

# **Sharpsville Area Middle/High School Athletic Handbook 2020-2021**



Sharpsville Area Middle/High School  
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Sharpsville, PA 16150  
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## Letter from the Administration

Dear Parents and Student Athletes:

Welcome to the 2020-2021 athletic program. The purpose of this handbook is to outline our athletic programs in order to facilitate an enjoyable and productive athletic and academic year and provide student-athletes with many opportunities that stretch beyond the field of play.

The 2020-2021 athletic handbook contains information regarding athletic programs, eligibility, study tables, sportsmanship, district policies, rewards and participation requirements. Please review the information contained in this handbook in order to be aware of all policies that may impact student athletes in Sharpsville Area Middle/High School.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Athletic Director, Carla Hawthorne at the school by phone at 724-962-8300 ext. 1560 or via email at [athletics@sasdpride.org](mailto:athletics@sasdpride.org).

Thank you and as always, Go Blue Devils!

John Vannoy  
Superintendent

Carla Hawthorne  
Athletic Director

Carol Houck  
High School Principal

Heidi Marshall  
Middle School Principal



## Sharpshville Area School District Athletic Philosophy and Objectives for Athletics

### Philosophy

The athletic program in the Sharpshville Area School District is designed to promote a wholesome atmosphere of good sportsmanship, teamwork, and competition among the students and to generate school spirit. The administration of the Sharpshville Area School District believes that the success of the athletic program is not necessarily measured by the record of the victories compiled by the various teams.

The administration would never presume to dictate to any coach the methods, style of play, or procedures used in preparing his/her squad for competition. However, there are several guiding principles which in keeping with the educational nature of coaching seem necessary to be established as an overall framework of operation for coaches.

Members of each squad will reflect the highest order of ability, behavior, actions, and attitudes. Such things as using tobacco, drugs, or profanity on the court, field, bus, school, etc. cannot be tolerated, and can only lead to an unsuccessful program and will require disciplinary action. This extends to every coach, assistant, and volunteer.

Athletic programs in the elementary school are designed to expose students to the sport. The goal is to learn how to play the game and to work on acquiring the necessary skills needed to participate in the program. Emphasis needs to be on offering a learning experience that of fun and not based on win/lose competition.

High school varsity, junior varsity and middle school programs are designed to maximize learned skills in competition representing our school. At these levels, not all team members may get in every contest. It is our hope that when the contest has been decided, free substitution will be utilized.

Effective coaching presumes efficient planning. Practice sessions as well as every phase of the entire sport activity must be planned in advance. Athletes participating in a PIAA sport are permitted at the same time to participate on teams not sponsored by the Sharpshville Area School District or PIAA. The PIAA sport practices and games take priority over the outside team. The student-athlete cannot be penalized by the coaching staff for participating in the out of school activity when it does not interfere with practices or competitions of the in-season PIAA sport.

### Objectives

1. To provide natural outlets for students desiring to participate on teams in competition with other teams of similar ability.
2. To assist in the development of school and student morale.
3. To teach good sportsmanship and teamwork.
4. To help develop skills that have carry-over value in terms of leisure time.



## Organization of the Chain of Command

### Chain of Command

- A. Board of Education:** The board of education is responsible to the residents of the District and is the ruling agency for the Sharpsville Area School District. It is responsible for interpreting the needs of the community and requirements to the professional organization. Additional responsibilities include:
- Developing policies in accordance with state statutes and mandates in accordance with the educational needs and wishes of the people.
  - Approving professional staff and the means by which professional staff may make these policies effective.
  - Evaluating the interscholastic athletic program in terms of its value to the Community as well as adopt a budget.
- B. Superintendent of Schools:** The superintendent is responsible to administer the schools according to adopted policies of the board of education, rules and regulations of the State Department of Education, and in accordance with Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949. It is his/her duty to establish a definite school athletic policy and to have an understanding of that policy. The superintendent shall represent the school district as its chief executive officer and its foremost professional educator in its dealings with other school systems, social institutions, and businesses.
- C. Principal:** The principal is the official representative of the school and is directly responsible for the general attitude of the student body and the conduct of the athletic affairs by the athletic director and the coach. By delegation and by established precedent, the school principal is the official school representative in matters dealing with Sharpsville athletics and conference affiliations.
- D. Athletic Director:** The athletic director reports directly to the principal. The primary responsibility of the athletic director is the administration and supervision of the interscholastic athletic program at Sharpsville Area Middle/High School. The athletic director's duties will be those described in his/her job description and any others as designated. He/she will provide the leadership necessary for the day-to-day operations of the athletic department.
- E. Head Coaches:** All head coaches shall be responsible to the athletic director for the total operation of their respective sports programs. Head coaches will be responsible for the normal duties required of interscholastic competition, those duties described in the coach's job description, and/or any duties delegated by the administration.



## Athletic Overview

### Athletic Programs

Sharpshooter's interscholastic athletic program consists of 14 varsity teams, 9 junior varsity (JV) teams and 6 middle school teams. Sharpshooter is a member school of the PIAA and District 10.

#### **Fall Sports**

Cheerleading  
Varsity Cross Country (Boys and Girls)  
Varsity Golf (Boys and Girls)  
Varsity/JV Football  
Varsity/JV Boys Soccer  
Varsity/JV Girls Soccer  
Varsity/JV Girls Volleyball  
Middle School Football Middle  
School Girls Basketball  
Middle School Soccer (Boys and Girls)

#### **Winter Sports**

Cheerleading  
Varsity/JV Boys Basketball  
Varsity/JV Girls Basketball  
Varsity/JV Wrestling  
Varsity Unified Sports Bocce  
Middle School Boys Basketball  
Middle School Unified Sports Bocce  
Middle School Wrestling

**Spring Sports** Varsity/JV Baseball Varsity/JV Softball  
Varsity Track and Field (Boys and Girls)  
Middle School Girls Volleyball  
Middle School Boys and Girls Track and Field



## Minimum Participant Requirements

### Fall Sports

Football	22
Volleyball	12
Cross Country	15
Golf	5
Soccer	15

### Winter Sports

Wrestling	13
Girls' Basketball	10
Boys' Basketball	10

### Spring Sports

Track	30
Baseball	12
Softball	12

Any sport not meeting the minimum number of participants will be placed on probation for that year. The head coach of a sport that is placed on probation will be required to develop an improvement plan and meet with the athletic committee within 1 month of the completion of their season.

## Coaches

Head coaches, assistant coaches and volunteers must have approval from the board of education, appropriate clearances on file with the district office and have documented completion of required coaching education courses on file prior to the start of their sport's official PIAA season in order to coach at a practice, scrimmage or in-season contest.

The head coach of each sport is charged with developing a consistent program from elementary through the varsity levels. The head coach throughout these levels should direct philosophies, strategies and expectations. Junior varsity, junior high and elementary coaches must recognize that their role is one of support to the head coach and his/her plan for program success.

**Building security:** Coaches are responsible to see that all doors and gates are locked prior to leaving from practice or returning from a game or scrimmage. There are to be NO students left by themselves.

Coaches are expected to develop team rules for all team members. These rules should be distributed to all athletes and are to be upheld. A copy of the rules must be submitted to the athletic department prior to the start of the respective sport season. Coaches are to have parent(s)/guardian(s) sign and acknowledge that they received and understand team rules.





Coaches develop a practice schedule. Practice schedules are to be scheduled through the athletic director or his/her designee. Teams are to practice throughout the season, including Saturdays. With prior approval from the superintendent, teams may practice on Sunday; however, a team may not practice or compete for seven consecutive days. All sports should practice 5 to 6 days a week. These are not intramural sports. The head coach and all assistants must attend all practices. Practices need to be structured.

All coaches must communicate with the athletic director, high school principal and middle school principal throughout their season.

All coaches must realize that there are a limited number of athletes available to participate in various activities. Coaches should work with all athletes. Coaches are expected to cooperate in all areas to avoid conflicts in scheduling games or practices; no coach is to place students in difficult situations that require them to choose between activities. It is the head coach's decision whether or not he chooses to cut any players.

Coaches must make sure that all players meet PIAA and school district eligibility requirements. At no time should an ineligible player participate in a contest or scrimmage. Ineligible players may practice but they are not to dress for contests. Ineligible players are expected to sit on the bench or stand on the sidelines with the team.

Coaches are responsible for using purchase requisitions when placing an order. Coaches are responsible for staying within the individual sport's budget. No budget/materials can be order prior to July 1 of the applicable fiscal year. No orders will be placed without a purchase order created.

The head coach is responsible for attending a PIAA sanctioned rules meeting each year. Failure to do so will result in the district being fined \$100.00. This fine will be taken from the individual sport's budget, not the athletic account. All coaches must uphold all school district, District X and PIAA rules and policies.

Students and coaches may participate in school-sponsored or community-sponsored recreational programs, clinics and camps as long as the participation is voluntary. The school cannot organize inter-scholastic athletic activities such as tryouts, or practice outside of the season, as specified by the PIAA.

The head coach must make sure that all athletes are properly supervised at all times which includes playing/practice areas, locker rooms, away sites and on the bus. The head coach must ride the bus.

Practices: Students practicing at all school gymnasiums must be supervised and kept out of the hallways. Family members are not to accompany athletes to practice.

All coaches should enforce pride regarding each player's behavior both on and off the playing field or floor.



Coaches are responsible for ensuring that new students who have applied for enrollment with the district have been fully vetted and cleared by the administration before they are eligible to participate in any in-season or out-of-season activities.

An Accident and Personal Injury Report form must be submitted to the high school/middle school office within 24 hours of a workplace student/staff/coach injury or accident resulting in the need for medical attention regardless of lost time or no lost time. If necessary, attach a letter detailing any additional information that may be pertinent to the incident. Be sure to include the date of the injury, the individual(s) injured, a description of the accident and any additional remarks that are necessary. Once completed, be sure to prepare to duplicate, submit 1 copy to the high school/middle school office and send 1 copy to the superintendent's office if medical treatment is beyond the capability of the school,

At the end of each season, all coaches are required to turn in a statistics spreadsheet of all players and any scorebooks pertaining to the sport. All coaches are to keep accurate records for all players. If using digital means of scoring, a flash drive must be turned in with all stats. This is for the varsity level only.

The Sharpsville Area School District Athletics' Program recognizes and supports its coaches' and booster organizations' right to freedom of speech, expressions, and association, including the use of social networks. In this context, each coach/booster officer must remember that participating in and supporting the Sharpsville Area School District is a privilege and not a right. The coaching staffs and booster organizations represent the school district, and therefore, they are expected to portray themselves and the school district in a positive manner at all times. Any online postings must be consistent with federal and state laws, as well as team and school district rules and regulations (including those listed below). Coaches' Behavior: Each coach representing the Sharpsville Area School District will conduct him/herself in a professional and responsible manner at all times.

Specifically prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to:

- A. Sexually explicit, profane, lewd, indecent, illegal, or defamatory language/actions
- B. Derogatory language regarding school personnel or other students/team members/coaches
- C. Comments designed to harass or bully students/team members/coaches and/or school personnel
- D. Nude, sexually-oriented or indecent photos, images, or altered pictures



Any violations found through a principal investigation, which disrupts or interferes with the educational process in any manner, may result in suspension, removal from team, etc. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

A. Use of obscene or offensive language:

There will be a zero tolerance for any obscene or offensive language used by any member of the coaching staff at any time. If obscene or offensive language is used it will result in a one game suspension. If the action results in disqualification of a coach, then an additional game will be added to the suspension. Additional penalties may be added at the discretion of the PIAA. This also applies to players as well.

B. Physically abusing a student/athlete at any time.

C. Publicly displaying anger that may be interpreted as action unbecoming a professional.

D. Placing any student/athlete in a situation that could be dangerous for the safety and well-being of that student/athlete.

E. Leaving school/field after practice or game before the students have left; students are to be supervised at all times.

Social media has become ingrained in today's society. The wide variety of social networking tools presently available provides students easy access to share important news and events with each other. Social media technologies such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Internet forum, weblogs, social blogs, micro blogging, Wikis, podcasts, photographs, video rating, social bookmarking, and others have many benefits in our world; however, they can also be disruptive when inappropriate social media postings occur. Using these communication tools in an inappropriate manner can have negative consequences, especially if unkind words or threats are used with intent to hurt others.

Coaches should develop rules for traveling, appearance, and behavior at the athletic contest. The bus should not be left unclean (all litter is to be discarded) or damaged in any fashion. Coaches are responsible for their team's behavior and actions. Coaches are responsible for reviewing away game visiting locker rooms/facilities before allowing Sharpsville student-athletes in to help prevent false accusations of damage.

All scrimmages must be cleared with the athletic director so that transportation, officials, and the like may be scheduled.

All transportation must be scheduled through the athletic director. Players must be transported on approved transportation, only. The head coach is responsible for determining departure times and for departing on time. Early dismissals from school require pre-approval by administration and requests should be limited.

In the case of a late arrival from away events, the following guidelines will be used for arrival to school the following day. In the case of a bus arriving between 12:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m., the students who were on the bus for the event will have their starting time extended to 9:00 a.m. In the case of a bus arriving later than 1:00 a.m., the students who were on the bus for the event will have their starting time delayed to 10:00 a.m. This is only to be utilized in the case of a bus failure, an accident that is not preventable by the



Head Coach and their coaching staff or if an athletic contest went longer than expected. It does not allow for any pre-planned stops. In addition, the high school office should be notified of the situation the following morning by 7:40 a.m. The delayed starting time will be strictly adhered to and the same policies will be in effect for any tardiness past the designed time.

Meals will be provided for all games over 80 miles round trip and leaving after school by request of the head coach. Any overnight trip needs school board approval. If staying overnight, the head coach must stay with and supervise the team. The head coach needs to stay at the same hotel with the team. All players must ride the bus to and from games or scrimmages unless other arrangements are made with the coach.

### Athletic Committee

The athletic committee shall recommend athletic policy to the school board. The athletic committee or superintendent shall recommend to the school board personnel for employment in the Sharpsville Athletic Department. In addition, the athletic department will contribute to a more effective, broader athletic program. The athletic committee shall be comprised of the following members: superintendent, school board president, ex-officio, 3 school board members – selected by the president of the board, building level principal and athletic director. The athletic committee shall meet monthly. A member of the school board will act as chairperson of the committee and will be appointed to this position by the school board president. Head coaches are welcomed to attend meetings.

### Responsibilities for Equipment

The head coach will be responsible for the supervision, distribution and collection of school district equipment (see inventory form). Athletes are responsible for all athletic equipment issued to them. Theft will not be tolerated. You are urged to make use of a lock on any athletic locker. Issued equipment that is not returned or is damaged beyond repair must be replaced with the original equipment or paid for (at market price). Players who do not comply with these regulations will be ineligible to participate on any other school athletic teams, receive a report card, or have credentials transferred to other schools until their debts are resolved.

### Responsibility to Teammates, School and Community

As a student athlete you must always keep in mind that your actions reflect upon your team, your school, and your community. It is important that you recognize that you are one piece in a rich history of successful athletics at Sharpsville. Student athletes are responsible to conduct themselves with sportsmanship in mind.

**\*\*A student athlete may be ruled ineligible to compete in a competition for behavior or conditions that are detrimental to the team, school, or community.\*\***

### Injury Procedure

The certified athletic trainer (ATC) and/or team physician will be responsible for the prevention, management, and treatment of all athletic injuries. All injuries must be reported to the athletic trainer as soon as possible. Parents/Guardians will be notified of any serious injuries. The athletic



trainer, not a coach, will determine whether an injured player is capable of participation in practices and contests.

Any student athlete that receives treatment from a physician or physical therapist as recommended by the athletic trainer as a result of possible injury, must provide a medical release to the athletic trainer before returning to participation in his/her sport.

### Pre-Season Heat-Acclimatization Guidelines

Practice or competition in hot and/or humid environmental conditions poses special problems for student-athletes. Heat illness is a primary concern in these conditions. Although deaths from heat illness are rare, constant surveillance and education are necessary to prevent heat-related problems.

#### Core Principles:

- Acclimatization Period: During the first five days of football practice, helmets and shoulder pads with shorts are permitted with no contact.
- These practices are limited to 5 hours of practice daily for the 5 days of heat acclimatization. Practice sessions may be no longer than 3 hours in length and teams must have 2 hours of rest (recovery period) between sessions.
- If more than 48 hours occurs between the conclusion of the heat acclimatization program and the first day of practice, the program will not have its intended effect medically. Therefore, these practices are not limited to five hours per day with no contact on the fifth day since it is prior to the start of the stipulated fall season.

### Instructions to Student Athletes

These basic rules provide guidelines to the student athletes regarding the school building and practice sessions:

- Athletes are not permitted in any part of the building after school except those areas designated by their coaches or the athletic director.
- Athletes should report promptly to after school practices. No practices are to be arranged in the school without the presence of a coach or supervisor.
- Students are only to stay after school if a coach is present.
- Athletic shoes with spikes are not to be worn in the school building.
- Athletes will not be permitted to practice or play in contests without a physical and/or baseline concussion test on file at the school.

### Athletic Courtesy

#### PIAA Sportsmanship

It is unconscionable that a school or any of its employees would subvert the high purposes of interscholastic athletics by condoning any violation of the rules. To involve boys or girls in any practice or procedure which “gets around the rules” is unworthy of a person associated with athletics.

**Athletic Courtesy**

Athletics should foster clean sports. It is the privilege and duty of every person connected with athletics to exemplify these principles in that person's own actions and earnestly advocate them before others.

- A. Contest rules are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no honorable person would break. The stealing of advantage in sport is theft.
- B. No advantages are to be sought over others except those in which the contest is understood to show superiority.
- C. Unsportsmanlike or unfair means are not to be used, even when opponents use them.
- D. Visiting Teams are to be honored guests of the home team, and should be treated as such.
- E. No action is to be taken nor course of conduct pursued which would seem unsportsmanlike or dishonorable if known to one's opponent or the public.
- F. Remember that student-spectators represent their school the same as student-athletes.
- G. Any spectator who continually shows poor sportsmanship should be requested not to attend future contests.
- H. Decisions of contest officials are to be abided by, even when they seem unfair. Contest officials and opponents are to be regarded and treated as honest in intention.
- I. In contests when opponents conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner, and when contest officials are manifestly dishonest or incompetent, future relationship with them should be avoided.
- J. Good points in others should be appreciated and suitable recognition given.

**Student-Athletes Should:**

- A. Conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.
- B. Not use profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language.
- C. Not seek to provoke opponents, contest officials, or spectators to engage in improper conduct.
- D. Not seek to injure opponents.

**Appropriate Communications**

Coaches and the Athletic Director are responsible for communicating information regarding the athletic program to parents. Parents are responsible for understanding the athletic program's rules, regulations, and requirements and the coaches' expectations.

**Communication/Information Coaches Should Provide to Parents:**

- A. Eligibility and playing criteria
- B. Coach's expectations of players and their parents
- C. Locations and times of all practices and contests
- D. Team requirements (i.e. special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.)
- E. Team rules, guidelines, and disciplinary procedures
- F. Lettering requirements
- G. Information regarding procedures to contact coaches

**Communication / Information Parents Should Provide to Coaches:**

- A. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- B. Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- C. Information regarding student injuries and medical condition

**Appropriate Concerns for Parents to Discuss with Coaches:**

- A. Treatment of their child
- B. Ways to help their child improve
- C. Concerns about their child's behavior

**Issues NOT Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:**

- A. Playing time / positions / assignments
- B. Team strategy
- C. Play calling
- D. Other student athletes

**Procedures for Discussing Parental Concerns:**

- A. Parents should not confront coaches or engage in discussion with coaches, either in person or via telephone, immediately before or after a practice or on a game day as discussions during times of high emotions do not promote resolution of issues. Concerned stakeholders should adhere to a 24-hour waiting period before contacting coaches with concerns regarding athletic contests.
- B. Parents may discuss concerns with coaches via the telephone or request a meeting with the coach.
- C. If a parent meeting is desired, the parent should call the coach to schedule an appointment in advance.
- D. If the coach cannot be reached, the athletic director should be contacted to schedule the meeting.
- E. If the meeting with the coach does not provide satisfactory resolution, the parent may schedule an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.
- F. Coaches may also schedule a meeting with the athletic director to discuss issues with parents.
- G. The proper chain of command for parents is as follows:
  - a. Coach
  - b. Athletic Director
  - c. Principal
  - d. Superintendent

## Eligibility

**Know Your Eligibility Rules**

A student who participates in interscholastic athletics at a school which is a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) must adhere to PIAA eligibility rules. If you fail to comply with these rules, you will lose your eligibility





to participate in interscholastic athletics. If you participate while ineligible, you, your school and/or Team will be penalized including potential forfeiture of wins, entire seasons, championships and records. It is, therefore, important for you to be aware of the applicable eligibility provisions.

The information contained herein highlights and summarizes the major eligibility requirements you must meet to participate in interscholastic athletics. It does not list every rule or every detail. Unless otherwise indicated, each requirement applies to students in grades 7 through 12, inclusive.

The Principal of your school is responsible for certifying the eligibility of all students representing your school in interscholastic athletics. If you have any questions concerning your athletic eligibility, either now or in the future, you should discuss the matter with your school principal or athletic director. If they are uncertain about a matter, they can request, from your local PIAA District Committee and/or PIAA executive officers, guidance and even a formal ruling as to your athletic eligibility. A complete copy of the PIAA eligibility rules may be viewed on the PIAA Website at [www.piaa.org](http://www.piaa.org), or may be obtained from your principal or athletic director.

### Age

To be eligible to participate in grades 9 through 12, you must not have reached your 19th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the school year. Where participation is limited to grades 7 and 8, you may not have reached your 15th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the school year; where participation is limited to grades 7 through 9, you may not have reached your 16th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the school year.

For more information regarding amateur status and awards please see Article I Age of the PIAA By-Laws.

### Amateur Status and Awards

To be eligible to participate in a sport, you must be an amateur in that sport. Amateur status, and eligibility, is lost if you, or your parent(s) or guardian(s), receive money or property for or related to your athletic ability, participation, performance, services, or training in a sport.

You may receive awards only from your school or school-affiliated booster club, the sponsor of an athletic event, a non-profit service organization approved by your school Principal, or the news media. Permissible awards include items of apparel, a blanket, watch, ring, scroll, carry-on or warm-up bag, photograph, medal, plaque, or similar award, which must bear appropriate institutional insignia or comparable identification. The fair market value of items provided to you may not exceed \$500.

For more information regarding amateur status and awards please see Article II Amateur Status and Awards of the PIAA By-Laws.





## Attendance

### School of Attendance

You must be regularly enrolled in and in full-time attendance at a PIAA member school, or be home-schooled. Generally, you are eligible only at the school at which you are enrolled or, if a homeschooled student, at a public school in the public school district in which you reside. Charter School or Cyber Charter School students should consult with your Principal to determine the school at which you are eligible.

### Daily Attendance

Student athletes must be in attendance at school or attending a school-sponsored activity (to be considered a full day, you must arrive by 10:00 a.m.) to participate in athletic activities that day. If a student athlete arrives after 10:00 a.m. they shall be ineligible on that day. Arriving by 10:00 a.m. is defined as being signed in at the office by that time.

Exceptions may be made if the student has a written or otherwise confirmed medical, dental, counseling appointment, college visit or other previously approved excuse (approved by the school pPrincipal). (District Policy 123)

Students must be in attendance until at least 11:30 a.m. to participate in athletic events on a given day. If a student leaves school for an unexcused reason prior to 11:30 a.m., they may be ineligible for the day.

If you are absent from school during a semester for a total of 20 or more school days, you will lose your eligibility until you have been in attendance for a total of 45 school days following your 20th day of absence. **(Section III pg. 13 PIAA By-Laws)**

## Consent of Parent or Guardian

You are eligible only if there is on file with the Principal of your school or his/her designee a certificate signed by your parent(s) or guardian(s) consenting to your participation in practices, Inter-School practices, scrimmages, and/or vontests in the particular sport involved. This consent form is contained in the CIPPE form (see below).

## Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation/Baseline Concussion Testing

You are eligible only if you have completed a comprehensive initial pre-participation physical evaluation ("CIPPE"), performed by an Authorized Medical Examiner (as that term is defined in the GLOSSARY of the PIAA By-Laws) before your first sport season's first Practice of that school year. If you seek to participate in subsequent sport(s) in the same school year, you may be required to be re-evaluated and re-certified that your physical condition is satisfactory. Check with your principal or athletic director to determine whether re-evaluation and re-certification is needed.



In all cases, an Authorized Medical Examiner must certify, on the PIAA CIPPE form, as to your physical fitness to participate. A CIPPE may be performed no earlier than June 1st; and, regardless of when performed during the school year, remains effective only until the next May 31st. Only one physical/CIPPE form is required per school year regardless of the number of sports a student athlete participates in (i.e. you do not a physical before football season and then again before basketball).

All Student-Athletes must complete a Baseline Concussion Test with the school's athletic trainer prior to participation.

### Transfers

You are treated as having transferred whenever you change schools, even if you are promoted to a higher level school or are out of school for a period of time before entering the new school. If your transfer from one school to another is materially motivated in some way by an athletic purpose you will lose your athletic eligibility in each sport in which you participate within a period of one year immediately preceding the date on which you transferred. This requirement applies even if you would be otherwise eligible at the school to which you transferred.

The principal and athletic director of each school may sign off on your transfer. If one side feels that your transfer is athletically motivated, there may be a hearing in front of the District 10 committee to determine your eligibility. The District 10 committee at this hearing will make final eligibility decisions, unless one party appeals to the PIAA Board of Directors. **(PIAA By-Laws Article VI)**

### Period of Time After Eighth Grade, Participation, and Grade Repetition

Your athletic eligibility extends only until you have reached the end of your fourth consecutive year beyond the eighth grade. Therefore, if you repeat a grade after eighth, you will be ineligible as a senior.

Additionally, you may participate in (a) a maximum of six seasons in each sport during grades seven through twelve, (b) a maximum of four seasons in each sport during grades nine through twelve, and (c) a maximum of three seasons in each sport during grades seven through nine. You may participate in only one season in each sport during each school year. **(PIAA By-Laws Article VIII)**



## Student Discipline (suspensions, detentions, etc.)

*All student's athletes must realize that academics always come before athletics and participation in athletics is a privilege not a right.* Student athletes must display proper conduct while at school, on the way to and from school and while participating in or attending any school related activity or function.

Students may be ineligible to participate in athletics if:

The student is serving in-school suspension

May not be permitted to participate in any practices, games, etc., during the suspension

If the student is serving out-of-school suspension

Will not be permitted to participate in any practices, games, etc., during the suspension period

The student is placed in alternative education

May not be permitted to participate in any athletic programs without special permission from the principal

Athletic obligations are not excuses for missing detentions and tutoring sessions.

Parental requests to withhold athletic activities may be obliged.

Involvement in delinquent, gang affiliation or criminal activity in or out of school may result in ineligibility or dismissal from the team.

Head coaches may hold consequences for student athletes as per their team rules.

## Academic and Curricular Requirements

Grade/eligibility requirements for all student-athletes in Sharpville Middle/High are:

You must pursue a curriculum defined and approved by your Principal as a full-time curriculum.

Academic eligibility shall be determined on a weekly basis during each grading period. Students' grades will be reported to the principal by 11:00 a.m. each Friday or the last day of the school week.

All aspects of student effort shall be considered in the grading process: tests, quizzes, projects, homework, class participation, etc. The grade given at the end of each week is cumulative and shall be the same one the student would receive on the report card at that time.



A student who is not achieving a grade of sixty percent (60%) or greater in two (2) or more core curriculum subjects (courses for which English, mathematics, science or social studies credits are awarded), by the 11:00 a.m. deadline at the end of the week, shall be so notified and shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic activities and should attend and participate in the school tutoring program for the subjects in which his/her failing (60% or less) grades have been received. Ineligibility for participation shall mean playing in games, contests, or events and/or traveling with the team to away games, contests, or events, but practicing with the team shall be permitted.

In addition, a student must meet all PIAA eligibility requirements to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics. These requirements include an academic requirement, as of the date of this policy, that a student must be passing at least four (4) credits to remain eligible.

Ineligibility will begin on Sunday (12:00 a.m.) following the Friday a student fails to meet academic requirements and will last through the following Saturday (11:59 p.m.). However, if ineligibility occurs with less than a week of school available for the student to improve his/her grade due to the winter break, the student shall be ineligible for the remaining school days prior to the beginning of the winter break, but then shall be eligible until school resumes after the winter break.

A student on the ineligible list has the right to review his/her grade with each teacher who placed the student on the list.

The head coach or designee is responsible for receiving the eligibility list each Friday by 3:00 p.m. and it is the responsibility of the head coach to notify the athlete and/or parent/guardian and see to it that the student complies with the eligibility policy and does not participate in contests during the period of ineligibility.

## Athletic Awards

Requirements for lettering in a sport will be determined by that sport's head coach. If any problems arise due to extenuating circumstances, a committee composed of the principal, athletic director, and the head coach shall make the final decision. The head coach will then inform the athletic director of the names of student athletes that lettered in each sport each season.

### Awards

- A.** Six-inch chenille letter and certificate – all varsity sports, including cheerleading. A letter will be awarded to an athlete the first time he/she meets the qualifications of each sport.
- B.** The second year a participant meets the requirements he/she will receive a leatherette certificate and a metal insignia for that sport.
- C.** The third year a participant meets the requirements he/she will receive a 5 ½" by 7" silver plated plaque and service bar.
- D.** The fourth year a participant meets the requirements he/she will receive an 8" by 8" gold plated plaque.



### **General Criteria**

- A.** Attendance/Participation – Athletes should attend all practices unless excused by the head coach. Athletes must compete the entire season, including District and State competition in order to earn a letter.
- B.** Sportsmanship – Athletes should realize that they are representing their school and community and should conduct themselves in such a manner that they are unquestionable assets to both.
- C.** Adherence to Training Rules – Athletes must abide by the training rules set forth by the head coach and the athletic department.
- D.** Interscholastic Competitions – Participants must compete in Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association approved interscholastic varsity level sports or competitions.

### **Specific Criteria**

Specific criteria in meeting the requirements for a letter are as follows:

- A.** Football/Basketball – must participate in at least 50% of all varsity games (excluding scrimmages)
- B.** Golf/Girls' Volleyball – must participate in at least 50% of all varsity matches
- C.** Wrestling – must participate in at least 50% of all varsity matches and score at least a total of 8 team points
- D.** Baseball/Softball – must participate in at least 50% of the innings played during the season
- E.** Soccer – must participate in at least 50% of all varsity matches (excluding scrimmages)
- F.** Track/Cross Country – must participate in at least 50% of all varsity meets and score at least 21 points
  - a. Dual Meet Requirements:
    - i. First Place – 5 points
    - ii. Second Place – 3 points
    - iii. Third Place – 1 point
  - b. Invitational Requirements:
    - i. First Place – 10 points
    - ii. Second Place – 8 points
    - iii. Third Place – 6 points
    - iv. Fourth Place – 4 points
    - v. Fifth Place – 2 points
    - vi. Sixth Place – 1 point
  - c. Standard set at all athletic Invitational
    - i. The athlete will receive 10 points for district qualifying standards set by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association in their individual events. Relay standards are set by the coaches because the District does not have a set time. Athletes reaching the coach's standard will also receive 10 points and will be eligible to compete at the District Ten meet.
- G.** Cheerleading – All cheerleaders, regardless of grade, are eligible to cheer for any sport. Only varsity squads can letter. Lettering is achieved by the number of games attended per season. All girls must enthusiastically participate 90% of designated season games excluding tournaments. If a cheerleader misses more than 10% of the games, a valid excuse is required (example: death in family). Working is not a valid excuse.



- H. Bocce** – must participate in at least 50% of all varsity matches. This includes the “helper” for the Bocce participant.
- I. Special Situations:**
  - a. **Managers:** Fulfill the duties assigned by the head coach. Recommendation of the head coach shall determine award winners.
  - b. **Two Years in the Same Sport:** Any athlete who participated in the same sport during his/her junior and senior years and did not meet the specific requirements for a letter, may be recommended for a letter by the head coach.
  - c. **Trainers:** Fulfill the duties assigned by the head coach. Recommendation of the head coach shall determine award winners.
  - d. **Injured Athletes:** An athlete who has been injured and cannot complete the season or who cannot meet the requirements of that sport may receive a letter upon the recommendation of the head coach.

### **Letterman Jackets**

Letterman jackets are optional to purchase. Letterman jackets are purchased by the student athlete, not by the school district.

## **Drug Policies**

### **Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia – District Policy 227**

The use of drugs in any manner, and/or for the intent of enhancing athletic performance, is prohibited and is a violation of both the District’s Athletic Policy and Discipline Code. Drugs may include but are not limited to, any drug sold or distributed for the purpose of athletic enhancement and those referred to in the student handbook.

A violation of this policy will result in an immediate suspension from school for a period of ten days and referral for a drug and alcohol assessment. During this period of time, the student-athlete is not permitted to participate, whether it is practice or competition. Upon the student’s return to school, they will be permitted to return to the team under a probationary status and must submit to a drug test at the parent’s expense.

A second offense of this nature, as it relates to any aspect of school jurisdiction, is an immediate ten-day suspension and referral to the board of education for expulsion. In conjunction with a second offense the student will not be permitted any future participation in athletics within the Sharpsville Area School District until they return to school.

We are here to help our student-athletes in any way possible. A self-referral of a drug or alcohol problem will be dealt with and assessed on a case by case basis.

Coaches may not distribute any performance enhancers/substances. Any coach who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by the board of education.

Note: It is the responsibility of the athletic director, head coaches and their staff to communicate this policy to all student-athletes.



The district policy # 227 - Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia are available online at [www.sharpsville.k12.pa.us](http://www.sharpsville.k12.pa.us) or via request.

## Off-Season

### Off-Season Practices and Weight Room Rules

All weight room and off-season conditioning activities are to be held under the supervision of the head coach and/or assistant coaches who have appropriate approval and clearances on file with the district office. Facilities necessary for these activities shall be scheduled in advance with the athletic director and facilities manager to avoid schedule conflicts and activities shall be in accordance with district policy # 707 - Use of School Facilities.

All doors must be secured and locked. All weights and equipment must be cleaned up and put away at the conclusion of each session.

### Coaches' Rules and Pre-Season Compliance

Each head coach is trusted by the Sharpsville Area School District to execute effective offseason programs and conditioning sessions. These sessions must all adhere to the PIAA by-laws and all district policies.

Student athletes are urged to comply with the head coach's programs in order to effectively prepare themselves for upcoming athletic seasons. Pre-season compliance is a terrific method to reach your potential as an athlete.

See **PIAA By-Laws Article XVI** for more information.

### Hazing Policy

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. For purposes of this policy **hazing** is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student or causes willful destruction or removal of public or private property for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the board.

Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates. The Board directs that no administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.

Each incident of hazing will be individually investigated by district administration and all parties involved will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Hazing will not be tolerated by the Sharpsville Area School District.





The District Policy # 247 - Hazing are available online at [www.sharpville.k12.pa.us](http://www.sharpville.k12.pa.us) or via request.

## NCAA Eligibility

### NCAA Information

Student athletes should conduct a meeting with their high school coach(es) at the end of their junior season. Students should let their coaches know that they are very interested in participating in college athletics and should discuss their potential as an NCAA Division I, II, or III player. Athletes should not be afraid to ask for their coach's help in the recruitment process. Coaches will help students, but there are limitations as to how much they can do. There are over 3000 colleges and universities that offer athletic programs. Contacting each and every one of them is impossible for a high school coach.

Levels of Play:

#### **National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)**

- NCAA Division I. This is the highest level of play and they offer the most scholarships. These are the large schools with large student populations.
- NCAA Division II. Smaller specialty schools that provide scholarships as well as financial aid grants.
- NCAA Division III. No athletic scholarships but many high school graduates receive academic scholarships, financial aid, grants, and jobs on campus, also known as work study programs.

#### **National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)**

- NAIA can give athletic scholarships as well as other benefits to enable a player to attend school.

#### **National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)**

- Financial aid is provided for the cost of tuition and books. If you are not ready physically or mentally to attend a 4-year college, then a junior college that offers athletic programs may be the answer.

Once a student has established that participating in college athletics is a goal, an athlete should begin to market him/herself. A student can only be offered a college scholarship if a college coach or scout has had an opportunity to see the student/athlete play. Therefore, it is important that students market themselves to the colleges of their choice.





## Guide to College Bound Student

The following are some recommendations to aid the student/athlete in his/her quest to seek a college scholarship:

1. Go to the guidance office or the internet and obtain addresses of the colleges that you would be interested in attending both for academics as well as athletics. Pick a school that you would be happy attending even if you were not going to participate in athletics.
2. Prepare a letter to be sent to college coaches (sample attached).
3. Prepare a resume of your career (sample attached).
4. Prepare a highlight tape and game tape to send **upon request** from the coach of the college/university that you have sent your resume to (be sure to label your game tape with the appropriate information – name, address, school name, etc.)
5. Do not send whole games. Create a highlight film that lasts about 5 minutes. If this tape sparks a coach's interest then he/she will request more film at a later date.
6. If you participate in an AAU type of summer activity for your particular sport, include a summer schedule for the coach to be able to come and see you play.
7. Send the information before you are in your junior and/or senior season. The best advice would be to send it immediately after the signing of the last recruiting season ahead of you.

The majority of the colleges will send you a questionnaire; complete it and return it to the colleges immediately. Complete all questionnaires regardless if you are interested in the school.

**If you are an outstanding student, you may have opportunities to obtain athletic and academic scholarships.** Many of the top academic universities have stringent minimum academic entrance requirements where many athletes cannot qualify. Talk with your guidance counselor/coach to obtain the names of academic universities in which you may obtain an athletic scholarship. This is a great opportunity for you if you are an outstanding student.

It is suggested that you attend a summer camp to increase your chances of being noticed. You will have the opportunity to perform in front of the college coaching staff for four or five days. Your high school coach or the athletic director can help you obtain information for summer camps.

If all else fails, you have the opportunity to walk on at the college of your choice and have the chance to earn a college scholarship later. It is very feasible to walk on a team and earn a partial or full scholarship for your remaining years if you become a starter.



## Sample Letter

Your Address

Date

College Address

Dear Coach (Coach's last name):

I am currently a junior at Sharpsville Area High School, which is located in Sharpsville, Pennsylvania. I will graduate in the spring of (Graduation Year) and am very interested in (name of university/college) and the programs, both athletic and academic, that you have to offer.

I play (position and/or sport) and after having a very successful junior season, I am looking seriously at the possibility of continuing to play at the college level. Would you please evaluate my credentials and give me your consideration as a scholarship candidate? I have enclosed a resume and I can provide a highlight tape from my high school career upon request.

Your consideration would be greatly appreciated, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

(your name typed here)

Enclosures:

Resume

Highlight Video

Letters of Reference



## Sample Resume

### Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

40 Time: \_\_\_\_\_

### High School Information

Sharpsville Area High School  
301 Blue Devil Way  
Sharpsville, PA 16150

Sharpsville High School Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Sharpsville High School Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Sharpsville High Sport(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Academic Performance

GPA \_\_\_\_\_

PSAT: Verbal: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT: Verbal: \_\_\_\_\_

ACT: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Math: \_\_\_\_\_

Math: \_\_\_\_\_

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### College Interests

Academic area (major) you wish to pursue in college: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport(s) you wish to play in college: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2020-2021 PIAA Schedule of Sports' Events

2020-2021 PIAA SCHEDULE OF SPORTS' EVENTS			SITE
RELATED INFORMATION			
<b>2020 PIAA FALL SPORTS</b>			
<b>GOLF – 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 days		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	20	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	August	20	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	9 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	October	17	
East Region Deadline	October	19	Golden Oaks Golf Club, Fleetwood
West Region Deadline	October	19	Tom's Run Golf Course, Blairsville
PIAA Golf Championships – Individuals & Team	October	26, 27, & 28	Heritage Hills Golf Resort, York
<b>GIRLS' TENNIS – 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	1 week		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	22	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	August	24	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
District Deadline Girls' Team Tennis	October	24	
First Round Girls' Team Tennis	October	27	
PIAA AA & AAA Girls' Team Tennis Championships	October	30 & 31	Hershey Racquet Club, Hershey
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline - Individuals	October	31	
PIAA AA & AAA Girls' Singles and Doubles Tennis Championships	November	6 & 7	Hershey Racquet Club, Hershey
<b>CROSS COUNTRY – 3 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	22	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	September	4	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	9 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	16		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline - Individuals	October	31	
PIAA A, AA & AAA Cross Country Championships	November	7	Parkview CC Course, Hershey
<b>GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL - 4 classes AND WATER POLO</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	22	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	September	4	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	22		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	November	7	
Girls' Volleyball First Round	November	10	
Girls' Volleyball Quarterfinals	November	14	
Girls' Volleyball Semi-Finals	November	17	
PIAA A, AA, AAA & AAAA Girls' Volleyball Championships	November	21	Cumberland Valley HS, Mechanicsburg
<b>FIELD HOCKEY – 3 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	22	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	September	4	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	November	7	
First Round	November	10	
Quarterfinals	November	14	
Semi-Finals	November	17	
PIAA A, AA & AAA Field Hockey Championships	November	21	Zephyr Sports Complex, Whitehall HS
<b>SOCCER - 4 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	22	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	September	4	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	November	7	
First Round	November	10	
Quarterfinals	November	14	
Semi-Finals	November	17	
PIAA AA & AAAA Girls' and Boys' Soccer Championships	November	20	HERSHEYPARK Stadium, Hershey
PIAA A & AAA Girls' and Boys' Soccer Championships	November	21	HERSHEYPARK Stadium, Hershey
<b>FOOTBALL – 6 classes</b>			
Heat Acclimatization	August	10	
First Practice Date	August	17	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	August	22	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	September	4	*August 28 or 29 optional start dates
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	10		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	November	9	
District Deadline	November	14	
First Round	November	20 & 21	
Quarterfinals	November	27 & 28	
Semi-Finals	December	4 & 5	
PIAA Football Championships	December	10, 11 & 12	HERSHEYPARK Stadium, Hershey



## 2020-2021 PIAA SCHEDULE OF SPORTS' EVENTS

2020-2021 PIAA WINTER SPORTS	RELATED INFORMATION		SITE
<b>RIFLE</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	2 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	7	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	11 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	16		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	February	14	
<b>INDOOR TRACK</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	11	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	12 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	16		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	March	6	
<b>GIRLS' GYMNASTICS</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	11	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	12 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	16		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	March	6	
<b>BOWLING</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	2 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	7	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	16 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	22		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	March	26	
<b>COMPETITIVE SPIRIT</b>			
First Practice Date	August	17	
District Deadline	January	2	
PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships	January	15 & 16	TBD
Last Regular Season Contest Date	March	27	
<b>WRESTLING - 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	11	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	12 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	22		
District Deadline Team Wrestling	February	6	
Team Wrestling Preliminary Round	February	8	
PIAA AA & AAA Team Wrestling Championships	February	11, 12 & 13	TBD
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	February	27	
Region Deadline	March	6	
PIAA AA & AAA Wrestling Championships	March	11, 12 & 13	TBD
<b>SWIMMING &amp; DIVING - 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	11	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	12 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	February	27	
District Deadline	March	6	
PIAA AA & AAA Swimming & Diving Championships	March	17, 18, 19 & 20	TBD
<b>BASKETBALL - 6 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	November	20	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	November	27	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	December	11	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	12 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	22		
Last Regular Season Contest Date	February	27	
District Deadline	March	6	
First Round	March	12 & 13	
Second Round	March	16 & 17	
Quarterfinals	March	19 & 20	
Semi-Finals	March	22 & 23	
PIAA Basketball Championships	March	25, 26 & 27	TBD



## 2020-2021 PIAA SCHEDULE OF SPORTS' EVENTS

2021 PIAA SPRING SPORTS	RELATED INFORMATION		SITE
<b>BOYS' TENNIS – 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	March	8	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	1 week		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	March	13	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	March	15	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
District Deadline Boys' Team Tennis	May	15	
First Round Boys' Team Tennis	May	18	
PIAA AA and AAA Boys' Team Tennis Championships	May	21 & 22	Hershey Racquet Club, Hershey
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline - Individuals	May	21	
PIAA AA & AAA Boys' Singles and Doubles Tennis Championships	May	28 & 29	Hershey Racquet Club, Hershey
<b>TRACK &amp; FIELD – 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	March	8	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	March	13	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	March	26	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	9 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	16		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	May	22	
PIAA AA & AAA Track and Field Championships	May	28 & 29	Shippensburg University of PA
<b>BOYS' VOLLEYBALL - 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	March	8	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	March	13	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	March	26	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	22		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	May	29	
Boys' Volleyball First Round	June	1	
Boys' Volleyball Quarterfinals	June	4	
Boys' Volleyball Semi-Finals	June	7	
PIAA AA & AAA Boys' Volleyball Championships	June	12	Recreation Building, PSU
<b>LACROSSE – 2 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	March	8	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	March	13	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	March	26	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	10 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	18		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	May	29	
First Round	June	1	
Quarterfinals	June	4	
Semi-Finals	June	7	
PIAA AA & AAA Lacrosse Championships	June	12	West Chester East High School
<b>BASEBALL – 6 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	March	8	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	March	13	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	March	26	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	11 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	20		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	June	5	
First Round	June	7	
Quarterfinals	June	10	
Semi-Finals	June	14	
PIAA A, AAA & AAAAA Baseball Championships	June	17	Medlar Field at Lubrano Park, PSU
PIAA AA, AAAA & AAAAAA Baseball Championships	June	18	Medlar Field at Lubrano Park, PSU
<b>SOFTBALL – 6 classes</b>			
First Practice Date	March	8	
Minimum Length of Preseason Practice	3 weeks		
First Inter-School Practice or Scrimmage Date	March	13	
Maximum Number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices or Scrimmages	2		
First Regular Season Contest Date	March	26	
Maximum Length of Regular Season	11 weeks		
Maximum Number of Regular Season Contests	20		
Last Regular Season Contest Date and District Deadline	June	5	
First Round	June	7	
Quarterfinals	June	10	
Semi-Finals	June	14	
PIAA AA, AAAA & AAAAAA Softball Championships	June	17	Beard Field at Nittany Lion Softball Park, PSU
PIAA A, AAA & AAAAA Softball Championships	June	18	Beard Field at Nittany Lion Softball Park, PSU



## Athletic Handbook Parent/Guardian Receipt Acknowledgment

We, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

(Student Name)

(Parent/Guardian Name)

Have received and reviewed a copy of the 2020-2021 Sharpshooter Area Middle/High School Athletic Handbook. Our signatures below indicate that we accept responsibility for being aware of its contents and we understand that our son/daughter is expected to abide applicable district, PIAA, District 10, team and athletic department rules, regulations, procedures and policies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**\*\*Please detach this form from the handbook and return to your head coach.\*\***