

**CRESCENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK  
2009 - 2015**



**Section 1) STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

The philosophy of the Crescent School Athletic Department is to provide the students of Crescent, the opportunity to be a part of a competitive team through a variety of sports programs. At Crescent, we believe that athletics are extremely important in the development of the mind as well as the body. As an athlete you are a role model for others and as a result, higher standards of behavior and performance are expected. It is a privilege to represent your family, your school and your community. Therefore, positive leadership as well as high levels of achievement academically and athletically is expected. Winning is very important, however, handling setbacks and learning how to deal with adversity is equally important. Being successful is not always recorded on the scoreboard or in the win-loss records. Crescent School System is committed to excellence in all that we do, and acknowledging the quest itself is the most significant aspect of achievement.

**Section 2) Introduction**

**It is the responsibility of the student-athlete and their parents/guardians to take the time to read the following rules and policies and to make sure the student/athlete understands his/her role in athletics. These standards have been approved by the School Board, Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director, and all Head Coaches.** The following rules are approved for all Crescent School athletes, managers, cheerleaders, or other students involved in support of an athletic team. *The coach of a particular sport may require rules in addition to these rules.* Participation in Crescent School Athletics is a privilege, and not a right.

**Section 3) SPORTS OFFERED**

**Fall**

Boys- Football,  
Girls- Fast-Pitch Softball, Cheerleading

**Winter**

Boys- Basketball, Powerlifting  
Girls- Basketball, Cheerleading

**Spring**

Boys- Baseball, Track  
Girls- Slow-Pitch Softball, Track

**Section 4) EXPECTATIONS OF ATHLETES**

Athletes at Crescent School are expected to be a positive role model both in and out of school. They are expected to treat authority figures with the respect due, and to take an active and productive role in the classroom and the community in general. Also, they are expected to live

up to all team, department, and school rules and policies. As an athlete of Crescent School, the student-athlete is expected to perform at a higher standard of expectations.

We are proud of our students in athletics and hope that everyone's experiences are enjoyable, challenging, and rewarding.

**Section 5) PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

It is required that each participant have on file, a completed OSSAA Parent-Physician Form. All sections of the form must be fully completed including signatures of the athlete, parents, and the physicians. Forms are available in the athletic offices. The OSSAA requires that physicals be dated between May 15 and the first practice for that sport for each school year. *Students may not practice until a completed physical form is on file in the Athletic Office.*

**Section 6) RULES**

1. Do What's Right.
2. Student-Athletes will adhere to the Crescent Student Handbook covering all policies of student conduct.
3. An athlete shall not possess, sell, use, or be under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, or intoxicants of any kind. He/She will be punished upon admission or proof of offense.
4. All athletes will be subject to Random Drug Testing in accordance with District Policy.
5. Crescent School is governed by the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association. While athletes may not know each and every rule of the OSSAA, they should contact their coach or athletic director if they have any questions concerning the rules and regulations of the OSSAA. If athletes know of any violation of these rules and regulations, it is their responsibility to bring this to the attention of their coach and/or Athletic Director.
6. Athletes are responsible for the care of athletic equipment issued to them, and will be expected to pay for any lost equipment or equipment which is damaged by carelessness.
7. An athlete shall practice and participate in only one sport at a time, unless the coaches agree to share an athlete in a second program. In this case, both coaches, and the athlete, will meet to outline the season in the best interest of the athlete. (Non-school sports or "club teams" are not governed by this rule and school teams will take precedence).
8. An athlete who has been suspended from school cannot play in contests during the suspension. (Corporal Punishment may be administered in lieu of suspension if both parties are in agreement.)
9. An athlete who is in ISD cannot play in contests during the suspension. (Corporal Punishment may be administered in lieu if both parties are in agreement.)

- a. In order for an athlete to be eligible for participation, they must be in attendance for at least one-half of the school day the event occurs.

*\*Student athletes are subject to punishment for offenses as deemed necessary by the review panel that consists of coaches, activity sponsors, and/or Administration.*

## **REVIEW PANEL**

Administration (MS and HS principal and superintendent)

Art Club Sponsor

Band Director

Beta Club Sponsor

BPA Sponsor

Cheerleading Coach

Coaches (Head coach from each HS sport)

Color/Winterguard Sponsor

FCCLA Sponsor

FFA Sponsor

Music Director

Student Council Sponsor (HS)

**Section 7) ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

The OSSAA, of which Crescent School is a voluntary member, requires student-athletes to be passing all subjects or equivalents. Athletics can be a very important part of one's school experience, but academic success is our foremost important goal. We expect our student-athletes to perform to their potential academically and athletically, to best prepare them for their 21<sup>st</sup> Century life experience.

*Any Student-Athlete, who becomes academically ineligible twice during a current sport season, will not be allowed to compete in opposing team competition for the remainder of that sport season.*

**Section 8) NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE**

Student-Athletes with aspirations of playing at the collegiate level need to obtain information from the counselor. More information is also available at the NCAA website, [www.NCAA.org](http://www.NCAA.org)

**Section 9) INSURANCE**

Crescent School does not carry medical/hospitalization insurance for its athletes. This is considered to be a responsibility of the parent/guardian. However, there is a plan available at school that the parent can purchase at a reasonable rate. The Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association provides to each school and athlete a catastrophic plan that has a \$25,000 deductible (your own basic coverage would cover this). The benefits from this policy are open-ended.

**Section 10) TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

The athletic team of which your son/daughter is a member will be making several trips during the course of the competition season. We will be making these trips on a safety-checked bus/suburban driven by an adult-licensed bus driver (or in the case of the school suburban, a coach)

with coaches on board for supervision. The student-athlete will be required to travel by transportation provided by the school, both to and from the athletic event. We realize there will be extenuating circumstance, which may require students to use private vehicles driven by their parents/guardians. **Permission to not travel by school transportation will only be granted upon written request by the parent/guardian.**

**Section 11) MEDICAL REGULATIONS**

Schools are not permitted to administer any type of medication without written permission from the parent/guardian. The coach should be provided with all medication required to be taken by the student-athlete, prior to any athletic event.

**Section 12) INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

If school is dismissed early for inclement weather, there will NOT be any athletic activities after school on that day. If school is canceled for the entire day, coaches may get approval of the Administration to hold an optional practice. No punitive action may be taken against any player who cannot attend practice on inclement weather days.

**Section 13) COMMUNICATION**

The Crescent Athletic Department supports an open line of communication between coaches, athletes, and parents. Each coach is a unique individual and has his/her own style, but they all care about our student-athletes. **When a concern arises with your son/daughter, below is the appropriate procedure to follow:**

1. **Have your son/daughter speak directly to his/her immediate coach at an appropriate time when the coach is not coaching or teaching.** For example, If your son/daughter is on the basketball team, he/she should speak to the coach after practice.
2. **If a concern still exists, you as a parent should set up a meeting with the coach(es) who work(s) directly with your child.** This should be set up ahead of time with an appointment. Attempting to talk to a coach before or after an athletic event is NOT considered an appropriate time, and the athletic office does not expect our coaches to participate in a meeting with a parent during these times. Confrontations after an event are nonproductive and not acceptable. Talk to coaches at the appropriate time with an appointment scheduled in advance.
3. **If a concern still exists after steps 1 & 2, contact the athletic director.** Again schedule an appointment to ensure availability. The athlete, coach, parent(s) and athletic director will meet to resolve the situation.

4. If you have not resolved the concern at this point, then an appointment may be scheduled with the administration.

#### **Section 14) RISK STATEMENT**

As a one embarks to participate in athletics at Crescent Public School there are several things the student and parents should consider:

Participating in athletics presents a possibility of injury. Most injuries that occur are relatively minor scrapes, scratches, sprains, strains, etc. However, more serious injuries are possible. More serious injuries could possibly include cuts, muscle tears, tendon or ligament damage, neck and spinal cord injuries, and head injuries. It should be recognized that these conditions may require major surgery, or may result in paralysis or even death. The coaching staff of each sport will teach proper techniques for each skill and provide safe areas for practice and competition. Your awareness is imperative that these injuries are possible and following directions can save your life. Your coaches will provide additional information regarding potentially dangerous activities in their sport.

Athletics builds character, leadership and confidence. It is not always the best athlete who succeeds, but the one who is most determined and committed to the attainment of their goal. How good can you be?...

#### **Section 15) CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND FANS**

The OSSAA expects each member school to provide a safe environment that promotes good sportsmanship for fans, officials, coaches, and players. At a time when society is experiencing increased incidents of physical confrontations and unmanaged anger associated with sports at all levels, Crescent Public School wishes to keep our athletes, officials, coaches, and fans safe by insisting on proper behavior and promoting our positive reputation for good sportsmanship.

We are proud that the majority of our parents and fans set a behavioral example of the highest standard. However, we are forced to address the issue by the few who do not act appropriately.

Crescent Schools will not condone or permit inappropriate behavior directed toward players, school staff, the opposing school, or game officials (no matter how bad they may appear to be to you). Such behavior can cause the school to suffer severe sanctions from the OSSAA. It is embarrassing to our school and community.

Crescent Public Schools supports the OSSAA rules and the emphasis on good sportsmanship. Proper courtesy, behavior and decorum must apply to all situations, and sports are no exception.

Parents need to understand characteristics of the structure of school athletics and relationships involved.

1. Participation in school athletics is a privilege, not a right. Coaches will retain only those players whose skills and attitudes meet the needs of the program, as defined by the coach.
2. The coach alone is responsible for deciding who plays and how much.
3. By allowing one's child to play sports, the parent is, in effect, turning over the child to the coach for the period of time the player is in the sport. The coach will instruct the child and keep the child safe within normally accepted standards.
4. Coaches are professionals and are operating within the best interests of all student-athletes in their charge.
5. It is inappropriate for parents or fans to confront a coach after practice or event. Parents who have a concern are asked to contact the coach and schedule a meeting at the appropriate time to avoid conflict at a potentially emotional time (as stated in section 13).
6. Cursing or making derogatory comments about the officials, coaches, players on either team, other parents or fans at an athletic event will not be tolerated and the fan will be removed.
7. Attending an athletic event while intoxicated is not acceptable and the fan will be removed.
8. Parents and fans that violate any of the above standards of behavior risk sanctions by the District including, but not limited to:
  - a. A verbal or written warning.
  - b. Removal from the contest or premises.
  - c. A ban from all school activities for up to 6 months.
  - d. Civil or legal action.

In conclusion, we commend those parents and/or fans that always exhibit exemplary behavior and serve as positive role models for our student-athletes. We encourage our parents and fans to volunteer, to become involved with our teams, and to be supportive of the attempts of the entire community to educate our youth. By working together, we will establish Crescent Athletics as a first class program.

**We strive to make good sportsmanship at Crescent School an expectation; where the players play, the coaches coach, the officials officiate, and the *FANS ARE POSITIVE !***

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Print Student's Last Name

First Name

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Signature of Student

Date

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Signature of Parent or Custodial Guardian

Date