practice with the team but you cannot play.

Questions to Ask

1. What position will I play?
2. What other players are being recruited at that position?
3. Will I be redshirted?
4. How would the coach describe his or her coaching style?
5. When does the head coach’s contract expire?
6. How good is the department in my major?
7. What percentage of the players graduate on time?
8. What kind of academic support will be available to me?
9. What are the details of financial aid at your institution?

For the most updated and accurate information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

**Yorktown Information Needed:**
School Code: 153890
ATHLETIC AWARDS

Only those awards that are listed below are sanctioned by the Athletic Department. Awards are paid and presented by the Athletic Department. A coach may award a Major or Minor to any a player who has been injured or has special circumstances that keeps them from playing. Such player must attend practices and games to be eligible. A coach has the authority to vary from the guidelines below with just reasoning regarding awards.

**Baseball:** “Minor Award” – Awarded to any freshman, sophomore, or junior who completes the season in good standing and plays in at least half of the reserve games. “Major Award” – Awarded to any player who completes the season in good standing and plays in at least half of the varsity games.

**Basketball:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any freshman, sophomore, or junior who completes the season in good standing. “Major Award” – awarded to any senior who completes two years as a member of the varsity or reserve teams in good standing, or to any player who completes the season in good standing and plays in half of the games, excluding the county and sectional tournaments.

**Cheerleading:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any freshman or reserve cheerleader or mascot who completes the season in good standing. “Major Award” awarded to any varsity cheerleader or mascot who completes the season in good standing.

**Cross Country:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any athlete who runs in three-fourths of the reserve and/or varsity meets and in either Yorktown Invitational, Delaware County, Conference, or Sectional meets. The athlete must average in the top seven for Yorktown and complete the season in good standing. “Major Award” – awarded to any athlete who runs in at least three-fourths of the varsity meets and runs in at least two of the major meets listed for “Minor Awards:” averages in the top ten for Yorktown in the varsity meets, and completes the season in good standing.

**Dance:** “Major Award” awarded to any dance team member who completes the season in good standing.

**Football:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any student who completes the season in good standing as a member of the varsity, reserve, or freshman teams. “Major Award” – awarded to any senior who completes the season in good standing or to any student who plays in one-half of the varsity game quarters and completes the season in good standing.

**Golf:** “Minor Award” – Awarded to any player who completes the season in good standing and participates in one-third of the varsity or reserve matches. “Major Award:” - Awarded to any player or alternate who completes the season in good standing, plays in one-half of the varsity matches, and qualifies for the County, Conference, or Sectional tournaments.

**Softball:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any underclassman that completes the season in good standing. “Major Award” – awarded to any player who completes the season in good standing and plays in more than half the games.

**Soccer:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any athlete who completes the season in good standing as a member of the varsity or reserve team. “Major Award” awarded to any athlete who completes the season in good standing and plays in at least one-half of the varsity matches.

**Swimming:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any freshman who completes and scores the required number of points set by the coach and completes the season in good standing. Awarded to any sophomore or junior who completes the season in good standing. “Major Award” – awarded to any swimmer who completes the season in good standing and scores the required number of points set by the coach.

**Tennis:** “Minor Award” – awarded to any player who completes the season in good standing and competes in one-half of the varsity and/or reserve matches. “Major Award” – awarded to any player who completes the season in good standing and played in one-half of the varsity matches.
Track: “Minor Award” – awarded to any freshman that completes the season in good standing and competes in one-half of the reserve and/or varsity meets. Awarded to any sophomore or junior who completes the season in good standing and scores the number of points required by the coach. “Major Award” – awarded to any runner who completes the season in good standing, scores the number of points required by the coach, and participates in the sectional.

Volleyball: “Minor Award” – awarded to any freshman that completes the season good standing and plays in one-half of the reserve and/or varsity games. Awarded to any sophomore or junior who completes the season in good standing. “Major Award” – awarded to any player who completes the season in good standing and plays in one-half of the varsity games.

Wrestling: “Minor Award”- awarded to any freshman, sophomore or junior who finishes the season in good standing and met the specified requirements as set by the coach. “Major Award”-awarded to any wrestler who completes at least one of the following requirements: (1) wrestles a minimum of 10 varsity matches in a season, (2) claims a starting position in the sectional tournament, or (3) is a senior that has been on the wrestling for at least two years.

Manager: “Minor Award” or “Major Award” – awarded to any student who completes the season in good standing and is made at the coach’s discretion. Managers in different seasons earn separate awards for each season.

Student Athletic Trainer: “Minor Award” – freshman or sophomore student who completes the season in good standing. “Major Award” – awarded to any junior or senior student who completes the season in good standing. Credit may be given to athletes who previously played but were unable to continue because of illness or injury. Student Athletic Trainers in different seasons earn separate awards for each season.

Athletic Jacket: Athletic letters are awarded to any athlete receiving two Major Awards in the same sport or a total of three Major Awards in any combination of sports. For purposes of the award only two minor awards in the same sport will be counted as one major award in that sport. Major awards not defended the following year will not count toward the athletic letter. Athletic jackets are ordered through athletic department but purchased by the individual.

Senior Awards: Senior awards are awarded to any senior who has earned eight (8) Majors. Minor awards do not count toward the senior award.

County, Conference, State, and IHSAA Championship Awards: Awards to champions in events sponsored by the Delaware County Athletic Association, The Hoosier Heritage Conference, and/or the IHSAA will be presented to the athletes as determined by those organizations.

Y.H.S. Sportsmanship Award: Awarded to one SENIOR female and male athlete who has exhibited a high and consistent degree of sportsmanship during any sport season. The athlete must be nominated by their coach and then voted on by the entire coaching staff and approved by the Athletic Director.

BOOSTER CLUBS

1. Are parent driven to benefit the present and future opportunities of their specific team.
2. All on-site fundraising activities must be approved by the Yorktown High School Athletic Department. All Yorktown Community Schools facility usage for booster club activities must also be approved by the Yorktown High School Athletic Department.
3. All corporate advertising is maintained thorough the athletic department
4. A majority of the finances raised need to be directed toward facilities, equipment, team travel and uniform needs for current and future teams to maximize their efforts.
5. All apparel for resale and/or distribution including all print materials (i.e. poster schedules) must be approved by the Yorktown High School Athletic Department for uniformity and appropriateness.
GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

1. Parents need to check to make sure all necessary forms are complete and turned in prior to the first day of practice.
2. Parents need to stay involved with their child’s academics by providing a proper place and time to study.
3. Parents need to talk to the athlete about grades received on assignments and tests.
4. An open dialogue between athlete and parent is essential concerning classroom and school behavior.
5. Transportation issues for practice should be dealt with in a timely fashion. Make every attempt to make sure your child is prompt to practice as well as leaving after a practice or a game.
6. Parents should set an example for the athlete in showing respect for the coaches, teammates, opponents, fans, officials, and administrators.
7. Parents should be positive and let their children know that something good is being accomplished simply by being part of a team.
8. Parents should help their children improve their self-esteem by believing in themselves. Any added pressures will only make it more difficult to improve self-image.
9. Parents should encourage their children to work hard and do their best. They should not criticize coaches or offer excuses if their children are not playing.
10. Parents should assist their children in following the Yorktown High School Code of Conduct which includes the Athletic Substance Abuse Policy.
11. Parents should insist on academic commitment from their children. This means a willingness to do one’s best.
12. As spectators, parent are entitled to cheer at sporting events, but should never become belligerent and arrogant towards players, coaches, opponents or officials.
13. Parents should insist that their children exhibit true sportsmanship during athletic contests, and emphasize never embarrassing themselves, their family, team, school or community through an inappropriate act during competition.

GUIDELINES FOR FANS

1. Realize that a ticket allows fans the privilege to observe an athletic contest and support the athletes involved in the competition. It is not a license to verbally assault anyone or to act in an outrageous manner. Yorktown High School administration, game officials or law enforcement individuals have the outright authority to remove an unruly fan from a contest at any time for just cause.
2. Realize that athletics are a part of the educational experience and the benefits go beyond the final score of the contest. It is not the event itself, but rather how the athlete behaves concerning the outcome that is most important.
3. Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials. Learn and understand the rules of the game. Belittling and harassing officials is not only inappropriate, it also does not help the official.
4. Respect and support the task the coaches have in teaching the athletes. Remember there is always more than one way to achieve success.
5. Treat opponents and their fans with respect. Treat them the way you want your athlete to be treated.
6. Be a fan that the athletes can be proud of.
7. Maintain self-composure at all times
8. Participate in positive cheers for the team. Refrain from those that are derogatory or take away from the spirit of the contests.
9. Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion
10. Always remember you too are representing Yorktown High School. Make sure it is positive!