

Athletic Handbook For Patrick Henry Academy



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Mission Statement:

Patrick Henry Academy, a college preparatory school, strives to create a community of learners in a Christian environment committed to a challenging and supportive educational experience that will foster the intellectual, moral, emotional, physical and spiritual development of each student.

Patrick Henry Academy holds membership in the South Carolina Independent School Athletic Association (SCISAA) which formulates and maintains policies for the athletics program. Due to variations in student interest and availability of opponents, athletic teams may change from year to year.

For the 2026–2028 school year, PHA will compete in Class 2A Region 3 for all sports, with the exception of football and men's soccer, which will participate in Class 2A.

Class 2A Region 3:

Patrick Henry Academy
Beaufort Academy
Andrew Jackson Academy

1A Flex Teams

Thomas Heyward Academy
Complete Student
Holy Trinity Classical

Class 2A Region 1:*(Football and Men's Soccer)*

Patrick Henry Academy
Calhoun Academy
Colleton Preparatory Academy
Cross Schools
St John's Christian

Patrick Henry Academy

Athletic Coaches

Fall Sports

Football - Varsity

Peeples, Joe Gray

Football - JV

Gohahan, Nick

Cross Country

Wall, Kelly

Cheerleading - Varsity

Vaughn, Bain

Miley, Leslie

Cheerleading - JV

McCrary, ZoE

Volleyball Varsity & JV

Wemes, Kristin

Volleyball - B-Team

Dontje, Dot

Winter Sports

Girls Basketball - Varsity

Creech, Anthony

Girls Basketball - JV

Wooten, Elizabeth

Boys Wrestling -

Sobey, Jon

Girls Basketball - B-Team

Wooten, Elizabeth

Boys Basketball - Varsity

TBD

Boys Basketball - JV

Hughee, William

Boys Basketball-B,C-Team

Padget, Ben

Spring Sports

Girls Soccer - Varsity

Mathis, Mike

Girls Soccer - B-Team

Wooten, Jeff

Braddock, Kevin

Boys Soccer

Gonzalez, Reynaldo

Baseball - Varsity

Gibson, Brody

Baseball - B-Team

Wood, John

Booster Club Requirements

The PHA Athletic Booster Club is an independent, non-profit fundraising organization whose sole purpose is to support PHA athletics. The Booster Club is responsible for purchasing athletic equipment and uniforms and paying game officials. Other funds are raised through ticket sales, an annual golf tournament, concessions, and other fundraising opportunities.

Concessions

If your child participates in sports, such as football, cheer, volleyball, basketball, baseball, wrestling, cross country, soccer and/or softball, a parent is required to participate in concession and/or gate for these sports. This **ONLY** excludes the coach for that sport during which they coach. **Working concessions does NOT exclude the spouse of a coach.**

You sign up for concessions online (SIGNUP GENIUS). There will be a link sent out and also it will be on the PHA website.

All parents/guardians who have children participating in a sport(s) at PHA are required to join the Booster Club for \$50. All parents/guardians are also required to work assigned games in accordance with the number of children playing a sport(s). Failure to work assigned game(s) will result in a \$150 fee per child. This will be enforced and your child will not play the next sport. If your child is a Senior they will not walk. If you choose not to work concession, you may go ahead and pay the \$150.00 Fee at the beginning of the sports season.

Examples:

If your child is playing JV Football, you can choose to sign up for a Varsity game. If you have two players..you would be required to sign up for TWO concession spots...**For other sports, you would be able to choose between the gate or concession.** All help is greatly appreciated and there will be many opportunities to help make this year a success!

JV Football Parent works Varsity Football Games

Varsity Football Parent works JV Football Games

Cross Country a Parent works the Cross Country Meet

Volleyball a Parent works Volleyball

Basketball a Parent works Basketball

Wrestling a Parent works Basketball

Soccer and Baseball a Parent works a Spring Concession Shift

Sports Athletic Fee

Each student who participates in a sport is required to pay a \$125 Athletic Fee per year. This must be paid BEFORE the first game or your athlete will not be allowed to participate in the game until paid.

Home Game Passes NEW RATES

Parent Pass (Per Parent) \$150.00

Grandparent Pass (Per Grandparent) \$70.00

All PHA Students - Free

Must have Passes present at the gate or you will be required to pay at the gate.

Eligibility Rules

The primary purpose of school is education. The participation in athletics is a privilege for those students who are eligible to represent the school where he/she is a full-time student and are meeting all academic, grade, age, residency (guardianship), eight-semester, and additional eligibility rules. An ineligible player is not allowed to participate against another school in any competition, whether practice sessions, scrimmages, jamborees, or scheduled games (SCISA or out-of-league games). An academically ineligible player may not take part in practice sessions.

Enrollment includes exclusive participation in Patrick Henry Academy's interscholastic athletic programs. Students may not participate as a member of an interscholastic athletic team at any other school, whether public or private, unless approved by the administration and the board of directors.

Academic Requirements:

Academic achievement is a prerequisite to participation.

The primary purpose of school is **EDUCATION**. The participation in Athletics is a privilege for those students who are academically eligible.

- A. In order to participate in athletic activities of the South Carolina Independent School Association, a student must be enrolled in and attending the member school in order to participate in that school's athletic program. The student must also meet all other necessary requirements for participation.

A student must take, pass, and receive credit for at least five (5) one-credit courses or their equivalent (courses which have not been previously passed) to be eligible during the next nine-week marking period. A senior who has met or is meeting all requirements for graduation must pass four (4), one-credit courses each nine weeks. A student must have received credit for at least five (5) one-credit courses from the previous school year to be eligible for the first nine-week marking period in the school year. Credits earned during summer sessions may be accepted from an accredited school. All summer school sessions must have prior approval from the school administration to be considered for credit.

If your student athlete is in risk of failing any subject they will be required to attend tutoring at the teachers approved schedule/time and it has to be signed off by the Teacher and Athletic Director.

- B. A Maximum of Two Credits earned/recovered during summer sessions may be accepted from an accredited school with an established summer school program.
- C. First Semester Academic Eligibility: A student must have earned a minimum of 4 core units or any 5 units of credit from the previous school year to be declared eligible for the First Semester (Fall) of a school year.
 - a. Any student who did not receive credit for at least one-half of all courses taken the previous school year cannot be declared eligible until after the successful completion of the 1st Semester.
 - b. Block Schedule: At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school. (Example: a student who earned 4 units for the first semester but withdrew/dropped out in the 2nd semester shall be declared ineligible for the First Semester).
- D. Home School Courses. If a school allows a student to take courses at “home”, those courses are not eligible for athletic eligibility.
- E. Schools providing non-traditional academic programs such as “virtual school”, distance learning, or other non-traditional courses shall seek prior approval by SCISA before these courses may be used for athletic eligibility.
- F. Core Courses: Those courses in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Computer Science (1), Fine Arts(1), and Foreign Language that are recommended by the Commission on Higher Education and are common to SCISA schools.
- G. A one-credit course is a course taken for 36 weeks, one period each day for a minimum of 45 minutes. A course taken each day as above for 18 weeks would be a half credit, which, when combined with another half credit course, would be the equivalent of a one credit course. A course taken for 36 weeks but only three 45-minute periods each week would not be a one-credit course. Note: A one-credit course taken for 18 weeks shall meet for one period each day for a minimum of 90 minutes.
 - a. Dual Credit Courses are treated as one-half of a carnage unit.
- H. Eligibility is to be declared on the fourth (4th) school day after the end of the marking period. A student shall become eligible or ineligible at 12:01 AM on the fourth school day after the end of the marking period.
 - a. Example 1: The marking period ends on Friday. Student X becomes eligible or ineligible at 12:01 AM on Thursday. Example 2: The marking period ends on a Monday and Tuesday is a holiday for students. Student Y becomes eligible or ineligible at 12:01 AM on the following Monday.

Transition from one Sport Season to Another

Varsity Sports: You must complete that season before moving to the next sport.

Example: Varsity Fall Sport may not start Winter sports until the Fall sport season is completely over.

JV/B-Team/C-Team Sports: They are allowed to start the next sports season with a coaches approval from both sports.

Student Eligibility Below Grade 9

1. Students below the 9th grade must pass four (4) subjects each grading period/semester to be eligible for the next grading period.
2. A student must have passed the previous school year to be eligible for athletic participation in the first grading period.
3. All students must comply with the age requirements and grade level restrictions for each level of competition.

Rules and Regulations: Required Forms

1. **Certificate of Eligibility:** All students participating in athletics must be listed on a team roster with their name and grade.
2. **New Student / Transfer Student Form: Parents Form and School Form:** All “new-to-your-school” students who play a varsity sport must submit a completed New Student / Transfer Student Form. New Students are defined as students who enroll during the summer and before the start of fall practice. Transfer students are defined as students who transfer after the start of a school year or after practicing with a team on or after the first official practice date
3. **Physical Form:** A completed physical is required for all student-athletes before they are allowed to practice or participate. These forms must be on file for all participating students, regardless of the level of competition. **A Physical Examination is valid from April 1st through the following school year or for one year from the Date Of the Examination.**
4. **An Agreement for Participation Form** (Parent’s Permission Form) is required for all student athletes before they are allowed to practice or participate. These forms must be on file for all participating students, regardless of the level of competition.
5. **Warning of Inherent Risk** is required on all student-athletes before they are allowed to practice or participate. This form must be on file for all participating students regardless of the level of competition.
6. The **Student-Parent Concussion Awareness Form** is required for all student athletes before they are allowed to practice or participate. This form must be on file for all participating students regardless of the level of competition.
7. **Football Warning: Helmet, Equipment, and Technique:** (Football only) is required on all student athletes before they are allowed to practice or participate. These forms must be on file for all participating students, regardless of the level of competition.
8. **Insurance Coverage Information** is required on all student-athletes before

they are allowed to practice or participate. These forms must be on file for all participating students, regardless of the level of competition.

9. **Athletic Handbook Signature Page:** Must be signed and turned in.

Age Requirements/Restrictions for athletic participation:

- A. A student is **INELIGIBLE** to participate in athletics if his/her 19th birthday is before July 1, 2026.
- B. **Junior Varsity:** In order to participate in junior varsity athletics, a student must not have reached his/her sixteenth (16th) birthday before July 1, 2026.
- C. **B-Team/Middle School:** In order to participate in B-Team athletics, a student must not have reached his/her fifteenth (15th) birthday before July 1, 2026. Exception: B-Team Football. A student must not have reached his/ her fourteenth (14th) birthday before July 1, 2026.

Note: The Athletic Committee shall not grant a waiver of the age requirements.

Grade Level Requirements/Restrictions for athletic participation:

- A. **Varsity Teams:** Eligible students in grades **8-12** may participate on varsity teams in football and soccer. Eligible students in grades **7-12** may participate on varsity teams in baseball, basketball, and Softball. Eligible students in grades **6-12** may participate on all other varsity teams.

*To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the **skill level, maturity level, experience, and physical competitiveness** of students below the 10th grade before permitting participation on any varsity teams.*

- B. **Junior Varsity Teams:** Sport-specific grade restrictions exist for Junior Varsity Teams. Eligible students in grades **5-10** may participate on junior varsity teams in cross country and volleyball. Eligible students in grades **6-10** may participate on junior varsity teams in basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, and wrestling.

*To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the **skill level, experience, maturity level, and physical competitiveness** of students below the 8th grade before permitting participation on any JV team.*

- C. **Junior Varsity Football:** eligible students in grades **6-8** may participate in junior varsity football.

To address player safety, coaches and parents must carefully evaluate the skill level and physical competitiveness of students below the 8th grade before permitting participation on any junior varsity team.

- D. **B-Teams/Middle School:** Eligible students in grades **5-8** may participate on B-Teams in all sports except football (clarification: sports identified as contact sports: football, wrestling, lacrosse...).

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.

ATTENDANCE

Students must be present the entire day in order to participate in an extracurricular activity. Exceptions may be granted by the administration for legitimate reasons and such exceptions must be pre-approved. Any appeals for exceptions to this policy will be directed to the administration for consideration. Exceptions to this rule can be granted when extended illness is involved.

Eligibility Rules - Team

Section I: Member schools become eligible for tournaments or championships by participation in the regular schedule as set forth in each activity. **Player Participation is defined as dressed in the team uniform and in the team area or named in the score book.**

1. A student may participate in only one football game each calendar week. Exception: *SCISA may grant an exception based upon a weather or health-related postponement of a contest.*
2. No student shall participate in two games or more of the same sport on the same day unless the contests are doubleheaders/tri-matches or a tournament format.
3. A student cannot participate in a JV game and a Varsity contest on the same day.
4. Basketball: A student's name must be listed in the scorebook for at least one-half of all JV basketball games scheduled to be eligible to participate in the JV conference Tournament. *Exception: a player who becomes eligible after the start of the basketball season.*
5. A student is eligible to participate in the JV/B-Team Region Tournament or Region Varsity Tournament, not both.
6. Game limitations apply to both the team and the student-athlete.
7. Any school or coach that permits any suspended coach or athlete to participate in any athletic contest in violation of the suspension will be suspended. The game shall be forfeited.
8. The removal of a team before the completion of the game is a violation of the code of conduct.
9. A sport's season ends at the conclusion of that sport's championship event.
 - a. Can a school play a game or participate in a tournament after the completion of that sports season (state championships have been crowned)? Yes, with prior approval.

Team Participation Guidelines

SCISA's policies are designed to ensure that all students are able to compete on a level playing field in a safe, competitive and friendly environment, free of discrimination. SCISA's rules and regulations are intended to provide every student athlete with equal opportunities to participate in athletics. A student shall participate based on the gender noted on the student's original certificate of birth. The Certificate of Birth is defined as: 1. It must be an original certified document. 2. It must be obtained from the state, county, or city government in which the student was born. 3. It must include the given and surnames. 4. It must be legible and unaltered.

48-Hour Rule: Communication with Coaches

To ensure respectful and productive dialogue, we ask that all non-urgent concerns or complaints regarding a game, playing time, coaching decisions, or other issues be addressed at least **48 hours** after the event. This cooling-off period helps maintain a positive environment for athletes, coaches, and families.

During this 48-hour period, please refrain from:

- Approaching the coach directly after games or practices.
- Sending texts, emails, or social media messages.
- Discussing grievances with other players or parents in a public or disruptive way.

After 48 hours, appropriate communication may include:

- Setting up a meeting or phone call with the coach.
- Addressing concerns calmly and respectfully.
- Focusing on solutions and the athlete's growth.

SCISA sport activity-specific participation opportunities and restrictions

Football: football participation is allowed for all eligible students regardless of gender.

Wrestling: students may only participate for his/her gender specific team (girls on the girls' team, boys may only play on the boys' team).

Volleyball: SCISA sponsors volleyball only for girls. A boy may not compete on the girls' volleyball team for any reason. If SCISA offers boys' volleyball, a female cannot play both seasons. Female participation is restricted to the girls' team.

Cross Country: A student may only participate in the his/her specific gender when participating in these individual/team sports.

Basketball/Soccer: If a school sponsors both a boys' and girls' team, students may only play for his/her gender specific team (girls on the girls' team, boys may only play on the boys' team). If a school only sponsors a boys' team, then female students may play on the boys' team. A boy may not compete on the girls' team for any reason.

Baseball: participation is allowed for all eligible students regardless of gender.

Softball: participation is restricted to girls only on the softball team. A boy may not compete on the girls' softball team for any reason.

Transportation Policy for Athletic Events

Student athletes must ride with an adult to all away athletic events. They are not allowed to drive themselves to and from an away athletic event without prior PHA administration approval.

Athletic Code of Conduct

I therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating, or participating in any SCISA athletic event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct.

1. I will treat any coach, parent, spectator, player, official, or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, religion, sex, or ability.
2. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, spectator, player, official, or any other attendee.
3. I will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety, or well-being of any coach, parent, spectator, player, official, or other attendee.
4. I will not use drugs or alcohol while at any athletic event. I will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in an athletic event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
5. I will not use tobacco (including smokeless types) while at any athletic event.
6. I will not engage in the use of profanity.
7. I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, spectator, player, official, or attendee.
8. I will not initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, spectator, player, official, or attendee.
9. I will not argue with officials or go through the motions, indicating dislike or disdain for a decision.
10. I will not make any degrading remarks about any official, coach, athlete, or school. I will not make any degrading remark or criticism of any official, coach, athlete, or school to the media or on social media.
11. I will not detain or attempt to stop an official following the contest to request a ruling or explanation of actions taken by the official. I will not follow or "chase" an official after a contest.
12. I will not leave the bleachers or stands and enter the playing area to protest, object, criticize, or question a call.
13. I understand that conduct that leads to my removal from an athletic event may be considered a serious violation of the code of conduct.
14. I understand that as a coach or as a school administrator, that the removal of a team before the completion of the game may be considered a serious violation of the code of conduct.
15. I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the code of conduct while attending, coaching, officiating, or participating in a SCISA.

PHA EXPECTATIONS

- If the school provides transportation for an away athletic event, the players on the team are required to ride to and from the event with the team unless an exception is requested by a parent and approved by the coach.
- Student-athletes must ride with an adult to all athletic events. They are not allowed to drive themselves to and from an athletic event.
- Student-athletes are responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them for use throughout the season.

- Student athletes must understand they are making a season-long commitment to a team when they join that team; therefore, they should examine game and practice schedules and understand team expectations prior to making this commitment.
- Athletes must attend every practice session and game unless excused by the coach. The player must inform the coach of scheduling conflicts prior to the athletic event.
- Athletes may only be able to participate in more than one sport in any particular season with the permission of both coaches and the Athletic Director. They must choose a primary sport during the season.
- No athlete is allowed to quit a team without a parent meeting with the coach and the Athletic Director. They must also submit a request to be released from the team in writing to the coach and the Athletic Director. Any athlete who quits a team without the consent of the coach and Athletic Director will not be allowed to try out for any other sports until the beginning of that sport's season the following year.

Weight Room Rules

To ensure safety and cleanliness in our facility, please follow these rules at all times:

1. Adult Supervision Required

- An adult must be present whenever anyone is using the weight room. No exceptions.

2. Clean Up After Yourself

- Wipe down all equipment after use.
- Rags and spray bottles are provided for this purpose.
- When finished with your workout, use the large spray container for a final clean of the area.

3. Safety Protocol

- Any open cuts/wounds/scrapes need to be covered while working out.

Field Usage Policy

Students are not permitted on any sports fields unless an adult is present. Supervision is required at all times to ensure safety and proper use of facilities.

Uniform Care and Accountability

Student-athletes are responsible for the proper care and maintenance of their uniforms while they are in their possession. If a uniform is damaged, lost, or returned in poor condition due to negligence, the athlete may be held financially responsible for repairs or replacement costs.

To ensure the timely distribution of uniforms for the next season, student-athletes must return their previous season's uniforms before receiving new ones.

Uniform Return Instructions

All athletes are required to return their uniforms in a **gallon-size ziploc bag**. Please make sure the bag is clearly labeled with **the athlete's name and jersey number**.

Uniforms must be turned in directly to **Miss Kelsey** or **Miss Kristin** in order to be properly checked off.

Ejections/Disqualifications of Players and Coaches:

Conduct that leads to an ejection/disqualification will be considered as serious unsportsmanlike conduct or a violation of a safety rule. Depending upon the severity of the offense, a player or coach may be warned, fined, suspended or placed on probation. These offenses are cumulative over the student's career. The disqualification of a coach will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Sportsmanship

Philosophy

The South Carolina Independent School Association believes that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. High standards of behavior, scholarship, and citizenship are important to a sound athletic program. Students volunteering to participate in athletics must assume the responsibilities of this privilege and are required to meet these expectations. Moreover, adults shall be models of good sportsmanship and will lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control. Athletes, coaches, officials, and fans shall at all times conduct themselves in a reasonable and sportsmanlike manner. Each person will be responsible for his/her words and actions at all SCISA athletic events and will conform his/her behavior in adherence to the Code of Conduct.

Sportsmanship Expectations

Participation in athletics is a privilege that carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility, and sacrifice. Since competition is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate shall be expected to follow the rules established by NFHS and SCISA. Each student-athlete represents his/her school and student body. It is the student-athlete's duty to conduct himself/herself in a manner that is becoming the student-athlete, his/her family, school, and SCISA.

The following policy statement from the National Federation of State High School Associations expresses the concept of sportsmanship as follows:

The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior, and integrity permeate our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior, which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.

One of the main goals of an athletic program is to teach the concept of sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship requires that everyone be treated with respect. This includes members of the opposing team, officials, coaches and spectators. Good sportsmanship includes showing courtesy and kindness towards your opponent as well as fellow team members. The contest is judged by the effort of the participants and not by putting down your opponent. Winning is exciting, but winning at any cost is not the goal. Negative treatment of any participant is outside

the spirit and interest of the contest. All SCISA-sanctioned events are a reflection of our association and schools. The expectations of good sportsmanship of the team is extended to parents and fans before, during, and after athletic events.

The Fundamentals of Sportsmanship

- **Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest.** The necessity to be well informed is essential. Know the rules. If you are uninformed, refrain from expressing opinions on officials, coaches, or administrative decisions. The spirit of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP depends on conformance to a rule's intent as well as to the letter of a given rule.
- **Exercise representative behavior at all times.** The true value of interscholastic competition relies upon everyone exhibiting behavior that is representative of a sound value base. A proper perspective must be maintained if the educational values are to be realized. Your behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not.
- **Recognize and appreciate skilled performances regardless of affiliation.** Applause for an opponent's good performance displays generosity and is a courtesy that should be regularly practiced. This not only represents GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP but reflects a true awareness of the game by recognizing and acknowledging quality.
- **Exhibit respect for the officials.** The officials of any contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all involved in the contest are a part of the game. We should not rationalize our own poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on an official. The rule of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is to accept and abide by the decision made. This value is critical for students to learn for later application in life.
- **Display openly a respect for the opponent at all times.** Opponents are guests and should be treated cordially, provided with the best accommodations, and accorded tolerance at all times.
- **Be a positive representative for your school, team, or family.** Display pride in your actions at every opportunity. Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgment and your responsibility as a school representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, athlete, coach, or official, this value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.

Organized Practice

SCISA establishes a first organized practice date for all sports. Organized practices must not take place before these established dates. **An organized practice is defined as:** an athletic situation involving **a coach and more than the allowed number of student-athletes** where instruction, correction, drills, and/or skills associated with that sport are taking place. (Note: see player restrictions listed for each sport)

Player Restrictions during Out-of-Season during the school year:

- Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball: No More than four (4) student-athletes
- • All other sports: No More than three (3) student-athletes

Summer Practice Policy - Summer schedule (See Blue Book for Dates)

Teams are limited to twelve (12) total practices/games. Teams shall not have more than two (2) practices/games per week which last no more than 1 1/2 hours per practice.

- *Camp: Teams attending a camp during this period will count the number of days at camp against the 12 total practices.*
- *Football is restricted from contact.*
- *Closed Dates: One week associated with July 4th; and the last week of July prior to the first practice*
- *Camp attendance during a closed season is legal if: the camp is off campus, open and advertised to the general public, and not led by any member of the school coaching staff. SCISA recommends that summer work-outs should be voluntary in nature*

Amateur Status

A student-athlete must maintain an amateur status. A student may not have competed for money or valuable consideration other than prizes with symbolic value. Symbolic value is used to mean that the award must have some relationship to the sport being played. Some examples are but not limited to: miniature gold and silver footballs, basketballs, plaques, trophies, cups, ribbons, banners, sweaters and jackets. Allowable travel, meals, and lodging expenses are acceptable.

Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL)

A student-athlete may retain athletic eligibility under SCISA regulations and engage in NIL activities for financial gain, provided the student's NIL activities and participation in interscholastic athletics remain separate. The rule establishes that students are allowed to receive payment for instructional services and other activities not related to performance provided that they are carried out in a manner that does not suggest or reasonably suggest the endorsement or sponsorship of the SCISA school.

The student's activities for which they are compensated may not include an image or likeness of the student in a uniform, or other clothing or gear depicting the name or logo of the SCISA member school the student is attending or has attended. No reference to SCISA accolades or championships may be used in the student's activities for which they are compensated. Student-athletes must keep their NIL activities and their participation in interscholastic athletics separate from one another.

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has produced a free 15-minute course that gives further clarification on what is considered permissible in associations where this type of compensation is permitted. This course can easily be accessed by administrators, coaches, students, and parents. It also highlights misconceptions that various stakeholders may have about these new opportunities for compensation.

Student Guidelines:

1. A student can enter into NIL contracts.
2. The student will provide the school and "League/Association" with a copy of the NIL Agreement, including how and how much the student shall receive.
3. The student is prohibited from using any pictures that include his or her school uniform, logo or the School/League/Association identified.

School Guidelines:

1. The school cannot receive any money, products or services associated with a student's NIL contract.
2. The school will monitor the students' social media platforms to ensure compliance with student guideline #3.
3. Schools, boosters, and booster clubs would be prohibited from forming NIL collectives and from offering, securing, or participating in NIL deals involving student-athletes. A student who violates any portion of the Amateur Rule shall be penalized according to the sanctions below:
 - First Violation: The student shall receive a formal warning and return any award(s) or money received in violation of this rule. SCISA and the student's school shall direct the student in violation to immediately remove any endorsement, advertisement, sponsorship, or other promotional activity that is in violation of the Amateur Rule.
 - Second Violation: The student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at any level of competition for a period of one (1) year from the date of SCISA's determination of the second violation.
 - Third Violation: The penalty and any additional period of ineligibility will be determined by the Athletic Committee based on a consideration of the nature of the violation(s) and the extent to which the violation(s) may have been knowing, deliberate, or in reckless disregard of the provisions of this.

DISCLAIMER

This handbook is intended to serve as a guide to PHA's programs and opportunities as well as to set forth basic expectations and agreements. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the contents. We are hopeful that the handbook will answer many questions you may have.

Please understand that no set of rules or guidelines can cover every conceivable situation that might arise at a school. The rules, policies, and procedures set forth in this handbook are intended to apply under normal circumstances. **However, from time to time, there may be situations that require immediate or nonstandard responses. This handbook does not limit the authority of Patrick Henry Academy to deviate from the normal rules and procedures set forth in this handbook, and to deal with individual circumstances as they arise in the manner deemed most appropriate by the school, taking into consideration the best interests of the school, its faculty, employees, students or overall school community.**

STUDENT – PARENT COMPLIANCE STATEMENT (2026 - 2027)

I have read and reviewed the Patrick Henry Academy Family Handbook for the 2025–2026 school year. I understand and agree to comply with the policies, procedures, and expectations outlined within. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to read and follow all guidelines set forth and to seek clarification from school administration if I have any questions.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

In order to conserve resources and money, the school will not distribute a copy of the Family Handbook to each family. Families are asked to view the Family Handbook online at the school's website. If you are unable to access the Family Handbook on-line, please contact the school (803) 625-2440 ex. 1 and a copy will be provided for you.