

# **EDUPRIZE ATHLETICS Handbook**



***“Pursuing Victory with Honor”***

## I. Overview of Athletics Program

EDUPRIZE believes in providing athletics to enhance the educational experience. EDUPRIZE athletics is driven by the Character Counts pillars and the commitment of 'Pursuing Victory with Honor'. The athletic program is a competitive program in which not all student-athletes will play in every game. Sport seasons will be comprised of one team per sport, per gender unless the sport is co-ed. Each team has a maximum amount of players that will participate, therefore, in the event that more students show interest than the maximum amount of players that can be kept, tryouts will take place. Coaches will conduct tryouts for two days and then select their team. If your child is selected to participate on the team, they will be held to the expectations set forth in the athletics handbook.

## II. Sports Offering

EDUPRIZE will offer the following sports:

### **Fall:**

Co-Ed Flag Football  
Boys' Cross Country  
Girls' Cross Country  
Girls' Volleyball  
Cheer

### **Winter:**

Boys' Basketball  
Girls' Softball  
Cheer

### **Spring:**

Co-Ed Soccer  
Girls' Basketball  
Boys' Baseball

## III. Eligibility

### A. Academic Rule

- 1) EDUPRIZE eligibility criterion for extracurricular participation shall be a 70% or higher in all classes in which the student-athlete is enrolled.
- 2) A student-athlete MUST have a 70% or higher in all of his/her classes.
- 3) Student-athletes that are assigned to 7<sup>th</sup> hour (for 7th/8th grade only) will be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities for that day. (Playing time may be decreased at the coach's discretion)

### B. Grading Intervals

EDUPRIZE grading intervals will be every week during the season of sport. Grade checks will be run every Friday and the ineligibility period will run from Monday to Friday of the next week. If the student raises their grade at any point, they are eligible to return immediately.

EDUPRIZE will use the following to determine passing

Grades: A= 90%-100%

B= 80%-89%

C= 70%-79%

\*D= 60%-69% (ineligible)

F= 59% and below (ineligible)

**\*EDUPRIZE holds high academic expectations for student-athletes. In keeping with the high expectations, a student-athlete will be determined ineligible for receiving a grade of 69% or below.**

Any student-athlete with a 69% or below will be considered ineligible for one week. All core and specials classes will be used in determining eligibility. Student-athletes that are deemed ineligible will not be allowed to practice or attend games for the week. In the event that a teacher error resulted in a student-athlete being declared ineligible, a grade change resulting change in eligibility

status must be addressed by noon on Wednesday. The site administrator has final say in determining the eligibility status where extending circumstances may exist.

### **C. Attendance**

- 1) All student-athletes who are going out for a sport are making a commitment for the entire season. They are expected to be at all of the practices and contests.
- 2) Anyone who has **one(1) unexcused absence** (not showing up without communicating with their coach) will see reduced playing time in the following game. Anyone with **two(2) unexcused absences** will be dismissed from the team.
- 3) Each student-athlete is allowed **two(2) excused absences** from practice without consequence (ex. Another sport, vacation, appointments, etc.)
- 4) **The third (3<sup>rd</sup>) excused absence** will result in reduced playing time in the following game. **The fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) and each subsequent excused absence** will result in missing the entire next game.
- 5) We expect all student-athletes to remain at practice until the time that is indicated on the schedule.
- 6) Student-athletes must be in attendance for a minimum of 4 ½ hours of the school day to participate in extracurricular activities. For weekend events, student-athletes must be present on Friday to participate.

### **D. Behavior**

- 1) Since participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right, EDUPRIZE reserves the right to determine participation in the athletic program based on a student's conduct in and out of the classroom 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our athletes are expected to be role models for the student body. Any student whose behavior presents a problem may be excluded or removed from a team for the rest of the season. Students are required to abide by ALL athletic policies and school rules. The following are the penalties for receiving discipline referrals:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> offense- suspended from next scheduled game
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense-removed from the team.

### **IV. Volunteer Coaches**

- 1) Volunteer coaches will be determined per the coaches' discretion. If the head coach would like to have a volunteer coach, their name will be given to the Athletic Director for proper certification requirements.
  - a. Per CAA league policy, any coach sitting on the bench during games must have proper certification.

### **V. Care of Equipment and Uniforms**

- 1) School uniforms are to be used or worn in competition or to school on game days.
- 2) The student-athlete will be held responsible for all athletic equipment for unusual abuse or loss.
- 3) Athletic equipment is the responsibility of the student-athlete to whom it was issued.
- 4) Student-athletes will turn in all athletic equipment issued to them immediately after the completion of any sport.
- 5) Student-athletes failing to turn in all equipment issued to them will be responsible for paying for any item missing.
- 6) If payment for missing items is not received, the student-athlete forfeits their right to participate in any school sponsored event.

## **VI. Parent Conduct**

- 1) We ask parents to conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all EDUPRIZE athletic events. You are there to support the team, coaching staff, and your child this season. We thank you for your support.
- 2) 24-Hour Rule. Please call or send an email the following day if any questions or concerns arise. Depending on the nature, a meeting can then be set up.
- 3) Space is very limited during practice time. We encourage parents to wait outside in the parking lot for players. If it is necessary to attend a practice, we ask that you are a silent observer and respectful of the athletes and coaches time.
- 4) Parents are expected to promptly pick up their student athletes at the specified times. First violation of punctuality will result in a warning. Second will result in a written agreement to withdrawal from program upon any future event.

## **VII. Transportation to Games**

- 1) Student-Athletes are required to find their own transportation to and from all practices and games, home or away.
- 2) Student-Athletes need to be at the games dressed out 45 minutes before game time.
- 3) It is imperative that Student-Athletes are picked up on time and arrive to games on time.

## **VIII. Pay to Participate**

- 1) Each Student-Athlete will be required to pay a participation fee for each sport they participate in. The fee is \$160 per sport, includes a t-shirt, and is non-refundable.
- 2) The Arizona Tax Credit, currently \$200 for singles and \$400 for married couples, can be applied to participation fees as long as it is designated as a tax credit donation at the time the fee is paid.

## Code of Conduct

We believe that being an EDUPRIZE student-athlete is a student choice thereby a privilege, one that along with being a great honor, carries with it responsibilities. As a student- athlete, our young people have an image to reflect: one of positive leadership, character, responsibility, competitive spirit and integrity. It is imperative that all students taking part in athletics understand the following responsibilities and rules and understand that coaches and school staff have the right to remove the privilege of participation. The following are expected of an EDUPRIZE student-athlete:

- A. That proper behavior and respect towards others will reflect positively on the team, in school, and in the community. A positive reflection is the only desirable one for your team.
- B. That you understand the primary reason for your being in school is academic work. Your classroom behavior must be exemplary. If a player begins to experience even a little difficulty in school work, they will be monitored by the athletic department receiving weekly reports from all teachers.
- C. That you will understand that practice is the most important part of the season. Effective practice requires the concentration of the whole team at all times. Players who practice hard and with intensity are the players who are winners every time.
- D. That you represent your school in all you do. The things we are attempting to accomplish will be judged by outsiders based upon your thoughts, words, and actions. Be judicious and appropriate in what you say and do.
- E. That you understand that individual recognition and accomplishments are the result of teamwork.
- F. That you will accept and respect the decisions of your coaches to be in the best interest of the team. Discuss problems with your coach in private. Display only positive mannerisms and discuss negative feelings behind closed doors.
- G. That you will develop a respect for everyone involved and understand what happens on a day-to-day basis. Your coaches and teammates are a very good support group. The important thing is that in the sport context we pursue your common goals as a unit, and put aside differences.
- H. That you realize that the true nature of competition is evaluated by effort, sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork. If the student-athlete receives a high evaluation on these criteria, victories will be made every day. (Note: wins and losses will take care of themselves.)
- I. EDUPRIZE student-athletes are expected to refrain from using any illegal substances, including alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs or engages in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight. Any student found to be using alcohol or other drugs will be referred to the school's Dean of Students.
- J. Agree to uphold and abide by all outlined requirements as specified in the EDUPRIZE Athletics Handbook.

*I agree to the above Expectations and Code of Conduct:*

Athlete's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Emergency Contact Name and Number: \_\_\_\_\_