

Lyme Central School

Sportsmanship Policy for Athletes & Parents

(Adapted from NYPHSAA Sportsmanship Guide)

Whereas good sportsmanship is a major concern among member schools of the Frontier League, a season commitment with the student-athletes, their coaches, and their parent/guardians is being made to promote good conduct among all players, coaches, cheerleaders, and fans of the member schools.

Therefore, we are asking all team members (Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Modified), coaches, and parent guardians, to certify and honor the following context sportsmanship guidelines.

All Concerned Agree:

1. To live up to a high standard of good sportsmanship at all times.
2. To be a good host-treat visitors with respect.
3. Treat opponents with respect.
4. To respect the judgment of the contest officials.
5. To avoid profane and abusive language and obnoxious behavior.
6. Always set a good example for others to follow.
7. Accept both victories and defeat with pride and compassion, never being boastful or bitter.
8. Remember that an athletic contest is only a game, not a matter of life or death for a player, coach, school, official, fan, or community.

Interscholastic Athletic Contract

Interscholastic athletics play a wholesale part in a student's educational program. Participation on a Lyme Central School Athletic Team is a privilege and a responsibility which requires extra commitment when deciding to wear school colors and representing teammates, coaches, school, and community. Athletes must be willing to live up to a higher standard of behavior. Therefore, each team member must sign this personal commitment statement indicating they and their parents recognize and understand their responsibilities and are willing to adhere to the basic concepts and good citizenship and the basic rule of Athletic Conduct.

BASIC RULE OF ATHLETIC CONDUCT: NEVER do anything which could bring embarrassment or an unfavorable view to our teammates, coaches, family, school, or community.

Examples of improper behavior:

1. The possession or use of any controlled substance, including alcohol, any form of tobacco, or illegal drugs, being in a place where such substances are in use.
2. Poor academic performance or lack of sincere effort.
3. Cutting classes or illegal absences. Student-Athletes must arrive on time and be in school the entire day to practice or play in interscholastic clothing and equipment belonging to our school or any other school.
4. Theft, vandalism, or property destruction of any kind, including clothing and equipment belonging to our school or any other school.
5. Any action that disobeys the laws or regulations of the school, state, or community.
6. Any violation of the standards of good sportsmanship, fair play, or good conduct, including negative statements or actions toward opposing players or officials.

Consequences

1. A coach may temporarily deny the participation of a team member whenever the coach feels that the student is not contributing to good team discipline, morale, or behavior.
2. A coach, with the approval of the Athletic Director, may remove a player for the remainder of the sports season, which starts at the first practice and ends at the conclusion of the last scheduled game.
3. The Athletic Committee, consisting of the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, the coach, and one team member, may render an athlete ineligible for up to one calendar year from the date of infraction.
4. The Superintendent of Schools may review all decisions.

Extracurricular Eligibility Policy

The Extracurricular Eligibility Policy refers to all participants in non-credit-bearing activities. These activities include but are not limited to: athletic teams, clubs, marching bands, and drama productions. Academic progress will be reviewed every five weeks to determine participation status. This policy supports the following directions and concerns:

1. To motivate students
2. To promote accountability
3. To promote the Importance of Academics
4. To reinforce the term EXTRA Curricular Activities

Status	Criteria	Level of Participation
Regular	No course failures No incompletes	Full Participation
Warning *Students may practice and participate in events/games.	1-course failure or incomplete	Full Participation. A warning letter will be sent to the parent/guardian through ParentSquare. The student will be expected to stay after school for help from the teacher in which class they are failing, or they may attend the after-school program twice a week for two weeks. It is the student's responsibility to return this form to the Athletic Director at the end of the two-week period.
Remediation *Students will not participate in games/or events but will practice with the team.	2 course failures or incompletes	Team membership is maintained. A letter will be sent to the parents/guardians through ParentSquare. Students may participate in practices, but not games or productions. The student will be expected to stay after school for help from the teacher in which class they are failing, or they may attend the after school program twice a week for two weeks. It is the student's responsibility to bring this form back to the Athletic Director at the end of the two week period. <u>Students will not be allowed to be reinstated before the two week period is up.</u> If at the conclusion of the two week period they are failing less than two courses, they will be allowed to participate in games and productions.
Ineligible *Students will not be eligible to participate or practice. However, students are expected to be in attendance at both practice and games until their academic status improves.	3 or more courses failed or received an incomplete Failing 3 or more courses in two consecutive 5-week periods	Students will not be allowed to participate in practices, games, or productions. Removal from all extracurricular activities

An appeals process will be available to students who believe they have a valid reason for their lack of performance.

The office will notify students and parents within two days of the progress/grade report deadline if they are failing one or more subjects and consequences. Weekly progress sheets and Eligibility Contracts have submission deadline dates printed at the top of each sheet. Failure to turn paperwork in by the deadline may affect the student's participation status.