The South Carolina Independent School Association 2023-24 Agreement for Participation

1. Statement of Philosophy

The primary purpose of school is education. The participation in athletics is a privilege for those students who are eligible according to rules and policies of The South Carolina Independent School Association.

2. Summary of The Code of Conduct:

All fans, spectators, coaches, and student-athletes are encouraged to enthusiastically support his/her school and team. We all must realize that the athletic arena is an extension of the classroom. Valuable lessons other than winning and losing are taught. The safety and well-being of students, coaches, and officials is of utmost importance to us all. Athletic events shall be conducted in accordance with the policies, rules, and regulations of the South Carolina Independent School Association. Participants, coaches, and spectators shall at all times conduct themselves in a reasonable and sportsmanlike manner.

A participant, coach or fan will be in violation of the Code of Conduct upon any one or more of the following actions:

- By making any degrading remark about any fan, official, coach, or athlete during or after a game, either on or off the field/floor of play. School officials, coaches and players shall not criticize other schools, coaches, players or officials in the media or on social media.
- By arguing with an official or going through motions indicating dislike or disdain for a decision.

- By using any foul, abusive, inappropriate, or profane language at any time.

- By entering the playing area or field to protest, question, or object to a call or play.

- By hitting, shoving, grabbing or striking any official, coach, athlete or fan at any time (or attempting to do so).

- By being ejected/removed from any contest.

- By detaining an official following the contest to request a ruling or explanation. By following/chasing after the official after a game to express your displeasure or opinion with a call or result of a play or game.

- By the use or display of alcohol, tobacco or an unauthorized drug.

Violations of the Code of Conduct could result in a school, player or fan being fined, suspended or placed on probation. The school shall be notified of the action taken by SCISA and will be responsible for the enforcement of the action.

3. Warning of Inherent Risk/Dangers of Athletic Participation

Participation in athletics includes the risk of injury which may range in severity from minor to disabling to even death. Although serious injures are not common in supervised programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants can and do have a responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Participants must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems, follow guidelines for safe play and inspect his/her own equipment and report any problems.

We understand that Participation in athletics and by attending public events (such as sporting events) includes possible exposure to an illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19.

4. Guardianship:

A student must reside with his/her parent(s) to be eligible for athletic participation. Refer to the SCISA Blue Book for the complete guardianship requirements.

5. Summary of Student Eligibility Rules

Eight Semester Rule: A student has Eight (8) Consecutive Semesters of eligibility from the time he/she first enters the ninth (9th) grade.

Academic Requirements:

- A student in grades 9-12 must take and pass at least four (4), one unit CORE courses or any five (5), one unit courses each grading period/semester. Students below the 9th grade must pass four (4) subjects each grading period/semester. A senior who has met or is meeting all requirements for graduation must pass four (4), one credit courses each marking period/semester. Note: a student must have earned at least four (4) core units or any five (5) units of credit to be declared eligible at the start of a school year. Also, credits or courses taken by the "Home School" method during the school year are not eligible for athletic eligibility determination.
- Any student who did not receive credit for at least 50% (one-half) of all courses taken the previous school year cannot be declared eligible for athletic participation until the successful completion of the first semester.
- A student who is academically ineligible to participate is also prohibited from practicing with the team until the time he/she is academically eligible to participate.

Grade Level Requirements/Restrictions:

<u>Varsity Teams</u>: Eligible students in grades 8-12 may participate on varsity teams in baseball, basketball, soccer, football, lacrosse and softball. Eligible students in grades 6-12 may participate on all other varsity teams. Note: To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 9th grade before permitting participation on any varsity team. Specialty sport programs may have additional restrictions.

<u>Junior Varsity Teams</u>: Sport specific grade restrictions exists for junior varsity teams. Eligible students in grades 5-10 may participate on junior varsity teams in track, cross country, swimming, volleyball, golf, and tennis. Eligible students in grades 6-10 may participate on junior varsity teams in basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, and wrestling.

<u>Junior Varsity Football</u>: Eligible students in grades 6-9 may participate in junior varsity football. (*Agreement Exception) Note: To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 9th grade before permitting participation on any junior varsity team.

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Grade Level Requirements/Restrictions:

- B-Teams: Eligible students in the 5th-8th grades may participate on B-Teams in all sports except football.
- B-Team Football: Eligible students in the 5th-7th grades may participate on B-Team football.

Note: To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 6th grade before permitting participation on any B-Team.

Age Requirements/Restrictions: Note: There are no exceptions to the age standards.

- A student is **INELIGIBLE** to participate in athletics if his/her 19th birthday is before July 1, 2023.
- Junior Varsity: In order to participate in junior varsity athletics a student must not have reached his/her sixteenth (16th) birthday before July 1, 2023.
- <u>B-Team</u>: In order to participate in B-Team athletics a student must not have reached his/her fifteenth (15th) birthday before July 1, 2023. *Exception*: B-Team Football: In order to participate in B-Team football, a student must not have reached his/her fourteenth (14th) birthday before July 1, 2023.

Transfer Rules:

Member School-to-Member School Transfer.

<u>Sixty (60) Day Rule</u>: A student who transfers after either having: **A.** attended one class during the school year or **B.** practices with team on or after the first official practice date must wait sixty (60) days to become eligible to participate (game or scrimmage). Note: This may be waived for a bono fide change in residence.

Non-Member School-to-Member School Transfer.

A student who transfers from a non-member school, if approved, must participate in ten (10) days of practice before he/she is allowed to participate in a game.

Transfer Procedure

- The student shall file a completed Transfer Form, including a statement detailing the reason for the transfer.

Deadlines for Non-member-to-Member Transfers:

Fall Sports: Enrolled and attending classes by September 21st - Winter Sports: January 8th (or the ends of the student's 1st semester)

All Second Semester transfers (member-to-member or non-member-to-member) are subjected to the Sixty Day Rule. The following additional policies are also in effect:

- A transfer must have attended classes for thirty days prior to the start of the play-offs to be eligible to participate in the play-offs.
- An academically eligible transfer student (school year transfer as defined above) must have been eligible to represent his/her former school under any school, student, or athletic policy that was in place when the student transferred or the student must wait for ninety (90) calendar days to become eligible. The Committee reserves the right to extend this period if conditions so warrant.
- A student who transfers before the start of the school year (has not attended one class and has not practiced with the team on or after the first official practice date) and has met all eligibility standards is eligible for athletic participation.
- The stated wait period for a transfer student shall begin on the first day the student attends a class.

Medical Insurance Coverage Statement

It is important for a parent to understand the school's medical insurance coverage policy. SCISA requires that each school participate in the associational catastrophic plan which provides coverage in the event of a catastrophic injury.

New Student / Transfer Student

Any new student to your school or transfer student who plays a varsity sport must complete a New Student/Transfer Student Form (Parent Form and School form).

Recruiting:

A student must not have transferred as a result of recruiting or undue influence. Refer to SCISA Blue Book for clarification of recruiting.

All-Star Participation: If selected, you also give permission for your son or daughter to participate in SCISA All-Star Games. You also agree not to hold the South Carolina Independent School Association, the host school or any of its agents, members, employees, or affiliate organizations responsible in the event of an accident or injury. By your allowing your son and daughter to participate you authorize any and all emergency medical treatment for the player named and understand that you will be responsible for any and all such cost.

Participant and Parent/Legal Guardian Permission

(student's name) has my permission to participate in athletics. We have
read and understand the philosophy of the SCISA, the Code of Conduct, and the Summary of Eligibility Rules. We
understand that there are inherent risks in all athletics and that injuries do occur. The South Carolina Independen
School Association may examine school records of the student whose name appears above in order to verify eligibility.
understand that this form is considered to be a binding contract. The student whose name appears above may only
participate in athletics for the school named below. Transfer to another school after this form has been filed will subject
the student to the Sixty Day Rule. I also agree not to hold the South Carolina Independent School association or any o
its agents, members, employees or affiliate Organizations responsible in the event of an accident or injury. I furthe
authorize any and all emergency medical treatment for the student named and will be responsible for any and all such
cost while participating in a SCISA.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian	Signature of Student		
·			
Name of School	Date		

Preparticipation Physical Evaluation - Physical Form

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Preparticipation Physical Evaluation - History Form

Note: Complete and sign this form (with your parents if younger than 18) before your appointment.

Name:				Date of Birth: Sex:		_
Date of Examination:	Sport(s):				· —
List past and current medical conditions:						
Have you ever had surgery? If yes, list all past s	urgical proced	ures:				
Medicines and supplements: List all current pres	scriptions, ove	r-the-c	count	er medicines, and supplements (herbal and nutritional):		
Do you have any allergies? If yes, please list all	your allergies	(ie, m	edici	nes, pollens, food, stinging insects):		
General Questions. Explain "Yes" answers at the end of this form. Circle quest	ions if you don't	(27) (27)		Medical Questions	Yes	No
know the answer 1. Do you have any concerns that you would like to o		Yes	3/5/	16. Do you cough, wheeze, or have difficulty breathing during or after exercise?		
your provider?		<u> </u>		17. Are you missing a kidney, an eye, a testicle (males), your spleen, or any other organ?		-
Has a provider ever denied or restricted your parts sports for any reason?				18. Do you have groin or testicle pain or a painful bulge or hernia in the groin area?		-
3. Do you have any ongoing medical issues or recent Heart Heath Questions About You		Yes	No	19. Do you have any recurring skin rashes or rashes that come and go, including herpes or methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus		\vdash
Have you ever passed out or nearly passed out DU AFTER exercise?			9,538,34	aureus (MRŠA)?	!	_
5. Have you ever had discomfort, pain, tightness, or	pressure in			20. Have you ever had a concussion or head injury that caused confusion, a prolonged headache, or memory problems?		
your chest during exercise? 6. Does your heart ever race, flutter in your chest or a (irregular beats) during exercise?	skip beats			21. Have you ever had numbness, tingling, or weakness in your arms or leg, or been unable to move your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
7. Has a doctor ever told you that you have any heart	problems?			22. Have you ever become ill while exercising in the heat?		
8. Has a doctor ever ordered a test for your heart? (for	or example			23. Do you or someone in your family have sickle cell trait or disease?	<u> </u>	
Electrocardiography (ECG) or echocardiography. 9. Do you get lightheaded or feel shorter of breath th	an your friends			24. Have you ever had or do you have any problems with your eyes or vision?		
during exercise?				25. Do you worry about your weight?		
10. Have you ever had a seizure? Health Questions About Your Family		Yes	Ño	Are you trying to or has anyone recommended that you gain or lose weight?		
11. Has any family member or relative died of heart pr	roblems or had	9.37.519at	S. WHERE	27. Are you on a special Diet or do you avoid certain types of foods?		
an unexpected or unexplained sudden death before (including drowning or unexplained car accident)	age 35			28. Have you ever had an eating disorder?		
12. Does anyone in your family have a genetic heart p				Females Only	Yes	No
hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Marfan syndrome, ic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC), long	arrhythmogen-	,		29. Have you ever had a menstrual period?	ļ <u>.</u>	<u> </u>
(LOTS), short OT syndrome (SOTS), Brugada syn	idrome, or			30. How old were you when you had your first menstrual period?	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachyc 13. Does anyone in your family had a pacemaker or in				31. When was your most recent menstrual period?	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Defibrillator before age 35?	-			32. How many periods have you had in the past 12 months?		
Bone and Joint Questions		Xes	No	Explain a "Yes" answer here:		
14. Have you ever had a stress fracture or an injury to muscle, ligament, joint or tendon that caused you t or practice?	a bone, to miss a game					
15. Do you have a bone, muscle, ligament or joint injuyou?						
I hereby state that, to the best of my know Signature of athlete:	wledge, my a			the questions on this form are complete and correct.		
Data						

The South Carolina Independent School Association Student / Parent Concussion Awareness Form

Information for Student-Athletes and Parents / Legal Guardians (Keep This Page)

Concussions at all levels of sports have received a great deal of attention and a state law has been passed to address this issue. Adolescent athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of concussion. Once considered little more than a minor "ding" to the head, it is now understood that a concussion has the potential to result in death, or changes in brain function (either short-term or long-term). A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function. A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body. Continued participation in any sport following a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, as well as increased risk for further injury to the brain, and even death. Player and parental education in this area is crucial – that is the reason for this document.

What is a concussion? A concussion is an injury to the brain caused by a direct or indirect blow to the head. It results in your brain not working as it should. It may or may not cause you to black out or pass out. It can happen to you from a fall, a hit to the head, or a hit to the body that causes your head and your brain to move quickly back and forth.

How do I know if I have a concussion? There are many signs and symptoms that you may have following a concussion. A concussion can affect your thinking, the way your body feels, your mood, or your sleep. Here is what to look for:

Thinking/Remembering	Physical	Emotional/Mood	Sleep
Difficulty thinking clearly Taking longer to figure things out Difficulty concentrating Difficulty remembering new information	Headache Fuzzy or blurry vision Feeling sick to your stomach/ queasy Vomiting/throwing up Dizziness Balance problems	Irritability-things bother you more easily Sadness Being more moody Feeling nervous or worried Crying more	Sleeping more than usual Sleeping less than usual Trouble falling asleep Feeling tired
-	Sensitivity to noise or light		

Table is adapted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/)

What should I do if I think a student-athlete has sustained a concussion? If you suspect a student-athlete is experiencing any of the signs and symptoms listed above, you immediately remove them from participation, let their parents know, and/or refer them to the appropriate medical personnel.

What are the warning signs that a more significant head injury may have occurred? If they have a headache that gets worse over time, experience loss of coordination or abnormal body movements, have repeated nausea, vomiting, slurred speech, or you witness what you believe to be a severe head impact, you should refer them to appropriate medical personnel immediately.

What are some of the long-term or cumulative issues that may result from a concussion? Individuals may have trouble in some of their classes at school or even with activities at home. Down the road, especially if their injury is not managed properly, or if they return to play too early, they may experience issues such as being depressed, not feeling well, or have trouble remembering things for a long time. Once an individual has a concussion, they are also more likely to sustain another concussion.

How do I know when it's ok for a student-athlete to return to participation after a suspected concussion? Any student-athlete experiencing signs and symptoms consistent with a concussion should be immediately removed from play or practice and referred to appropriate medical personnel. They should not be returned to play or practice on the same day. To return to play or practice, they will need written clearance from a medical professional trained in concussion management.

Student-Athlete & Parent/Legal Custodian Concussion Statement

If there is anyt	hing on this sh	neet that you do n	ot understand,	please ask a co	ach/staff membe	r to explain or read	it to you,
Student-Athlete	Name:						
Parent/Legal Custo	dian Names						
Yes. We	have read	the Student-At	hlete & Pare	ent/Legal Cus	stodian Concu	ssion Informatio	on Sheet.
Student-Athlete							Legal Custod
Chack/Initials						init	ials/checks

Student-Athlete		Parent/Legal Custodian
Check/Initials		initials/checks
	A concussion is a brain injury, which should be reported to my parents, my coach(es), or a medical professional if one is available.	
	A concussion can affect the ability to perform everyday activities such as the ability to think, balance, and classroom performance.	
	A concussion cannot be "seen." Some symptoms might be present right away. Other symptoms can show up hours or days after an injury.	
	I will tell my parents, my coach, and/or a medical professional about my injuries and illnesses.	
	If I think a teammate has a concussion, I should tell my coach(es), parents, or medical professional about the concussion.	N/A
	I will not return to play in a game or practice if a hit to my head or body causes any concussion-related symptoms.	N/A
	I will/my child will need written permission from a medical professional trained in concussion management to return to play or practice after a concussion.	
	Based on the latest data, most concussions take days or weeks to get better. A concussion may not go away right away. I realize that resolution from this injury is a process and may require more than one medical evaluation.	
	I realize that ER/Urgent Care physicians will not provide clearance if seen right away after the injury.	
	After a concussion, the brain needs time to heal. I understand that I am/my child is much more likely to have another concussion or more serious brain injury if return to play or practice occurs before concussion symptoms go away.	
	Sometimes, repeat concussions can cause serious and long-lasting problems.	
androvitrish '	I have read the concussion symptoms on the Concussion Information Sheet.	

SCISA CONCUSSION POLICY: In accordance with South Carolina/Georgia law and national playing rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest and shall not return to play until an appropriate health care professional has determined that no concussion has occurred. (NOTE: An appropriate health care professional may include licensed physician (MD/DO) or another licensed individual under the supervision of a licensed physician, such as a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or certified athletic trainer who has received training in concussion evaluation and management).

- 1) No athlete is allowed to return to a game or a practice on the same day that a concussion (a) has been diagnosed, OR (b) cannot be ruled out.
- 2) Any athlete diagnosed with a concussion shall be cleared medically by an appropriate health care professional prior to resuming participation in any future practice or contest. The formulation of a gradual return to play protocol shall be a part of the medical clearance.
- 3) It is mandatory that every coach in each SCISA sport participate in a free, online course on concussion management prepared by the NFHS and available at www.nfhslearn.com every year
- 4) Each school will be responsible for monitoring the participation of its coaches in the concussion management course, and shall keep a record of

those wito barricibare.	
Student's Signature	Parent/Legal Custodian Signature
Date:	Date

The South Carolina Independent School Association Warning of Inherent Risk

This school strives to protect each student from possible injury while engaging in school activities. Participants and their parents should recognize that conditioning, nutrition, proper techniques, safety procedures, and well-fitting equipment are important aspects of our school's overall student-safety program. Each participant is expected to follow the directions/standards of the coach and must understand that failure to follow such directions or adhere to standards may place the participant at risk.

We accept and understand that participation in athletics involves certain inherent risks, dangers and hazards that may cause serious personal injury, including death, severe paralysis or brain injury necessitating long term care and significantly impairing enjoyment of life or life activities. We accept and understand that the above-described injuries and other injuries, including but not limited to: concussions; serious neck and spinal injuries potentially resulting in complete or partial paralysis; brain damage; blindness; serious injury to all internal organs; serious injury to all bones, joints, ligaments, muscles and tendons; contusions; dislocations; sprains; strains; and fractures, may occur as a result of participating in this sport.

We accept and understand that participation in athletics and by attending public events as spectators includes possible exposure to an illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19.

Participation in athletics includes the risk of injury which may range in severity from minor to disabling to even death. Although serious injures are not common in supervised programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants can and do have a responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Participants must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems, follow guidelines for safe play and inspect his/her own equipment and report any problems.

risks and we understand and appreciate	of participation in athletics cannot be them and still desire to participate in (Parent Initial)	eliminated. We have reviewed all of these activity.
limited to MRSA, influenza, and COV	des <u>possible exposure to an illness f</u> ID-19. (Parent Initial)	rom infectious diseases including but not
infectious diseases including but not li	vents (including sporting events) including sporting events) including to MRSA, influenza, and COV (Parent Initial)	ides <u>possible exposure to an illness from</u> /ID-19.
We certify that (Student Name) could interfere with or compromise his (Student Initial)	her safety in participating in this act (Parent Initial)	as no medical or physical conditions which ivity.
I authorize qualified emergency medical administer emergency medical care to (Parent Initial)	the above-named student.	e event of an injury or serious illness, to
we understand that neither the staff me because of the accident, injury, illness	mber nor the school district assumes	cy medical care for the above-named student, financial liability for the expenses incurred
I certify that my household has sufficie any injury that may be sustained by the (Parent Initial)	above-named student.	necessary medical care or resultant care for
Having read and initialed the statements participating in this voluntary school athle and wish to participate.	above, I acknowledge that I have read tic program. By signing below I certify	and fully understand the RISKS associated with that I have read the above, understand its content
Student name (please print)	Student signature	Date
Having read and initialed the statements participating in this voluntary school athler and give my permission for my student to p	tic program. By signing below I certify:	and fully understand the RISKS associated with that I have read the above, understand its content
Parent/guardian name (please print)	Parent/guardian signature	Date

Date

The South Carolina Independent School Association Warning of Inherent Risk

Assumption of Risk / Waiver of Liability / Indemnification Agreement

Release of Liability for minor Participants: Read before signing

Participation in athletics includes the <u>risk of injury</u> which may range in severity from minor to disabling to even death. Although serious injures are not common in supervised programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants can and do have a responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Participants must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems, follow guidelines for safe play and inspect his/her own equipment and report any problems.

Waiver/Release for Communicable Diseases including COVID-19 In consideration of being allowed to participate in my school's athletic program in SCISA and related events and activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that: Participation includes possible exposure to an illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist; and, I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the releasees or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation. IN CONSIDERATION OF (name of student participant) being allowed to participate in any way in the related events and activities of the SCISA Athletic Association and this school's athletic program, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that: 1. The risk of injury to my child/ward from the activities involved in athletic programs exist, including the potential for permanent disability and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and, 2. Participation includes possible exposure to an illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist 3. I for myself, spouse, and child/ward, knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, and assume full responsibility for my child/ward's participation and we also assume all risks as a spectator at athletic events where we may also be exposed to an illness from infectious diseases; and, 4. I willingly agree to comply with the program's stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If I observe any unusual significant concern in my child/ward's readiness for participation and/or in the program itself, I will remove my child/ward from the participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and, 5. I for myself, my spouse, my child/ward, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS The South Carolina Independent School) and its directors, officers, officials, agents, employees. Association, this school (volunteers, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the Event, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property incident to my child/ward's involvement or participation in these programs. 6. I grant permission to athletics trainers, first responders, nurses, and coaches as well as physicians or those under their direction who are a part of athletic prevention and treatment, to have access to necessary medical information. 7. I understand that the physical evaluation for participation is simply a screening evaluation and not a substitute for regular health care. I have read this Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement, and fully understand its terms, Date Signed (PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE) Student Participant Understanding of Risk

I understand the seriousness of the risks involved in participating in an athletic program, my personal responsibilities for adhering to rules and regulation, and accept them as a participant.

Date Signed

(Participant's Signature)

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE COACH.

I have read and understand the policies of
the Athletic Department and agree to abide by them.
Florent's Circumburg
Parent's Signature
Student's Signature
Date