

**South Park High School
&
South Park Middle School
Athletics/Activities Handbook
2019-2020**



Burro Pride!!

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This material is presented because your son/daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics and activities. The community, staff, and students of Park County School District Re-2 have a strong belief in the philosophy that athletics and activities are a true function of the educational process. We are here to assist our students in reaching their full mental, physical, and emotional potential. In order to achieve the greatest positive development, the student must listen, learn, persevere, and perform. Training and practice must be an integral part of the mind and character of the participant. It is our mission, through athletics and activities, to equip our students with the necessary skills to be successful throughout life.

According to Park County School District Re-2 Board Policy, our District values an equal emphasis on participation and winning. The following are the core ideals of the extracurricular program at the Park County School District Re-2.

Game fundamentals and knowledge: All participants will be instructed in the fundamental skills particular to each sport and activity. Coaches will provide instruction with the utmost concern for safety.

Teamwork: Students will be provided with a variety of opportunities to feel good about their contribution to the team. Students will be guided in the development of skills, and will be expected to show respect for themselves, their teammates, competitors, spectators, coaches, and officials.

Sportsmanship: A positive attitude will be expected before, during, and after any event or practice. It is understood that a participant is a representative of the Park County School District Re-2, and, win or lose, every participant's behavior will remain consistently respectful.

Participation: A successful extracurricular program is dependent upon the individual participation of students, parents, staff, and community. It is our expectation that through significant participation by all parties, a heightened sense of pride in our schools and community can be achieved. Again, the Park County School District Re-2 values an equal emphasis on participation and winning.

Achievement: We believe that one link to increased academic achievement is school involvement and participation. Students who are active and involved are more likely to succeed in school. The other part of achievement is setting high expectations for our teams and individual participants. Our programs will strive to provide every opportunity for teams to be successful and for individuals to be recognized for their achievements.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Remember that athletes are not eligible to participate in any sport until the following items have been completed.

1. **Physical examination completed and kept on file in the athletic office.**
Physicals are valid for one calendar year. If a student receives an injury that prevents him/her from participating in the sport for a period of time (as stated by a doctor), the student cannot return to practice or participate in games until the same doctor releases the injury restriction.
2. **Insurance form completed and on file in the athletic office.** Athletes must have current insurance to participate. (Please provide a copy of the insurance card)
3. **All academic eligibility requirements have been met.**
4. **Parent permission form and release on file in the athletic office.**
5. **Parent/Guardian MUST attend the parent meeting prior to the sports season.** This meeting will be set up by the athletic director and coach. If it is impossible to attend the meeting, notify the athletic director to set up alternative communication.
6. **CHSAA Student Eligibility Information Form (1B) completed and on file in the athletic office.**
7. **Transfer students must have a transfer form on file in the athletic office.**
Transfer students at the high school level are ineligible to participate in varsity sports for one academic year unless parents show the AD and principal proof that the transfer to the school was a bona fide move and not made for athletic purposes.
8. **Athletic Department Handbook Agreement** and, if applicable, sport training rules signed and dated by the athlete and parent/guardian.

REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ATHLETIC COMPETITION

1. **Emergency data card** – carried by coaches at all times in case of injury or health problem.
2. **Pay district participation fees** (SPHS \$83.00 and SPMS \$63.00 per sport, students on reduced lunch pay a reduced fee, and students on free lunch are free. (Family maximum of \$300.00 per year). Please contact the athletic director if you have any questions or need to set up a payment plan.

A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making the choice to follow our training rules. There are reasons we place such stress on good training habits. We are striving for excellence, and do not want our athletes to compromise with mediocrity. When a student athlete wears the colors of our school, they assume the responsibilities that go with representing our school. Our younger students are

watching our athletes. They copy our athletes in many ways. As role models, our student athletes must set good examples for them. Parents/guardians should understand that they play an important role in their child's participation in extra-curricular activities and adhere to this set of policies. These activity policies are in effect during the school year, whether in or out of school and in or out of town.

1. General and semester eligibility to participate in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities shall be determined with reference to the Constitution and by-laws of the Colorado High School Activities Association and the rules of the school district. In order to participate in any extra-curricular and/or CHSAA activity, a student cannot be failing .5 Carnegie units at the end of the semester. This is the equivalent of one class. A student failing a class will regain eligibility after six weeks if passing all classes at that time. Classes approved in advance by the school guidance counselor may be taken during the summer to recover credits. Classes may be taken through the school, if available, or courses may be purchased through an approved provider at the student's expense. All coursework must be completed, as well as notification to the guidance counselor of the student's passing grade by the start of the fall semester, in order for an ineligible student to become eligible, otherwise the six week eligibility rule will be in effect.
2. All policies/rules established for the students by the Park County School District Re-2 must be followed. Please refer to the student handbook. A student who has received an in-school suspension is eligible to practice during the week of the suspension. However, he/she is NOT eligible to participate in any school activities that week. For example, the student athlete may not dress, sit on the bench, or ride a district vehicle. He/she may attend an event as a bystander. Students who have received an out-of-school suspension are NOT eligible to practice or participate in events. This includes attendance at games. The high school principal will notify the athletic/activities director of any disciplinary actions for students, and the AD, in turn, will notify the coach.
3. South Park High School and South Park Middle School have a weekly eligibility policy. Any student failing 1 class is considered ineligible for participation in games or meets that week. Any student with 2 D's who is a starter will be ineligible to start any games or meets for that

week. A warning eligibility list will come out on Thursday at 2 pm. A final eligibility list for the week will come out on Tuesday at 2 pm. A student on the Tuesday list will be unable to travel and participate in games that week. Eligibility can be regained the following Tuesday. A student cannot make up work later in the week and be eligible for the weekend events. The student can practice after checking with teachers to determine the cause of low grades, and develop a plan to improve the grades. Options available for failing students include Friday school, tutors, and study sessions with teachers before school, after school, or during lunch.

4. All students are expected to dress in accordance with the District dress code, and conduct themselves in accordance with the policies/rules of the Park County School District Re-2, including this activity policy.
5. A participant must attend school for at least 1/2 day (4 hours) in order to participate in practice or participate in a contest unless the absence (doctor or dentist appointments, for example) was prearranged with the head coach. A participant must attend school 1/2 day (4 hours) on the day preceding an event and attend the practice immediately prior to an event to participate in weekend games or activities. Absences due to emergencies, i.e. death in the family, legal affairs, or weather, will be handled on an individual basis. The coach or athletic director must be contacted as soon as possible. Attendance at a Friday event may be considered for participation at a Saturday event. Extenuating circumstances may be reason for the administration to make exceptions to this absenteeism clause.
6. Any participant who fails to turn in equipment for one sport/activity, or who hasn't paid fines from their last sport/activity, will not be allowed to play in a contest until all fines have been paid and/or all equipment has been returned. Care and cleaning of uniforms and equipment checked out to a participant is the participant's responsibility. The student will be responsible for the replacement cost of a uniform should loss, theft, or damage to a uniform occur. The uniform may not be modified without the permission of the athletic director.
7. Students (including cheerleaders) will not be allowed to provide their own transportation to or from out-of-town events. Students will travel

with their team and coach/sponsor to events. Permission may be granted for a students to ride home with his/her parent or guardian if a written statement is given to the coach/sponsor stating that the student will be with the parent. Students will NOT be released to a person other than their own parent or guardian. If there are extenuating circumstances, written consent has to be given by the parents and has to be approved by the AD prior to the game or event.

8. Students will remain with their team and under the supervision of the coach when attending away contests. This includes at the event, during another event, and at restaurants.
9. Every candidate for teams will be given equal consideration. Coaches will place students where they can best learn and develop their abilities. This will be at the varsity, junior varsity, or “C” team level. There may be overlap in team membership.
10. The following rules will subject the participant to disciplinary action by a discipline council. The principal, the athletic director, high school counselor, a team captain, and the head coach will be the members of this council. The athletic director will be the chairperson of this council.
 - A. Conduct unbecoming of a SPHS/SPMS Burro. A student should not bring disrespect to the school, himself/herself, teammates, or the community by his/her actions.
 - B. Willful disobedience toward a coach, sponsor, or administrator.
 - C. Fighting and/or bullying amongst teammates or competitors.

The student, with a parent present (if possible), will be given due process. When the punishment will take place, and the terms of the punishment for a violation brought before the discipline council members will be decided by a majority vote of the council members. Violations may result in the loss of playing time, dismissal from the activity for the season, the loss of that season’s letter, forfeiture of any post season awards, or other disciplinary measures decided upon by the council. The discipline council must substantiate all violations. The athletic director will relay decisions reached by the council to the parents and student.

11. The substance abuse policy is in effect during that activity/sports season. Infractions can occur on or off campus. Verification will be determined by law enforcement, student athlete's parent or guardian, staff member, or by first person account.

Students may not:

- A. Use, possess, or sell alcoholic beverages
- B. Use, possess, or sell drugs or paraphernalia
- C. Use, possess, or sell tobacco products
- D. Use, possess, or sell vaporizers

A violation of this rule will result in application of the following policy. Offenses do not carry over from middle school to high school, but are cumulative during middle school and again, during high school.

*First offense while enrolled as a student at South Park Middle School or South Park High School:

A first offense will result in suspension from any competition for the next two games of scheduled interscholastic events to run concurrently from activity to activity. (For example the final week of sport "A" to the first week of competition in sport "B") The student will be required to receive 4 hours of drug and/or alcohol abuse counseling from the school guidance counselor. The student will also give 8 hours of community service time to the school, in whatever way the school deems appropriate. The student will be allowed to practice, but not participate in any interscholastic events until the athletic director is notified by the counselor that all hours have been completed, or are in the process of being completed, and the two-game suspension has elapsed. Failure to comply within the designated time period, as set by the guidance counselor, with the required counseling will result in an extension of the suspension until the required counseling is completed. If we have an away event, the student will not be allowed to ride the bus. If we have a home game, the student will not allowed to suit out, but would be encouraged to attend the event in support of the team.

*Second offense while enrolled as a student at South Park Middle School or South Park High School (all consequences of the first offenses are in effect, and additionally the following):

A second offense will result in suspension from any competition for the next four weeks of scheduled interscholastic events to run concurrently from activity to activity. (For example the final week of sport "A" to the first week of competition in sport "B".) The student will be required to receive 8 hours of drug and/or alcohol abuse counseling from an RE-2 approved drug, alcohol, tobacco abuse class or center. The counseling will be arranged and paid for by the student and/or parent. The student will also be required to give 8 hours of community service time to the school, in whatever way the school deems appropriate.

*Third offense while enrolled as a student at South Park Middle School or South Park High School (all consequences of the first and second offenses are in effect, and additionally the following):

The student will be suspended from practicing and competing in any interscholastic event or activity for one calendar year (365 days) from the time of the offense. The student will not be awarded a letter for the season during which the offense occurred. The student will be required to receive 8 hours of drug and/or alcohol abuse counseling from an RE-2 approved drug, alcohol, tobacco abuse class or center. The counseling will be arranged and paid for by the student and/or parent. Students will be required to provide proof of the completion of the course to the guidance counselor and athletic director in order to regain eligibility after the one calendar year suspension. They will also be required to give 16 hours of community service time to the school, in whatever way the school deems appropriate.

Sanctions can be appealed to the Disciplinary Council by contacting the athletic/activities director.

12. Cyberbullying will not be tolerated and is grounds for being removed from the team. A student's post on social media directly results in other people's perception of that person and this school.
13. A coach may have specific rules for the sport or activity he/she coaches. These rules, approved by the athletic director, are to be followed in addition to the rules in this policy, and are to be distributed by each coach to his/her participants, signed by

parent/guardian, and on file in the AD office. Should there be a conflict between a coach's rule violation and this handbook, the AD will determine the appropriate outcome.

14. Each sport or activity has specific lettering requirements on file in the athletic/activities office. Disciplinary and substance abuse violations may affect post-season awards at the school, conference, and state level.
15. If a participant or parent has a problem with a coach or the athletic/activities department, be certain that the problem has been discussed thoroughly with your child. Your first contact at school should be the coach of the sport or activity in which your child is participating. Parents MUST wait a minimum of 24 hours following a contest before contacting a coach to set up a meeting. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of this meeting, your next avenue is to meet with the athletic/activities director, followed by the principal and superintendent. It is hoped that this handbook will also help answer any questions that you may have.

Sportsmanship

The Colorado High School Activities Association and the Park County School District Re-2 encourages all participants to practice good sportsmanship and bring about desirable relationships with other schools and their students. Students and fans at our athletic events should:

1. Remember that a student or fan represents their school the same as a participant does.
2. Recognize that the good name of the school is more valuable than any game won by unfair play.
3. Accept decisions of officials without comment.
4. Recognize and applaud an exhibition of fine play or good sportsmanship on the part of the visiting team.
5. Insist on the courteous treatment of the visiting team as it passes through the streets or building, and extend every possible courtesy to visitors.
6. Acquaint others of the community and the grade school pupils with ideals of sportsmanship that are acceptable in our schools.

7. Advocate that any spectator who continually shows poor sportsmanship be requested not to attend events.
8. Insist on fair, courteous, and truthful accounts of athletic contests in local and school papers.
9. Encourage the full discussion of fair play, sportsmanship, and school spirit through class work and other extra curricular activities in order to discover ways by which students can develop and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

Procedure Allowing Physical Activities to be used as Sports Credits

The District recognizes that some students participate in organized after-school physical activities or sports that could satisfy P.E. standards and thus could be awarded a sports credit.

A student athlete can earn 1/3 of a P.E. credit for each sport successfully completed. Managers of teams, with approval from the coach and AD, can also earn 1/3 of a P.E. credit for each sport successfully completed. Three sports credits equal one P.E. credit. Two P.E. credits are required for graduation. Sports credits are not factored into a student's Grade Point Average (GPA).

In order for a student to receive a sports credit outside of school hours, the student must document forty-eight (48) hours of physical activity. Such activities will include but not be limited to dance, yoga, sports camps, martial arts, or gymnastics. These hours cannot be carried over from one school year to the next. Credits earned in the summer will be posted to the transcript during the fall semester.

In order to get the sports credit, forty-eight (48) hours of documented participation will be required. The student must contact the counselor to request the official documentation form. The student is responsible for picking up this form and returning it prior to the end of the semester. The student must have an authorized representative from the organization list the dates, times, and location, and provide a signature on the official form.

In the event a senior is using this for completion of graduation credit, the form must be submitted to the counselor no later than two weeks before graduation.