

# **DELRAN MIDDLE SCHOOL**



**2019 - 2020**

## **ATHLETICS HANDBOOK**

**For Coaches, Players, Parents and Fans**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This handbook has been prepared to enhance communication between parents, student-athletes, coaches, school administrators and community members. This handbook will describe in detail the rules, behaviors and expectations associated with the Delran Middle School Athletic Department. Parents and athletes are asked to familiarize themselves with the contents of this handbook. Questions regarding specific sports should be directed to the coach of the team of which your son/daughter is participating. This handbook should prove valuable to all those closely connected with the Athletic Department.

## **PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

The aim of athletics in Delran Middle School is to develop a wholesome attitude toward the school program, teams, participants and officials; to develop the qualities of loyalty, unselfishness, responsibility, cooperation, citizenship, leadership and sportsmanship; to compete successfully in a sportsmanlike manner; and to encourage the growth of morale, health and self-discipline of boys and girls.

Athletics are an important part of the overall educational program at Delran Middle School. Participation in athletics is a privilege available to all eligible students. This privilege carries with it serious personal responsibilities to the team, school and the community that the athlete represents. Student-athletes will understand that an emphasis on academic achievement is of primary importance and that athletic achievement is secondary to this responsibility.

Successful competitive performance, in combination with educational consideration, provides the cornerstone for our athletics program. At the varsity level in particular, full efforts are made to win the various competitions. Within this framework, however, all athletes are given ample opportunity to demonstrate their skill levels in order to earn starting positions on the various teams. Within their roles as team members, athletes accept the following:

- Long hours may be spent in practice with no guarantee of participation in games
- Self-discipline and cooperation with others are integral parts of competition

## **ATHLETIC CONTACTS**

District Athletic Director: Mr. Anthony Guidotti, 856-461-6100 x3014

Middle School Athletic Coordinator: Mr. Chris Wolf, 856-461-8822 x4021

Middle School Principal: Ms. Wendy Luyber, 856-461-8822 x4005

## **ATHLETIC PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

The Delran Middle School Athletic Program commits to the following:

- Offering students an enjoyable experience.
- Learn respect for authority.
- Provide opportunities for development of lasting friendships with both teammates and opponents.
- Provide opportunities for students to place team above self; to learn to practice self-discipline for the overall benefit of the team of which he/she is a member.
- Providing the greatest possible opportunity for athletes to participate in both practice and competitions.
- Promoting personal improvement in skills, physical condition and knowledge of the sport.
- Develop for the community an understanding that the competitive athletic program for students has been promoted under conditions which insure to the participant and to the public the traditions in sportsmanship, citizenship and a wholesome school community relationship.
- Promoting programs of excellence that provide a sense of accomplishment and lead to success on and off the playing field.

**In order to achieve these goals, we hold the following positive expectations for the primary stakeholders in our Athletic Program:**

## **PARENT'S CODE**

Parents play a vital role in the development of student athletes and the success of Delran's program. Therefore, we expect parents to do the following:

- Help their child learn that success is experienced in the development of their skills and that they can feel good about themselves, win or lose.
- Be a "team" fan, not just a "my child" fan.
- Refrain from instructing their children before, during or after a game, because it may conflict with the coach's plans and strategies.
- Take time to talk with coaches in an appropriate manner, including proper time and place, if there is a concern. Be sure to follow the designated chain of

command (Coach, Athletic Coordinator, Principal, Superintendent, and Board of Education).

- Refrain from addressing a coach immediately after a game based on a particular game situation or strategy that was observed. Allow for 24 hours to pass so that everyone can better reflect upon what occurred during that athletic event.
- Communicate to the coaches if a student-athlete cannot attend practice for any reason; including extra help with a teacher.
- Update contact information in the Delran Middle School realtime system and sign up for R-School reminders about athletic events.

## **SPECTATOR'S CODE** (Family & Friends)

The larger school-community has an interest and investment in the success of our Athletic Program. These adults play a key role in reinforcing the educational goals of our program. Therefore, we expect these important program supporters to do the following:

- Be a positive role model through their behavior at athletic contests.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.
- Be respectful of all officials' decisions.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people.
- Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the sport.
- Reinforce our alcohol, tobacco and other drug-free policies by refraining from the use of any such substances before and during athletic contests.
- Remember that admission to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest.

## **PRE-SEASON PROCEDURES AND POLICIES**

### **1. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS:**

- **A Physical is to be performed by Student's Own Physician and is valid for 365 days.** All sports physicals must be documented on the New Jersey Department of Education Pre-participation Physical Evaluation packet of forms. Forms must be completed in their entirety including date of examination, healthcare provider signature and medical office stamp or they will not be accepted.
- To be eligible for tryouts or to begin playing an intramural or interscholastic athletic program that does not involve tryouts, physicals must be submitted by the due date listed. The only exception will be for students with an excused absence from school on the due date. In this case, the physical must be submitted on the student's next day in school and must be approved by the school doctor before participation can begin.
- Physicals will be sent to the school physician every Tuesday morning. They will return one week later for review by the school nurse. Coaches/advisors will be

notified on Wednesday of the following week of submission that the document has been approved.

- Physical Forms can be downloaded from the Delran School District Homepage, Delran Middle School Athletic Page or the School Nurse's Page.
1. Annual Athletic Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form includes:
    - a. Part A: Health History Questionnaire – Completed by the parent and student and reviewed by the examining licensed provider.
    - b. Part B: Physical Evaluation Form – Completed by examining licensed provider: MD, DO, APN or PA.
      - Fall Physical Deadline: August 15, 2019
      - Winter Physical Deadline: October 15, 2019
      - Spring Physical Deadline: February 15, 2020
  2. Family ID Requirements
    - a. Athletic Permission Statement
    - b. Medical Information Update
    - c. Opioid and Banned Substance Fact Sheet
    - d. Concussion Education Policy
    - e. Sudden Cardiac Death Education
    - f. Athletic Handbook Agreement
      - Fall Family ID Registration Window: August 15, 2019-September 15, 2019
      - Winter Family ID Registration Window: October 2-October 31, 2019
      - Spring Family ID Registration Window: February 15, 2020-March 15, 2020

## **ATHLETE'S CODE**

Given our belief that middle school athletics provide a unique opportunity for the development of physical conditioning, athletic skill, and character traits, we expect every Delran athlete to strive for the following:

### **Competence**

- Develop the skills necessary to participate competently in the game.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the rules and conventions of the game.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the strategies of the game.
- Demonstrate a level of physical conditioning and fitness sufficient to participate competently in the game.
- Demonstrate knowledge of healthy behaviors including nutritional issues.
- Understand the necessity of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in order to achieve the positive benefits of interscholastic athletics.

### **Character**

- Be dependable in fulfilling obligations and commitments.

- Accept responsibility for consequences of actions without excuses of blaming others.
- Be committed and strive to excel.
- Persevere, give 100% effort and not give up in the face of setbacks.
- Demonstrate truthfulness.
- Play by the rules of the game.
- Control anger and frustration and refrain from displays of temper and bad language.
- Accept losing and winning graciously by congratulating opponents and by not sulking or displaying other negative behaviors.

### **Civility**

- Practice good manners on and off the field.
- Refrain from “trash talk” & other put-downs of opponents and teammates.
- Treat all persons respectfully, regardless of individual differences and to show respect for authority (e.g., Coaches, Officials, Captains).
- Be fair and treat others as one wishes to be treated.
- Listen to and try to understand others.
- Be compassionate and sensitive to others.
- Actively support teammates and others.

### **Citizenship**

- Be faithful to the ideals of the game, including sportsmanship.
- Keep commitments to the team.
- Show team spirit, encourage others and contribute to good morale.
- Put the good of the team ahead of personal goals.
- Set a good example for teammates, younger athletes, fans and school community.

### **Participation**

Prior to participating in a game/match, a student must attend and participate in a minimum of 5 practices. Participation in athletics and all activities at Delran Middle School is a privilege which carries with it certain responsibilities. A student is a representative of the school and the entire community. There are certain basic standards expected of the participants in athletics at Delran Middle School.

- All students who represent Delran on a team are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect class and dignity on Delran Middle School.
- All students must remember they are students of the school first and participants second. Participation in athletics is a privilege granted to a student, not a right guaranteed to them.
- Being a member of a team does not entitle any student to any special privileges in the school. Rather, it may carry a responsibility of being a good citizen in the face of peer pressure to become involved in some action which might violate

school rules. Our athletes are expected to set examples of good school citizenship and cooperation which will reflect upon them as individuals and upon all our athletes in general.

- Students afforded these privileges must assume the responsibilities which accompany them at all times.

## **COACH'S CODE**

The Middle School Athletic Coordinator and Coaches are leaders, dedicated to more than the X's and O's of competition. As professional educators, leaders and role models for students, Delran's coaches and Athletic Coordinator will:

- Exemplify the highest character as a role model for young people.
- Recognize the individual worth and reinforce the positive self-image of each team member.
- Establish a realistic team goal or vision for each season and communicate that to the athletes and parents.
- Encourage and assist team members to set personal goals to achieve their highest academic and athletic potential.
- Create a set of training rules for athletes that reflect the positive values of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.
- Strive to develop the qualities of competence, character, civility and citizenship in each team member.
- Provide a safe, challenging and encouraging environment for practice and competition.
- Gain an awareness of the importance of prevention, care and treatment of athletic injuries.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the game officials.
- Teach and abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Build and maintain ethical relationships with coaches and administrators.
- Strive for excellence in coaching skills and techniques through professional improvement.
- Promote personal fitness and good nutrition.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

### **1. ACADEMIC AND ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- All incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are academically eligible for any activity 1<sup>st</sup> marking period. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have academic eligibility based on final grades from the prior year. Approved summer school grades replace final grades for subjects failed the prior year.
- During the school year, academic eligibility is evaluated at the end of each marking period.
- In order to be eligible for the next marking period, a co-curricular participant may not fail more than one course that he/she has taken the previous marking period. Additionally, a student may not have a failure in two consecutive marking periods (in any single subject).

- Once a student has been deemed ineligible, he/she is considered to be ineligible until the end of the next marking period.
- Board of Education policies 2430 and 2431 regarding school attendance and co-curricular participation can be found [here](#).

## 2. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

- Students who reach the age of 15 prior to September 1st of the school year will be ineligible for interscholastic competition.
- A student who, by age, is eligible at the beginning of the school year shall be allowed to finish that year unless declared ineligible for academic or administrative reasons.
- Eighth graders who by age will be older than 16 for their freshman year and older than 19 before September 1st of their senior year may participate on high school sports teams in the eighth grade but will be ineligible their senior year because of age.

## **IN-SEASON STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

### 1. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- A pupil in grades pre K through 12 is ineligible for participation in co-curricular activities if he/she has demonstrated unsatisfactory current school year attendance by failing to maintain a record of 90 percent attendance.
- A pupil who is absent with an unexcused absence for a school day may not participate in school district sponsored programs the afternoon or evening of that school day.
- Any student who arrives to school after 9:30 a.m. (or the time equivalent of an adjusted schedule according to the attendance policy) may not practice or participate in any athletic activity that day.
- If a student is absent (unexcused) from practice the day before a game, there may be playing time consequences. The coach, in conjunction with the administration, will handle emergency situations.
- Student-athletes are expected to be at every athletic contest during the season. Lack of attendance can negatively impact the participation opportunities of other team members and/or the team itself. Athletes are strongly encouraged to schedule medical appointments and other non-related school events so there are no conflicts with practice or games.
  - If a student-athlete misses an athletic contest for an unexcused reason, the coach may withhold the certificate of participation or any other recognition given to that student athlete.
  - If a student-athlete has committed to a contest or tournament of any kind that requires an entry fee and that student-athlete decides not to participate or behaves in a way that is not representative of a Delran Middle School student-athlete, he/she must remit payment to the Athletic Department in the amount of the entry fee. The same penalties from above will apply. Failure to

do so will result in that student's name being issued an obligation for payment.

## 2. DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

- Any student with 25 or more points at the start of a season cannot tryout or begin to practice for a sport. Students below 25 points may participate in tryouts or join a team but will be ineligible until the point total is lower than 20.
- A pupil who is serving an in-school or out-of-school suspension may not participate in school district sponsored programs while serving the suspension.

## 3. TRANSPORTATION:

It is the school's responsibility to transport the athletes to and from athletic contests. Each athlete must ride the bus to and from all contests. In order to participate in an athletic event, the student must ride the bus to the event. A parent or guardian may sign the student out after a game/match with the coach. A written note is required to be submitted to the coach.

## 4. FORGERIES:

If an athlete is found to have forged his/her permission slip or physical forms, the athlete may receive up to a two-game suspension. Additional offenses would be cause for immediate dismissal and referred to building administration.

## 5. PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

Student-athletes are expected to participate in each of their classes to the best of their ability. They will not be excused from Physical Education class because they have an athletic event that day. If a student is medically excused from Physical Education class (Doctor's or parent's note due to illness or injury) or sits out for the day, then the student is NOT permitted to take part in after school athletic activities.

## 6. LOCKER ROOM SECURITY:

- No one is allowed in the locker room unless a coach is present to supervise. The coach unlocks the locker room and allows athletes in to get ready for practice and/or games and after practices and/or games. The manager or student athlete is not to be sent back alone to get dressed or get something that is forgotten. Only coaches are to be in possession of keys at any time.
- Athletes are not to be sent in early from practice or games unless accompanied by a supervisor.
- When the gates in the hallways are closed, the school building is closed and no students may enter the gated area without an escort from school personnel. All athletes are expected to take their belongings (including outer wear, book bags and supplies) with them to the locker room and/or athletic area and secure them properly.

## 7. STUDENTS MOVING INTO DISTRICT:

- A student who enters the district during the season will be eligible for a tryout or join the team as long as all of the pre-participation paperwork and physical is approved by the following dates for each season:
  - Fall: October 1, 2019
  - Winter: December 15, 2019
  - Spring: April 15, 2020

## **CAUSE FOR SUSPENSION FROM AN ATHLETIC TEAM**

Gambling, stealing, the use of tobacco (in any form), failure to consent in writing to alcohol and drug testing, possession, sale and use of drugs (including steroids), and/or alcoholic beverages are prohibited and will result in discipline in accordance with Board Policies and the student-parent handbook which clearly details all aspects of drug, alcohol, substance use and abuse, including other sanctions.

Suspensions for reasons other than those mentioned above will be at the discretion of the coach and athletic director. All suspensions will require parental notification. These violations include, but are not limited to: insubordination, profanity, fighting, unsportsmanlike conduct, unexcused absences from practice, unsatisfactory attitude, and/or a failure to follow the code of conduct or any additional rules and regulations that the coach or advisor deems necessary to maintain discipline and facilitate the efficient execution of daily procedures. Imposed suspensions in excess of one week require consultation with the Principal. Discipline referrals and school suspensions are justification for suspension or dismissal from a team.

## **DEMERIT POINT SYSTEM (Withdrawal of privilege Point System)**

Demerit points affect student eligibility to participate in after-school activities, field days, dances, class trips and pep rallies, etc. Points are assigned when a student has been late to school or referred to the office due to misconduct. Students are assessed points depending upon the nature of the misbehavior involved. An accumulation of 25 points will result in removal of athletic activities. Any student who has 20-24 points will not be able to participate.

The demerit total will be reduced by 5 points for every 10 straight school days the student has maintained positive student conduct and has not been late to school or class.

## **HAZING**

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process. All such practices at any time on school premises and at school-sponsored events are prohibited.

“Hazing” is a process, based on tradition, that is used by groups to maintain a hierarchy (i.e., a pecking order) within the group. Regardless of consent, the rituals require

individuals to engage in activities that are physically and/or psychologically stressful. These activities can be humiliating, demeaning, intimidating, and exhausting, all of which results in physical or emotional discomfort. Hazing is about group dynamics and proving one's worthiness to become a member of a specific group. The newcomer, or victim, is hazed. Once accepted by the group, the victim may become a bystander, watch others get hazed, achieve senior status, and ultimately become a perpetrator of hazing.

All staff members shall be alert to possible circumstances or events that might include hazing. A staff member who detects or suspects hazing or planned hazing shall immediately inform the pupils involved of the prohibition against hazing and direct them to cease all hazing activities or planning for hazing. All hazing incidents must be reported to the Athletic Director, Principal and/or Superintendent. The Delran Township School District holds a memorandum of agreement with the Delran Police Department in regards to hazing.

## **COACH/PLAYER DISQUALIFICATION**

A disqualified player or coach may not be present at any contest in that sport during the period of disqualification. Definition of not being present at the site means the disqualified player or coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the bus, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet.

- A. In team sports, any player/coach in violation of this provision will be cause for forfeiture of the games during the period of disqualification.
- B. In individual sports, the event or events in which the player previously participated while having been disqualified will be forfeited. The team will lose the highest points awarded in each event noted herein.

Should an 8<sup>th</sup> grade player be disqualified from the final game/meet of the season, said disqualification will carry over to the next sport in that school year. Should a non-8<sup>th</sup> grade player be disqualified from the final game/meet of the season, said disqualification will carry over to the next year in the sport in which the disqualification occurs. Should a coach be disqualified from the final game/meet of the season, said disqualification will carry over to the next year.

Any player/coach disqualified a second time in single or multiple sports will have the penalty doubled. Disqualifications will count for 365 days from the date of the first disqualification.

## **TEAM DEVELOPMENT MODEL**

The coaching staff of Delran Middle School must select players for their respective teams using methods which are often compatible with the nature of each sport. The

following guidelines are to serve as a model in determining squad makeup regarding minimum numbers, grade level philosophy per level, subjective evaluation of skills, and objective measures of assessment based on coaching experience which will be explained to the athletes at the initial tryouts.

**Junior Varsity Sports** – The purpose of athletics at the junior varsity level is to:

- Develop and refine basic skills and learn the rules of the sport
- Determine and encourage the students' continued involvement in the sport
- Provide playing time to all participants, at the coaches' discretion

The junior varsity team will consist of primarily 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade players who have demonstrated the ability to play at the JV level. These players must exhibit the requisite intellectual skills, proper attitude, physical skills, and sport-specific skills that indicate a potential to be a future varsity performer. Some varsity players will also see playing time at the JV level in order to improve a particular skill or increase the confidence during varsity opportunities. The number of players may vary from season to season.

**Varsity Sports** – The purpose of athletics at the varsity level is to:

- Develop skills and physical conditioning of the athlete to his or her fullest potential
- Provide the talented athlete with a chance to excel
- Provide athletes with the opportunities to learn to set goals, strive to achieve them, and serve as role models for younger athletes
- Play to win, build team skills, and enjoy the activity
- Notification will be given by the coach during the pre-season to those athletes who the coach feels will see only minimum playing time

The varsity team will consist of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade players who have demonstrated the ability to be starters or key contributors at the varsity level. Varsity players must have the mental skills, proper attitude, physical skills, and sport-specific skills to contribute to the success of the team. The numbers of players may vary from season to season.

Note: Regardless of level, every player must demonstrate the skills needed to be a member of the team for which he/she is trying out. No player is guaranteed a position simply because he/she was a part of the program in previous years. Playing time is earned based on practice participation and is not guaranteed to each student on the varsity or junior varsity level.

## **DMS SPONSORED SPORTS**

Delran Middle School sponsors varsity and junior varsity interscholastic athletic teams. Existence of sub-varsity teams depends on student participation each year. (Highlighted programs have traditionally held try-outs due to the large interest)

	<b>Boys</b>			<b>Girls</b>	
	Varsity	JV		Varsity	JV
<b>Baseball</b>	x	x			
<b>Basketball</b>	x	x		x	x
<b>Cheerleading</b>	x			x	
<b>Field Hockey</b>				x	x
<b>Lacrosse</b>				x	x
<b>Softball</b>				x	x
<b>Wrestling</b>	x	x		x	x

Delran Middle School sponsors the following intramural athletic teams:

	<b>Boys</b>		<b>Girls</b>
<b>Cross Country</b>	x		x
<b>Dodgeball</b>	x		x
<b>Indoor Soccer</b>	x		x
<b>Track</b>	x		x
<b>Tennis</b>	x		x

## **PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION**

### **Communication Parents Should Expect From Coach:**

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations and goals the coach has for each child as well as for the team/season
3. Team selection process
4. Locations and times of all practice and contests
5. Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions
6. Team requirements, special equipment, strength and conditioning programs
7. Procedures if your child is injured during participation

### **Communication Coaches Should Expect From Athletes/Parents:**

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance
3. Notification of illness or injury as soon as possible

4. Notification about a student-athlete not attending practice

As your child becomes involved in the programs at Delran, he or she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you and your child wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

**Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches:**

1. The treatment of your child
2. Ways to help your child improve
3. Concerns about your child's behavior

It is very difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you hope. Coaches are professional. They make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all student-athletes involved and put the team first. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

- |                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Playing time  | 3. Play calling           |
| 2. Team strategy | 4. Other student-athletes |

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and player, or coach and parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important that all parties involved have a clear understanding of the other person's position. When a conference is necessary, the following procedure should be used to help resolve any concerns.

**If A Parent/Athlete Has A Concern To Discuss With A Coach:**

1. Email or call the coach to set up an appointment. Please wait 24 hours after an athletic contest to contact or speak to a coach.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Chris Wolf, at (856) 461-8822.
3. Please do not attempt to discuss a matter with a coach before, during or after a contest or practice without an appointment. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. After any athletic contest, a waiting period of 24 hours is recommended for any communication with a member of the coaching staff.

If the conversation does not provide a satisfactory resolution, please follow the chain of command: Coach, Athletic Coordinator, Principal, Superintendent, Board of Education.

**IMPORTANT ITEMS TO REMEMBER**

**ACADEMICS COME FIRST!**

Student-athletes must always keep in mind that their first priority is their school work. Many studies show that athletes can maintain a high level of performance in the

classroom and on the field if they make effective use of their unscheduled time. If students are having difficulty in a specific subject, they are encouraged to seek additional help during non-instructional time. Should a student need to meet with a teacher after school, this is considered an excused lateness to practice and will have no adverse effect on the student athlete, provided the student can produce a note from the teacher.

### **ILLNESS AND INJURY MUST BE ADDRESSED!**

Illness and injury are unavoidable parts of athletic competition. The Nurse is an integral part of our athletic program. She is charged by the Board of Education to maintain the physical well-being of the student athlete and return the injured/ill student athlete to full participation as quickly and safely as possible. For the benefit of the student-athlete, his/her teammates and the Delran community, please bring any injury or illness to the attention of the Nurse immediately.

### **TRYOUTS - HANDLE WITH CARE!**

Students often have their feelings hurt when they find out they do not make a sports team. We ask that parents remain supportive and encouraging throughout the try-out process. In order to make the process as easy as possible, the following standard procedures are in place:

- The first day of practice is made known to the athlete at a pre-season meeting or as in the case of Fall sports, through Spring team meetings and/or the school announcements. To be eligible for tryouts or to begin playing an intramural or interscholastic athletic program that does not involve tryouts, physicals must be submitted by the due date. The only exception will be for students with an excused absence from school on the due date. In this case, the physical must be submitted on the student's next day in school and must be approved by the nurse before participation can begin.
- Prior to the start of tryouts, a number will identify each student. Two cuts will take place during the process. After the third day of tryouts, the first cut will take place. An email will be sent to the parents via Family ID with the numbers (not names) of those athletes who are invited back for an additional day. After the fourth day of tryouts, a final list with numbers will be sent out using Family ID to identify the students that qualified for the team.
- A student must attend at least two days of tryouts to be eligible to make the team.
- If a child is injured with a medical excuse note during tryouts, the student will be given 2 days of practice days as a tryout.

### **VOLUNTEER COACHES:**

All coaches are approved by the Board of Education upon recommendation by the Principal. A volunteer coach must fill out a "Volunteer Coach Application," must be fingerprinted and background checked according to district standards. Volunteer

athletic coach expectations can be found under Delran Board of Education policy #9181.

**Special Note:** Volunteer coaches are not simply accepted because someone applies. The Head Coach, Athletic Coordinator and Principal must all agree that they want this person to coach and the team would benefit from their assistance.

**SCHOOL CLOSINGS:**

When inclement weather forces early dismissal from or cancellation of a school day, all practices and games will be cancelled. All students must leave the building/campus. The safety of the student-athlete is of utmost importance.



**GO BEARS!**