



**Germantown
Elementary
Athletic Handbook
2019-20**

Changes to the handbook are indicated in bold-faced print.

Reviewed/Adopted July 2019

Topic	Page
Attendance	4
Coach's Expectations	4
Conflict Resolution	4
Eligibility	5
Emergency Treatment	5
Equipment to be Purchased by Athlete	5
Fees	5
In School Detention/Suspension & Out of School Suspension	6
Practice and Event Guidelines	6
Responsible Use of School Uniforms	6
School Rules	7
Statement of Physical Examination	7
Student Athlete Attire	7
Transportation	7
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	8
2018-19 Athletic Handbook Agreement	9

Germantown Elementary School Athletic Handbook

Welcome to all students and parents who choose to participate in athletics at Germantown Elementary School. Our school strives to provide a safe and meaningful experience for children to compete in athletic competition. All student participation is voluntary. The school employs coaches and expects parents to be supportive of school programs, staff, and rules to ensure a positive experience for children. Students participating in athletic programs are expected to follow the guidelines set forth in this handbook.

It is the mission of Germantown Elementary to “educate all children to the best of their abilities through the cooperation of school, home, and community.”

This statement must serve as a guiding principle in the operation of our school’s athletic program.

With this in mind, the athletic program at Germantown Elementary must be an extension of our students’ academic experiences. It is essential to stress the acquisition of the physical skills necessary to compete successfully. It is equally essential to introduce the effective components of competition, including good sportsmanship, teamwork, cooperation, and dedication to a cause.

The following sports are offered to students at Germantown Elementary: Boys/Girls Basketball, Girls Volleyball, Boys/Girls Track, and Cheerleading.

Germantown SD #60 student athletes and the programs in which they participate are governed by rules of the Southern Illinois Junior High School Activity Association.

This handbook is reviewed annually and approved by the Board of Education.

Attendance

A student who is absent and has not returned to complete the second half of the school day (last 150 minutes of instructional time) may not participate in extracurricular activities on that date. Exceptions to this rule are school related activities, doctor or dentist appointments (with note), funerals (parent note), and other reasons approved by the superintendent or designee.

Coach's Expectations

At the beginning of each season, coaches will set forth their expectations and rules for students to participate. Coaches have the final decision on matters relating to student participation. Appeals may be made to the athletic director and further to the superintendent of the school.

All coaches will conduct practice sessions in such a manner that all participants have an opportunity to improve fundamentals of that sport.

No child from the 5th or 6th grade shall participate at the varsity/junior varsity level, i.e., 7th or 8th grade, without the permission of the athletic director and superintendent of Germantown Elementary. A sixth grade student/athlete may participate on the JV/V team if additional athletes are needed to fill the roster subject to SIJHSAA rules.

5th and 6th grade sports are instructional in nature with a focus on individual skill development. All participants will be given the opportunity to develop their skills in game time situations.

JV and Varsity level sports are competitive in nature with a focus on team development. Athletes earn playing time based on attitude, effort, and performance level. While coaches will look for opportunities to get all athletes game time experience, it is not guaranteed.

Coaches may make cuts in consultation with the athletic director and superintendent.

Conflict Resolution

If a parent has a conflict with a coach, there is a proper chain of command to follow while working toward a solution.

1st – a meeting must be set up with the coach, without the athlete, to discuss the problem (at least 24 hours after the incident).

2nd – if the conflict cannot be resolved, a meeting with the athletic director will be scheduled.

3rd – if the conflict still isn't resolved, the superintendent will be contacted for a meeting.

4th – next step is a meeting with the School Board in closed session at the next available Board of Education meeting.

This process must be followed for all conflicts.

Eligibility

Students' grades will be checked every two weeks on the first Friday after the first full week of practice for each sport. The grades used for eligibility checks are those grades that fall in the same quarter as the eligibility check. Students shall maintain a 76% or higher average in each core subject area with no failing grades from any class in order to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. Each subject area must have a minimum of four grades for the grading period checked. An ineligible student may not attend practice during the ineligibility period. If agreed upon by the coach and the parent(s)/guardians(s), the student may attend athletic contests but must sit with the team in street clothes. Notification of ineligibility will be given in the form of a phone call and letter.

After the initial two-week period, the student's academic progress will be re-evaluated. If the student still has not met the above requirement for eligibility, an additional two-week suspension from all extra-curricular activities will take place. A third suspension for academic ineligibility will result in suspension from the team for the remainder of that season.

Emergency Treatment

If in our opinion an injury or illness is serious, 9-1-1 or emergency personnel will be contacted immediately. Then, the school will attempt to contact the parents/guardians. No child will be denied emergency medical treatment as recommended by the attending physician.

All student athletes and their parents/guardians must read and sign-off on the Concussion Information Sheet prior to participation in a sport. All student athletes **will have the opportunity to participate in Impact testing**. The cost of the ImPACT test is \$5 and is the responsibility of the family. The Return to Play guidelines adopted by the school district will be followed when a student athlete is diagnosed with a concussion.

Equipment to be Purchased by Athlete

All equipment and apparel must be approved by the coach, athletic director, and the administration and be consistent among all players. The participants are responsible for providing:

Volleyball: shoes and knee pads

Basketball: shoes

Track: shoes

Cheerleading: shoes, socks, bodysuit, and tights

Fees

Athletic fees will be collected at Student Registration. The fees must be paid prior to the first practice. The fees are as follows:

5th-8th Boys/Girls Basketball and Volleyball \$50.00

Cheerleading \$50.00

Track \$40.00

If fourth grade student athletes are needed to complete a roster, the participation fee will be determined by administration and fairly assessed based on the circumstances surrounding the sport.

In School Detention/Suspension & Out of School Suspension

On a day when a student is serving an all-day in school detention, an all-day in school suspension, or an all-day out of school suspension, the student is not permitted to participate in school sponsored activities before or after school. This includes practices and games.

Practice and Event Guidelines

Attendance at all practices and events is mandatory. Athletes must notify coaches in advance if they will be unable to attend a practice or event. Any athlete with an unexcused absence will be benched for no less than one game. A suspension can only be served on a day when the student athlete is eligible to play.

Student/Athletes are encouraged, but not required, to participate in Open Gym activities. Failure to participate in Open Gym will not result in the coach assigning a consequence.

Student athletes are to arrive at practice no sooner than 15 minutes early. If the coach is not present upon a student athlete's arrival, the student athlete must either wait outside or in the cafeteria. Student athletes are only permitted in the gym under the direct supervision of the coach, athletic director, or other approved employee of the school district.

We ask parents to please be prompt in picking up athletes from practices and events.

Extra-curricular events, including open gyms, practices, and games, are not to be held on snow days unless administration grants the coach permission to do so.

Practices are for players and coaches. Siblings of team members ~~may not attend~~ **are discouraged from attending practices.** Adult spectators are allowed at practice at the discretion of the head coach.

Responsible Use of School Uniforms

Students are responsible for the care of school uniforms issued by coaches. The coach will document each student athlete's uniform number. Upon the conclusion of the season and after Picture Day, each student athlete is required to return their uniform to the **coach or school office**. If a uniform is lost, stolen, or damaged, the player is responsible for its replacement at his/her own expense.

Uniforms may be collected at the completion of each athletic event for cleaning.

School Rules

1. All participants are expected to read and sign the verification form which indicates that the school rules stated in the Student/Parent Handbook have been reviewed. Parents and athletes are expected to attend organizational meetings prior to their child's participation in a particular sport.
2. Healthy food and drinks are encouraged to be brought to school.
3. Students and coaches are required to clean up after themselves in the locker rooms, lobby, and the gym after games and practices.

Statement of Physical Examination

Students who intend to participate in athletics are required to undergo annual health examinations prior to participation and file current copies with the school office. Medical examination forms may be obtained from the school office and on the school's website.

- Participation includes practices and events.
- Sixth grade participants do not need to have an athletic examination separate from the physical examination required by the state of Illinois prior to the beginning of the school year.

Student insurance is provided by the school during the regular instructional day. Parents may purchase additional coverage through the school provider to cover athletic participation.

Student Athlete Attire

Students are encouraged to dress appropriately to and from practice, especially during the cold weather months.

Jewelry may not be worn at practices or games. Hair should be pulled back from the face for safety reasons. T-shirts worn under uniforms must match the uniform color, e.g., red uniform/red t-shirt.

The dress code to and from events will be determined by the coach and athletic director. Uniforms may not be worn to or from events unless approved in advance by administration.

Transportation

Bus transportation will be provided to the following extra-curricular activities:

- Activities held immediately after school: Track, 5/6 Basketball, 5-8 Volleyball
- Monday through Thursday evening events greater than a 20 mile radius from Germantown

The sports schedule will clearly denote when bus transportation will be provided. Coaches will communicate transportation plans with the athletes and their families as well.

When transportation is provided by the school district, student athletes are required to ride the bus to events unless other arrangements are made and approved by the coach and athletic director in advance. Student athletes leaving an event with a parent or guardian must be signed out with the coach by the parent or guardian.

As school district employees, coaches are not permitted to transport student athletes to or from school sponsored functions.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Germantown Elementary School will not tolerate unsportsmanlike conduct from its fans, **players, or coaches** at any district extracurricular event, regardless of where it is held. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as “any action, either physical or verbal, that is construed as vulgar, obscene, confrontational, threatening, or inappropriate.” Examples include but are not limited to, the berating or confronting of officials, the use of obscene, abusive or derogatory language, and other forms of disorderly conduct. Behavior judgments will be based on an observation made by the supervisor of the event, district administration, Athletic Director, referees, other coaches, other school administrators, and/or the Germantown Board of Education.

The district has the right to ban fans, **players, and coaches** from extra-curricular activities due to unsportsmanlike conduct. The length of the ban will depend on the severity of the incident.

2019-20 Athletic Handbook Agreement

I have read this handbook and agree to abide by the coach's expectations and the guidelines set forth in this handbook.

_____ Athlete's Signature

_____ Parent/Guardian Signature

_____ Parent/Guardian Signature