



Jaguar Soccer Handbook

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Coaching Staff:

Nate Steele - Varsity

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Coach Steele's Coaching Philosophy:

In seventh grade, I lost my dad to Cystic Fibrosis. For me, sports teams were always an escape from stressful areas of life and school; my best friends to this day are the teammates I met on the ice, laughed with in the locker rooms, and went through ups and downs with during the season. The community, bond, and culture that is developed through high school athletics is like nothing else: working toward a common goal, powering through adversity, and celebrating a team achievement. For those events to take place, it requires dedication, discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and belief. It is a privilege to be in a position that allows our players to experience both the highs and lows of high school athletics. I firmly believe that these experiences set each player up for success on and off the field and in their life after high school.

Kevin Schepers - JV

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Kelly Hyer - JV

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Kevin Morin - Varsity Assistant

Coach Pat - Varsity Assistant & Goalie Coach

- **Represent our school and community the right way**
 - Our players are expected to be good citizens in school, community, and during matches against our opponents.
 - Make good choices
 - Treat your teammates, opponents, and coaches with respect
- **Be a student athlete**
 - Classroom comes before soccer. We want players to succeed in the classroom just as much as on the soccer field.
 - Jaguar soccer players are expected to take pride in the work they do in the classroom and to perform at **THEIR** top level.
- **Understand the importance of being a player and teammate**
 - Being part of a team sport is extremely rewarding.
 - Jaguar soccer players will compete at the highest level they can while understanding the team comes first in everything we do.
- **Positive attitudes ONLY**
 - There may be times where you as an individual did not play well
 - Keep your head up
 - ALWAYS uplift and inspire your teammates - "Everything we say means something."
 - This is a team sport, not an individual sport
 - You do not need to apologize for soccer mistakes, stay switched on and make it right!
- **Enjoy having the privilege to be a part of the soccer program and the ability to compete at such a high level**
- **Winning is our goal, but there are many more lessons to take away from this season that go beyond our record:**
 - Did you improve as a soccer player?
 - Did you improve as a teammate?
 - How did you react to adversity?

Every player has a strong desire to be playing at the varsity level.

Having a strong desire for playing time is only one of the necessary qualities players need to receive playing time at the varsity level. There are many factors that help coaches determine this:

- Knowledge of the game and the skills
- Soccer specific skills
- Practice performances
- Attitude
- Effort
- Individual ability of players – not entitlement
- The situation of how strong our opponents are

Varsity Level

- At the Varsity level, playing time is not guaranteed for every player in every match. Players will be put in matches where the coach sees they can help the team compete at its highest level.
 - Attitude, effort, missed/late for practices or matches will come into factor as well.
 - Our goal going into every match is to win
 - Line-ups will be determined with that goal in mind

JV

- **Shared playing time for the majority of the match**
 - The purpose of the C-Squad is to receive as much playing time as possible to experience game-like scenarios
 - Winning is not the ideal purpose, but instead for every player to get as much time on the field as possible
 - In a close match, the coach has permission to adjust the roster for the final 10-15 minutes

Lettering Criteria for Varsity level players

- The player must be on the varsity roster for the majority of the season & participate (play) in most matches
- All seniors in the program receive a letter for their years of commitment to playing
- **Commitment:** Must attend at least **two** fundraising events
 - Youth Soccer Camps
 - Scott County Fair Cleanup
 - Stadium Clean Up
 - Heimatfest Fair
 - Taproom

Captains

Varsity:

First and foremost, we expect all the girls on this team to be examples and leaders.

Those that have the privilege of wearing the captain bands have demonstrated leadership with their efforts of helpfulness, offseason attendance, attitude, enthusiasm, and Jordan Pride.

These players will be responsible for:

- Leading warm-ups
- Team building
- Motivation
- Equipment cleanup
- Game-time responsibilities
- Communication.

Players voted as captains will meet with Coach Steele at the end of the school year to finalize summer plans. Captains are expected to be at summer team events; not every single one but we want our captains present.

JV:

- All above mentioned criteria should be represented.
- 2-3 Captains will cycle every game or every other game

Transportation

We expect that our team will travel to and from games on school provided transportation. The unity and strength of the team comes from these times spent together. If in some instances a student needs to travel home with a parent, then she may, with a note from her parents or a signature on a form the coach has. It is strongly encouraged for the teams to support one another. We expect the B/JV team to say and support during the Varsity games and vice versa.

Community Building

We are not only building this soccer team. We want to continue to build this soccer program and in turn make Jordan just a little better place to live. We can do this in many ways that we will work on together. We want people to see us as individuals and as a team and be impressed and want to be a part of our team and community.

- **Be involved in community ed soccer opportunities!**
- **Wear Jordan Soccer Apparel during appropriate times**

The coaching staff understands that there may be moments during a season when players and/or parents may disagree with some coaching decisions. Please know that the coaches think through every decision they make and are made for what is best for the team. The coaches respect the fact that parents are looking out for their own child. If there comes a time when players and/or parents feel they need to talk to the coach about a concern, they are asked to respect the following process.

- **Step 1:** Talk to your child and get all the information you can
 - Try to look at the issues from the side of the coach as well as your child.
 - Put yourself in the position of the coach who has a team of players to consider, not just one player.
- **Step 2:** Have your child talk to the coach.
 - The issue should be discussed between player and coach. Most times the issues are resolved after this meeting.
- **Step 3:** I ask parents to wait 24 hours after the complaint arises to speak to the coach.
 - Contact the coach in advance and arrange for a mutual time to meet
 - Coaches will not meet with a parent in front of the team or immediately following a practice or game.
- **Step 4:** Meet with the Athletic Director
 - Contact our athletic director, to discuss your concern.

Team Conduct:

We prioritize respect, sportsmanship, and positive interactions among all team members. Treating teammates poorly, including disrespectful language, bullying, exclusion, or any form of harassment, is strictly prohibited. Such behavior undermines team unity and goes against our core values. This includes comments about ability, appearance and other forms of disrespect

- **1st:** The player involved in treating teammates poorly will be subject to a one-on-one conversation with the coaches to address the behavior and discuss its impact on the team.
- **2nd:** player, coach, and parents will meet to address the continuous behavior
- **3rd:** Issue will be addressed in front of the AD to come up with a future consequence
- ***Any disrespect to an unacceptable level, player will forfeit their opportunity to play in the upcoming match or the remainder of a current match.***

Definitions of unexcused and excused practices:

Attendance at all practices, games, meetings, and team events is mandatory. Consistent attendance demonstrates respect for your teammates, coaches, and the program. In the event of an unavoidable absence, players are expected to communicate with the coaching staff well in advance.

- **Unexcused:** No communication with the coach from player or parent
- **Excused:** Player or parent does communicate with the coach in advance
- The coaches understand that emergency situations arise from time to time and it may be difficult to contact the coach ahead of time. If the player or parent absolutely cannot contact the coach ahead of time, please contact the coaches as soon as possible. If no contact is made, it will be counted as an unexcused absence.
 - Make sure you look at the practice and match schedule so you can let your coach know in advance.
 - Missing practices, excused or unexcused, could affect your playing time in matches.
 - Excused absence from practice will impact your starting position
- **Unexcused violations**
 - **1st:** Player will not dress for the next match
 - **2nd:** Player will not dress for the next 2 matches
 - **3rd:** Player will meet with coach and parents
- **Excused absences**
 - While excused absences are understood, if we are committed to attending practices, players with an excused absence will forfeit their chance to start the next match

The coaches reserve the right to reduce playing time if a player has an excused absence from practice.

Family obligations are also included in this.

The coaching staff understands and respects the importance of family obligations. The coaches also want players to understand that the team counts on everyone to be at practices and matches every day.