

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

MUSTANGS

Success Unlimited Academy



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Handbook for Parents and Students

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SUCCESS UNLIMITED ACADEMY

Office of the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Student Athletes:

This handbook defines the regulations and procedures of Success Unlimited Academy, as well as those of the Alabama Independent School Association (AISA) that our school joined in 2018. These are the governing principles intended to ensure the safety and physical, as well as emotional well-being of all student athletes. These principles represent the collective experience of coaches, the athletic director, school principal, administrators, and parents of Success Unlimited Academy.

We strive as a school to meet both the educational and extracurricular needs of your students. Athletic competition should be an enriching experience that teaches social skills and contributes to the physical and emotional maturity of the student athlete. Attaining this objective will be furthered by all in the athletic community supporting both the spirit and intent of the regulations set forth in this handbook.

We look forward to your participation in our athletic program. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 334-213-0803 at any time.

Sincerely,

Susan Alred

Susan Alred, M.Ed
Headmaster

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The purpose of the SUA Athletic Department is to provide opportunities for athletes to develop skills, relationships, and build character through sports. It must be understood that as a member of this program, the student becomes a representative of Success Unlimited Academy and must maintain high moral and ethical standards whether they are on or off the field of play. The contents of this handbook outline the standards, expectations, and procedures for the SUA Athletic Department.

PHILOSOPHY OF SUA ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Success Unlimited Academy believes that athletic involvement is an integral part to a student's educational experience. We believe that participation on any interscholastic athletic team is a worthwhile endeavor, which all students should have the opportunity to pursue. Interscholastic athletics are philosophical extensions of the educational system and classified as extra-curricular activities; therefore, the goals and objectives of athletics should be supportive of and consistent with the goals and objectives of the total educational system. When conducted properly, athletics can positively contribute to the intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual development of students. Students who choose to participate in our athletic program will be expected to conform to basic standards of for the dignity and rights of others, good sportsmanship, and respect for authority.

COMMITMENT

Being a part of the SUA Athletic Department requires 100% commitment. Not only must students commit to upholding moral and ethical standards as representatives of the school, but they are also expected to commit time and energy in making their athletic team a top priority in their lives. This commitment is first revealed through a commitment to each other. Students on the athletic teams are expected to demonstrate loyalty, respect, and unity among themselves. Gossip, slander, and negative comments will not be tolerated. Students are expected to speak words that are encouraging, beneficial, and uplifting. They are expected to treat each other in a way that reflects love and commitment. Students will be held accountable to each other and issues that arise on the team will be dealt with in order to maintain unity among the squad

Students on the athletic teams are also expected to commit to being at all practices and games on time. Sports are a team endeavor. One person missing from the team can greatly affect practices and performances. Therefore, it is important to evaluate before try-outs begin if the student can fully commit their time and energy to be a part of the sports program.

CODE OF CONDUCT

As ambassadors of Success Unlimited Academy and as a member of AISA, it is important that students on the athletic teams maintain moral and ethical standards always. Athletes are expected to:

1. Set an example in word and deed, both in and out of uniform, conducting themselves in a mature fashion and upholding Christian morals and values.
2. Demonstrate sportsmanship, self-control, and respect always. Refer to the AISA sportsmanship policy.
3. Avoid the use of profanity, abusive language, or rude gestures in dealing with teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, or spectators.
4. Be at all practices and games on time.
5. Accept victory with grace and defeat with dignity.
6. Follow the dress code standards listed in the handbook.
7. Abstain from the use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.
8. Place athletic competition in its proper perspective. It represents only one part of the learning process and should not be pursued to the exclusion of everything else.
9. Refrain from using cell phones during practices, games, and events.
10. Comply with the AISA dress and appearance policy.

conduct and to demonstrate a degree of self-discipline for the welfare of their team. Athletes will be expected to demonstrate respect

Students must remember that participation in the athletic department is a privilege, not a right. Students who fail to abide by the rules and expectations of the program will face consequences based on their behavioral infraction. Consequences may include extra conditioning, service, loss of game time, or dismissal from the team. The coach will be responsible for disciplinary infractions but if problems continue, parents will be contacted, and issues will be addressed with the athletic director and/or administration.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Success Unlimited Academy recognizes that a student's number one priority must be to the academic program. According to our AISA conference standards;

All student-athletes must meet the following minimum requirements at each grade level to be eligible for interscholastic athletics.

1. Seventh grade students must have passed the sixth grade the previous academic year and have been promoted to the seventh grade.

2. Eighth grade students must have passed the seventh grade the previous academic year and have been promoted to the eighth grade.
3. Ninth grade students must have passed the eighth grade the previous academic year and have been promoted to the ninth grade.
4. Seventh and eighth grade students must pass five (5) subjects the first semester to be eligible for the second semester.
5. Tenth through twelfth grade students must have passed six (6) new Carnegie units during the previous academic year to be eligible for the first semester.

Note: A minimum of four (4) core curriculum credits must be included in this requirement. Ninth through twelfth grade students may earn and/or retain second semester eligibility by passing 3 new credits during the first semester of the current year.

Note: A minimum of (1½) core curricular credits must be included in this requirement. If students do not meet AISA grade requirements at the end of the 1st semester, students may regain their eligibility for 2nd semester if all member school/AISA approved coursework is completed and in compliance with AISA grade requirements. Verification is due in the AISA office no later than March 1st.

If requirements are completed earlier, student athletes may participate upon verification of coursework by the AISA office. If students do not meet requirements of this policy, they will continue to be ineligible for athletics for the remainder of 2nd semester. Students may not enroll in make-up coursework until the end of 1st semester as set on the AISA calendar of events. Only AISA approved courses may be used.

****Core curricular subjects include English, History, Math, and Science.**

****A student-athlete repeating any seventh or eighth grade will be ineligible (for 1 calendar year), regardless of the reason for repeating. Students in grades 9-12 will follow the AISA Academic requirements.**

Grace Period: All student athletes transferring to an AISA member school will be given a one semester grace period to comply with AISA academic requirements for athletic eligibility providing they are eligible in the system from which they transfer.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important that students are at every practice, game, and event on time. When one person is missing, even if it is for a legitimate reason, the entire team suffers. Students may only be excused from practice or games for illness, family emergencies, or pre-approved absences from the coach. Outside commitments, doctor's appointments, work schedules, etc. should not come in the way of missing a game, practice, or event. Any unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action to be determined by the coach.

If a student must miss practice or a game for a legitimate reason, it is their responsibility to contact the coach through calling or texting. Failure to communicate with the coach before a practice or game is missed will result in an unexcused absence.

FEES

Once a student is selected to be a part of a sports team they will be **required to pay a non-refundable participation fee of \$200 per sport**. This fee covers the cost of renting a uniform, travel expenses, athletic operating expenses and the coaching supplement. Depending on the sport, other cost may be involved such as summer camps, team shoes, equipment, extra apparel such as jackets, etc. The participation fee must be paid by the first official practice. Failure to pay fees on time may result to loss of playing time or dismissal from the team.

FUNDRAISING

Athletes are expected to participate in fund raising events to offset the athletic operating expenses. All team members are required to participate. Any team member who chooses not to participate will be invoiced to cover their part in raising money for the program. Each specific sport will host one fundraiser for their program and the athletic department will host two school-wide fundraisers. Expectations will be set regarding selling a certain amount or committing to a certain amount of time depending on the fundraiser.

UNIFORM

Within a week after try-outs, students will be issued a rental uniform. These uniforms are issued in good wearing condition. If a part of the uniform needs repair once it is issued, the athlete will pay for the charges incurred. If a student loses a uniform, the student is responsible for replacing the missing piece at the current replacement cost. Please make a label with your child's name on every piece. No uniform is to be worn by another person not active in the athletic department. It is the athletes and their parent's responsibility to care for his/her own uniform. At the season conclusion, players are to return uniforms to their coach.

The uniform should always be kept clean and in good condition. Listed below are the washing instructions for uniforms:

1. Wash in COLD water.
2. DO NOT put uniforms in the dryer!!! Drip dry only.
3. DO NOT dry clean or iron.
4. DO NOT use Chlorine Bleach.
5. As soon as the uniform is worn, wash it!

DRESS CODE

In addition to moral and ethical standards, students on athletic teams must also exemplify modesty in appearance. For most sports, practice uniforms will be worn. For other events where athletes will be outside of uniform students should follow these guidelines: shirts should never expose cleavage or undergarments and shorts must be of modest length (girls). Also, for girls, spandex and leggings are not to be worn by themselves; shorts must be worn over them. For boys, shirts should always be worn at all times. Failure to meet the dress code standards will result in disciplinary action. Refer to the AISA dress and appearance policies concerning hair styles, facial hair, body art, and piercings, etc.

PARENT PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT

Success Unlimited Academy values its parents and their participation in the athletic department. Parent volunteers are an integral part of our program and are necessary for our athletic programs to function properly. All parents are encouraged to become a member of our Booster Club. Parents are also expected to help and work various events throughout the season. Various jobs include driving team members to away games and working the gate and concessions stand for home games.

Parents are asked to exemplify moral and ethical standards in how they carry themselves at athletic events. Behavior must comply with AISA standards outlined in the AISA handbook on SUA's website. Parents act as representatives of the school at sporting events and are encouraged to always cheer for their own team and never against the opposing team. Negative comments about players, coaches, officials, the opposing school, or other spectators will not be tolerated.

Success Unlimited Academy asks that parents be supportive of the athletic department, the coaches, and all the team members. All decisions that are made are with the child's best interest at heart. If there are any issues or concerns in dealing with your child that need to be addressed, please make an appointment with the coach to discuss it. Please do not discuss coaching decisions with the coach, athletic director or administration until 24 hours after the decision has been made. All concerns should follow proper protocol; 1) coach, 2) athletic director, and 3) administration.

TRAVEL

The SUA athletic department will be responsible for transporting athletes to all games and events unless the coach states/notifies otherwise. The athletic teams will travel as a group to events out of town. Student drivers will NOT be allowed to drive to events out of town. Athletes that drive may be allowed to transport those who do not drive to in-town games with parental approval indicated on the Student Transportation Form. Parent volunteers may be needed to transport athletes on occasion.

Success Unlimited Academy requires that any parent or coach transporting any student other than their own must complete the Driver Eligibility Form, as well as provide a copy of a valid driver's license and current insurance information. Parent drivers are also asked to drive in a caravan with the team and comply with the speed limit to ensure the safety of the students.

SAFETY

As with any athletic endeavor, there is always a risk of serious injury. Success Unlimited Academy requires that a student who participates in athletics receive an adequate health examination and medical history update. This physical examination is required yearly. The physical examination form must be completed and signed by a physician and received by the athletic director prior to try-outs or any event.

SUBSTANCE USE POLICY

Success Unlimited Academy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco of any kind, alcohol, and illegal substances by athletes at school sanctioned events, on or off campus. Student athletes are subjected to random drug testing as outlined in the Student Handbook. Disciplinary actions will be followed for athletes who test positive. If an athlete is found positive for substances, it will result in immediate suspension from the team. Eligibility to return to a team will be determined collectively by the coach, athletic director, and Administration.

FORMS REQUIRED

(Others may be required as necessary, but may not be included in this list. REFER TO THE SUA WEBSITE, UNDER ATHLETICS/FORMS AND HANDBOOK)

Athletic Interest Form

Medical History Form

Physical Exam Form

Concussion Information Form

SUA Liability Waiver

SUA Athletic Transportation/Overnight Trip Permission Form and HIPPA Release
Student Driver Transportation Fo