



SENTINELS
ATHLETICS

PARENT AND ATHLETE HANDBOOK

2025-2026

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*** NEW POLICIES ARE HIGHLIGHTED ***

Section I: General Athletics Overview

The Mission of Seton Catholic

“To provide a Catholic faith community of courageous leaders, loving servants, and determined learners who strive for academic excellence. Seton Catholic helps facilitate students’ religious formation, academic progress; social, cultural, physical and moral development, while supporting parents as primary educators.”

The Athletic Department Mission Statement

“To offer students the opportunity to participate on competitive teams, coached by caring and knowledgeable coaches, in a safe environment.”

Realizing the importance of the formation of the whole person, Seton Catholic Preparatory encourages self-confidence and the holistic development of its students so they will be fully prepared to spread the Gospel and be contributing members of the Church and society.

The Philosophy of the Athletic Department

The philosophy of the Seton Catholic Athletic Department is rooted in the belief that athletics play a vital role in the development of a well-rounded individual. We aim to cultivate an environment where student-athletes can achieve personal growth, develop leadership skills, and experience the joy of competition. Our programs emphasize the importance of academic success, ethical behavior, and respect for others, both within the sports arena and in the wider community. By fostering a culture of respect, integrity, and perseverance, we prepare our student-athletes to become leaders who contribute positively to society.

Athletics is not above, or below the normal operations and standards of the school, but rather an extension of the school itself. All teams and coaches are expected to fully comply with rules and expectations outlined in the Seton Catholic Preparatory Parent / Student Handbook. Above all else, the goal of Seton Catholic athletics is to grow its students as disciples of Christ, promoting healthy physical, emotional, spiritual, and social development. When done properly, high school athletics is a positive educational experience, benefiting each student in the same ways as their academic experience

Section II: Department Structure

Director of Athletics: Jim Shewbridge – jshewbridge@setoncatholic.org

The Athletic Director serves as the direct contact and administrator of the Athletic Department. Duties include the overall direction and management of the department, its coaches and its athletes, booster club operations, purchasing, equipment management, gameday management, compliance and the representative for the school to the AIA and Diocese of Phoenix.

Assistant Athletic Director: Autumn Kish - akish@setoncatholic.org

The Assistant Athletic Director assists the Athletic Director in the day-to-day operations of the department. Duties include social and legacy media contact, website management, and equipment management.

Athletics Administrative Assistant: Jeniffer Hutchison – jhutchison@setoncatholic.org

Assists the athletic department with gameday operations management, gym and field practice and game scheduling, field & gym reservations, transportation and early release for athletes, awards & recognitions, Senior Nights, athletic registration and more.

Athletic Trainer: Jazmyn Woods - jazmynwoods@SetonCatholic.org

Main point of contact for student medical needs relating to athletics. Oversees the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of sports injuries, provides preventative measures such as taping, bracing, etc., provides hydration for athletes and oversees the sports medicine program.

Section III: Code of Conduct

Seton Catholic Athletic Code of Conduct - Student Athletes

Our student-athletes are expected at all times to represent themselves and the school in an exemplary manner. Athletic participation is considered a privilege not a right. Our student-athletes are expected to be a positive influence on their fellow students at all times during school and at athletic or school sponsored events, both home and away.

All participants in Seton Catholic Preparatory athletics will agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

- **I will...**
 - Be a worthy representative of God, SCP, my coaches and my team.
 - Treat opponents with respect; shake hands after each contest.
 - Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest.
 - Accept seriously the responsibility of representing Seton Catholic Preparatory by displaying positive behavior at all times.
 - Play in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values.
 - Not bait or taunt opponents.
 - Refrain from using foul, obscene or threatening language or gestures.
- **Consequences:**
 - Failure to abide by these principles may result in a minimum of a one game suspension to a maximum of being excluded from athletic participation for one calendar year.
- **I will...**
 - Be a responsible, team player.
 - Attend every practice and game unless excused by the coach.
 - Support my teammates and interact with them in a positive manner, always showing mutual respect, not participating in gossip, hazing, or making derogatory remarks.
 - Be a highly recognizable representative of the school, athletes are in a position of great influence; therefore, high standards of conduct are essential. Positive personal behavior and squad cohesiveness demonstrate these standards. Appropriate behavior will help earn the respect of the student body, which is the core of developing effective school spirit and student involvement.
 - Place the good of the team over my own personal achievement or aggrandizement.
 - Take care of and maintain all equipment and uniforms provided to me. These items are to be promptly returned in good condition at the end of the season.
- **Consequences:**

- Failure to abide by these principles may result in a minimum of a one game suspension to a maximum of being excluded from athletic participation for one calendar year. Furthermore, if a team does not exhibit the characteristics/values of Seton Catholic High School, the team may be disbanded for the remainder of the school year or for one calendar year, depending on when the violation occurs.
- **I will...**
 - Maintain the academic requirements to remain eligible to participate in the athletic program.
 - Maintain a passing grade of at least a 70% in every class.
 - Be aware that, if I am placed on an academic contract, I must abide by the conditions set forth in my contract or I will become immediately ineligible.

Student Conduct Policies

Athletes are regarded by students, fans, and the general public as representatives of Seton Catholic Prep. Therefore, the following rules will apply to all those participating in athletics. The season includes the first day of practice/tryouts and extends through the last day of competition. Consequences will be determined through the SCP Dean of Students and the SCP Athletic Director. Offenses will be examined through the scope of the SCP Student Handbook. All Student Conduct Rules and Expectations outlined in the SCP Student handbook are applicable to all facets of SCP athletics and SCP student athletes. SCP works to fully comply with all AIA rules and regulations. As such, student AIA requirements are fully enforced through the school. Please visit AIA Bylaws for more information.

1. All participants in Seton Catholic Preparatory athletics will agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct, as mentioned above.
2. Student athletes may not use or have in their possession any tobacco or related product. This includes all vaping related products. **Penalty: Immediate suspension from athletic participation until further notice.**
3. Student athletes may not use or possess alcohol. In addition, such students may not be present at any gathering of peers where alcohol or illegal drugs are used. To avoid the penalty for being present at such a gathering, a student must leave immediately. **Penalty: Immediate suspension from athletic participation until further notice.**
4. Student athletes may not use or possess any illegal drugs (marijuana, ecstasy, prescription drugs not prescribed for the athlete, steroids, cocaine, etc.) or drug paraphernalia (pipes, rolling papers, clips, etc.). Student athletes may not be present where illegal drugs are used or experienced. **Penalty: Immediate suspension from athletic participation for the remainder of the school year.**
5. If a student athlete violates any of the above rules regarding tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs a second time within the same academic year, that student may not participate in any organized athletic activity for the remainder of the school year.

6. The administration may impose penalties greater than those prescribed above for offenses. Also, the administration will not be bound to legalistic interpretations of this policy. Finally, the administration also reserves the right to extend penalties beyond the academic year and into the following year if it deems that to be appropriate.
7. Good conduct is not limited to avoiding tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs. Participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right. Student athletes must display exemplary behavior and attitudes at all times both on and off the athletic field in order to continue to enjoy that privilege. This includes cooperation, good sportsmanship, respect, self-control, and respect for authority. The administration and coaches may impose penalties restricting involvement or participation in athletics as deemed appropriate for any inappropriate conduct.
8. Coaches may set higher standards of conduct for their players than those set by the school's administration. Coaches may also impose additional penalties on their players in addition to those imposed by the administration as long as those penalties do not violate other school policies.
9. No tattoos may be visible and no jewelry may be worn during any Seton Catholic Preparatory athletic event. This includes all games and practices. Failure to abide by this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension from practices, games or team.
10. Students are required to return all school issued equipment & uniforms promptly at the end of their season within 10 days of last scheduled game or a **\$200 fee will be assessed thru FACTS acct.**

Any violation of the Athletic Handbook or Athletic Code of Conduct may result in the following consequences:

- Suspension from practice or practices
- Suspension from a contest or contests
- Dismissal from the team

Decisions on consequences may be made by and are limited to the school administration, the Athletic Department, and the coaching staff.

Student Athlete Dress Code

As a representative of Seton Catholic Preparatory, each student athlete is required to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the rules and regulations outlined in the SCP Student Handbook, and the Parent and Athlete Handbook. This includes standards of dress, decency, and proper wear of athletic uniforms.

- Student athletes are required to abide by all standards of dress code and appearance outlined in the SCP Student Handbook.

- All uniforms are to be worn as intended in the design and fit of the uniform. Athletics uniforms are not to be worn in any way that appears improper, or unsafe.
- Athletic uniforms are not to be altered in any way unless approved in writing by the Athletic Director.
- Certain uniform items are acceptable for competition, but they are not to be worn on campus, or outside of campus. Form-fitting uniform items must be covered up outside the field of competition. This includes, but is not limited to, items such as swimsuits, volleyball shorts, and wrestling singlets.
- *** Girls performance shorts must have a minimum 5" inseam ***
 - This applies to practices, games and off-campus Seton athletic events
- *** Shirts must be worn at all times ***

Athletes are expected to dress appropriately for any contest, both home and away. Coaches will inform team members of specific requirements for their team. Proper attire must be worn during practice, as well. This means, specifically, that shirts must be worn at all times. In addition, inappropriate company logos, band shirts, etc. will not be permitted.

Seton Catholic Athletics Department and School Administration reserves the right to deem any improperly worn, or altered uniform item inappropriate for school competition wear. These items must be removed and will not be permitted to be worn in the future. Student athletes who wear their uniforms inappropriately may be subject to disciplinary action.

Seton Catholic Athletic Code of Conduct - Parents / Spectators

Acceptable standards of parent and/or spectator behavior include:

- Remember that the players are young adults and are playing for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Respect decisions made by contest officials.
- Be a role model by positively supporting teams and by not shouting instructions or criticism to the players, coaches or officials. Do not coach from the stands. Do not approach coaches or officials before or during the contest.
- Make no derogatory comments or gestures to players, coaches, parents of the opposing teams, officials or league administrators.
- Parents will follow the chain of command to resolve an issue. This means that before bringing an issue to the Athletic Director, parents must speak to the coach first. If a resolution cannot be reached, at that time an appointment may be made with the Athletic Director to discuss the issue.
- Parents must wait at least 24 hours before reaching out to any coach after any games or performances.
 - **Consequences:**
 - Failure to abide by these principles may result in removal from the contest. If a spectator is removed from a contest for any reason, he/she will also be banned from attending the next home event of the sport for which the removal was made. If a spectator is removed for a second time, he/she may be banned from attending any athletic event at Seton Catholic High School for one calendar year.

Behavioral Expectations of Parents and Spectators

As outlined in this handbook, parents play a pivotal role in maintaining a positive and educational environment for the students of Seton Catholic Preparatory at home and away athletic contests. Parent and Seton Catholic spectator behavior also acts as an extension of the identity of the school. For this reason, SCP strongly encourages spectators to act as gracious hosts for visiting teams; as well as, respecting schools at away games. The school provides security at all home athletic contests and reserves the right to remove any spectator who is not in compliance with the behavior expectations of the school. **Any spectator not meeting this expectation is subject to being banned from all athletic events.**

Hazing

Seton Catholic Preparatory has a Hazing Prevention Policy which states “Any act of hazing or any act which can be construed as hazing is strictly prohibited at Seton Catholic Preparatory. Serious disciplinary actions will result from any involvement in such acts.”

Per A.R.S. 15-2301 Hazing is defined as an intentional, knowing or reckless act by a student (alone or with others) committed in connection with initiation into a school-related organization that creates a risk of physical injury, mental harm or personal degradation. It is not a defense to a violation of the hazing policy if the hazing victim consented to or acquiesced in the hazing activity.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

- Any activity involving an unreasonable risk of physical harm, including paddling, beating, whipping, branding, electric shock, sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, placement of harmful substances on the body, and participation in physically dangerous activities;
- Any activity involving the consumption of alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, or any other food, liquid, or other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm;
- Any activity involving actions of a sexual nature or the simulation of actions of a sexual nature;
- Any activity that subjects a student to extreme and unreasonable level of embarrassment, shame, or humiliation or which creates a hostile, abusive or intimidating environment;
- Any activity involving any violation of federal, state or local law or any violation of school diocesan policies and regulation.

All students, teachers, staff and volunteers shall take reasonable measures within the scope of their individual authority to prevent violations of Seton Catholic Preparatory policy on hazing.

If an incident of hazing should occur, students, teachers and/or staff who are aware of the incident should file a report to the Dean of Students. While the initial formal report may be verbal, this verbal report must be followed with a formal written report describing:

- The date and time and circumstances of the act/event
- The act/event, itself, that was witnessed and by whom
- Those involved in the act/event
- How the act/event violated Seton Catholic Preparatory High School's Hazing Prevention Policy.

Section IV: Sports Registration

Sports Offered

Seton currently offers 25 Varsity sports teams. Lower level teams are provided based on participation for each sport. Certain sports (e.g. Boys Golf) do not offer lower level teams as no other schools around the state of Arizona provide lower level teams to compete against

SEASON	BOYS	GIRLS
FALL	Football Swim & Dive Cross Country Golf e-Sports Beach Volleyball	Volleyball Swim & Dive Cross Country Golf Spiritline Flag Football e-Sports
WINTER	Basketball Soccer Wrestling	Basketball Soccer Wrestling Spiritline
SPRING	Baseball Track & Field Tennis Volleyball	Softball Track & Field Tennis Beach Volleyball

Sports Registrations

Seton Catholic Athletics will be accepting registrations ONLY through Final Forms online platform. Detailed information is available at the Sports Registration page on the Seton Catholic Preparatory website - [Forms and Registration](https://www.setoncatholic.org/apps/pages/sports_registration) (https://www.setoncatholic.org/apps/pages/sports_registration) If your athlete is planning on playing more than one sport during the year, please select each of those sports as you complete the profile.

- **Do not bring paperwork to the school. (FamilyID is now ArbiterSports, your login info should remain the same.)**

Once completed, the athletic department staff will review your completed registration and give you an approved status or next steps on how to finish registration. For any

questions, please contact Jen Hutchison, Admin Assistant - Athletics at jhutchison@setoncatholic.org

Athletic Clearance Requirements

Every student who wants to participate in athletics at SCP will have to gain clearance through the athletics office by completing and uploading the required documents to Arbiter Sports - Athlete Registration. This includes:

- AIA Physical Evaluation
 - All eight (8) pages must be completed and uploaded
 - Must be completed by no earlier than March 1 of current calendar year
- AIA Brainbook Academy from AIA website
 - Only need to complete once during high school, but needs to be uploaded annually
- Transportation Consent Form
 - Once per school year, must be notarized
 - Mrs. Hutchison is a notary and is available upon request)
- A completed and approved profile on Arbiter Sports - Athlete Registration

All Athletes will complete an **ImPACT Baseline Concussion Test** prior to the first game of their season. This must be completed once per year. The Athletic Trainer will communicate the testing procedures to all student athletes.

Athletic Fees and Deadline

Families are required to create a FACTS account: To set up your FACTS account to pay all athletic fees - <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3CTCP>. Your FACTS account will be charged on the third Wednesday following the start of the season. No refunds will be offered after your FACTS account has been billed. Any refund requests received after the deadline will be reviewed by the athletic director on a case-by-case basis.

The registration fee per season is \$250 if the registration has been completed prior to the due dates. **A \$50 late registration fee** will be added to any registrations received after the registration deadline - \$300 total.

Due Dates for Athletic Registration 2025-26

- Football and Spiritline: July 1, 2025
- Fall Sports (FFB, SD, GVB, B/G-GOLF): Friday, August 8, 2025
 - XC - Friday, August 1, 2025
- Winter Sports (GBB, BBB, BSOC, GSOC, WRES): Friday, October 31, 2025
- Spring Sports (BSB, SB, T&F, TEN, BVB, GBVB): Friday, February 6, 2026

The registration system will shut down at 11:59 p.m. on the Friday prior to tryouts and will reopen for late registrations on the Tuesday after tryouts.

Transferring Sports

An athlete may transfer from one sport to another during the same season *before the first scheduled contest*. If an athlete wishes to transfer and/or participate in a different sport after the first scheduled contest, that athlete must have written permission from the Athletic Director.

Multi-Sport Participation

Student-athletes are encouraged to participate in multiple sports throughout the school year. Multi-sport participation helps to develop a well-rounded athlete and can prevent burnout by providing variety in physical activities.

Section V: Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities

Eligibility Policy

From the 2025 - 2026 Seton Catholic Student Handbook:

Eligibility for extracurricular activities is determined by grade checks and report cards. Extra-curricular activities include participating in any sporting or extracurricular competition or performances until the next eligibility check. Students may attend practices. The first-grade check will occur at the 6-week mark (Sept. 22, 2025) and for the second semester on (February 17, 2026). Grade checks will continue weekly after the 6-week mark of each semester. The policy is as follows:

Eligibility Check

- Any student failing **two or more** classes is ineligible until the next grade check. Once a grade check has been completed, students can only regain eligibility based on work that has already been submitted. Any new work submitted will count towards the next eligibility check
- A student failing **one** course and who has an average percentage of **70% or higher** in all his or her classes at the time of the report, will be **ineligible for one week and** must complete the Grade Check Form to become eligible at the following eligibility check.

Regaining Eligibility with ONE failure and a 70% average

- The student will complete the Grade Check Form with the teacher of the course they are not passing
- The student will return the grade check to the Assistant Principal in the front office by Friday at 1 pm or on the last day of classes if there is no school on Friday.
- Students completing this process will regain eligibility for the week. This process may be repeated as long as the student is completing the action items listed in the grade check form.

Grade Maintenance

- Grade checks will be completed for all students the first school day of every week following the initial eligibility check. Any student failing one course with an average percentage below 70% or who have two or more failing grades will be declared ineligible and will need to meet the eligibility requirements (above). The student identified as ineligible will be allowed to practice or rehearse, but may not participate in games or events.

Athletes who withdraw from any class in which they have received a failing grade, or currently are failing, remain ineligible until the next eligibility period.

Athletic managers, student aides and statisticians must abide by the same eligibility rules as athletes. Athletic managers, student aides, and statisticians who become

ineligible may not serve as a manager, student aides, or statistician during games, matches, or meets during their period of ineligibility.

Attending Games while Academically Ineligible

Ineligible athletes are not allowed to travel with the team or wear their team jersey to the game if they are attending on their own. Coaches have the discretion to allow ineligible athletes to sit with the team and any disciplinary action they want to put in place. This includes, but not limited to: wearing school uniform while on the sideline / bench, serving the needs of the team, filling water bottles, etc. It is the coach's discretion to permit students to attend and sit the bench during contests, they must be identifiable as non-playing (wearing a warm up jersey/pinnie.)

Attendance

Students must be present for more than half of the official school day prior to regular or early dismissal in order to participate in games, practices, rehearsals, meetings, or other activities. Athletes who are absent from school for more than four periods on Monday – Wednesday and for more than two periods on Thursday and Friday may not participate in games, practices, matches or meets. This policy does not include absences for approved field trips and other situations specifically approved in advance by an administrator. Eligibility on days with a “special schedule” will be handled on an individual basis.

Students that fail to meet the minimum attendance requirement may not attend games, dances, or other school-sponsored events on the day of the absence, unless approved by an administrator. Students must be in school the entire day if an event dismissal is at or before 11:00 a.m.

Athletes are expected to be in school the next day after an athletic event per school policy.

Transfer Students

Transfer students must complete a 550 Form per AIA student eligibility policy. This form is available at [Athlete Transfer Form 550](#). For in-state transfers, AIA policy mandates that the student sit out the first 50% of games for any sport they participated in at their previous school during the last 12 months. Students transferring during a season, or transferring for the 2nd time (or more) are subject to a 12 month ineligible period for all sports played in the previous 12 months. Parents and student-athletes are encouraged to read the Student Eligibility Rules (Article 15) and the Prior Contact Rule (Article 15.12.4.14), copied below.

Article 15: Student Eligibility Rules

15.10 Transfer Rule

Except as stated in 15.10.6, after enrolling and attending one or more classes, a student changing enrollment from one school (sending school) to another school (receiving school) shall be considered a transferring student. For information and record keeping purposes, the receiving and sending school shall reasonably cooperate and complete Form 550.

- 15.10.1 In team sports, a student shall be ineligible for all power ranked contests at the varsity level until after the first 50% of the maximum allowable Power Rankings regular season contests in those sports in which the student participated during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the season in which the student is seeking eligibility. In sports permitting invitationals/tournaments, the student shall be ineligible for the first invitational/tournament. Participation is defined as a student participating in the sport during a regular season game as is specified by the AIA standardized calendar.
- 15.10.2 For individual sports, the student will be ineligible for 50% of scheduled opportunities, including invitationals/tournaments for that school.
- 15.10.3 In case of any subsequent transfer by the student, the student is ineligible for one year from the date of first attendance at the receiving school.
- 15.10.4 A transfer student who plays only in sub-varsity competitions shall have immediate eligibility but is ineligible to participate at the varsity level in regular season, tournaments, and postseason competitions for the season in that sport. A decision to participate only at sub-varsity levels must be made prior to the season of competition.
- 15.10.5 If a transfer occurs during the season in which the student participated during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the season in which the student is seeking eligibility, or in which the student has practiced or tried out for a team during the current season, the student is ineligible for one year from the date of first attendance at the receiving school in that sport.
- 15.10.6 A transfer from an AIA member school (sending school) to a non-AIA member school that does not offer any interscholastic athletics, will not be considered a transfer.

- 15.10.6.1 A subsequent transfer from that non-AIA member school back to the sending school will also not be considered a transfer under
- 15.10. 15.10.6.2 A subsequent transfer from that non-AIA member school to an AIA member school other than the sending school will result in the appropriate transfer rule period of ineligibility.

15.12.4.14 Prior Contact

Prefatory statement: In an effort to preserve and promote competitive fairness and equity, and consistent with the AIA's mission to ensure that academics remain the primary focus of its member schools, the Prior Contact rule is an effort to deter recruiting of student-athletes and minimize athletically motivated transfers. However, the rule applies regardless of whether there is any evidence of athletic motivation or recruitment.

Despite compliance with the other provisions of AIA Bylaws, a student who transfers from one school (sending school) to another school (receiving school) is ineligible in the sport involved for one year from the date of attendance at the receiving school, if any of the following circumstances existed during the one year preceding the transfer:

- The student participated or practiced as an individual, on a school team, or on a non-school team coached, directed, supervised, managed, coordinated, owned or operated by any of the receiving school's coaches (in the sport involved), administrators or parents.
- The student participated or attended an open gym, open weight room, or open athletic facilities at the receiving school. For this circumstance, the sport involved is deemed to be any interscholastic sport in which the student has participated or practiced during the current or previous school year.
- A coach at the receiving school has served as a personal trainer, coach, conditioner or instructor for the student. For this circumstance, the sport involved is deemed to be any interscholastic sport in which the student has participated or practiced during the current or previous school year.
- The student participated or attended a camp, clinic, combine, showcase or similar event where a coach, trainer, or instructor in the sport involved at the receiving school worked, whether on a paid or volunteer basis.

As used in this rule, the term “coach” includes any person who coaches, volunteers, manages, administers, or assists in any capacity with the coaching or training of the school or non-school team, regardless of compensation or contract status. No personal relationship, individual instruction or direct contact between the coach and the student is required for application of this rule. For example, a coach of a football team, regardless of position or group he/she coaches, is considered to be a coach of the entire football team, at all levels (freshman, junior varsity, varsity), and this rule applies. (Emergency Legislation – 3/1/2019)

International Students

Per AIA policy, only foreign exchange students with a J-1 Visa may participate in varsity athletics. International students on any other type of Visa may participate only in JV and Freshman/Sophomore athletic teams. Twelfth grade students without a J-1 Visa are not permitted to participate in athletics.

Section VI: Communication

Communication Procedures

The Seton Catholic Prep Athletic Department is committed to communicating the goals and objectives of the athletic program, eligibility rules, and expectations of our athletes. If more information is required or should a concern arise during an athletic season, the procedure listed below should be followed:

1. The student athlete should first speak directly with his/her coach
2. If further clarification is required, a parent should then contact the coach (*it is advised that no contact between parent and coach be made until, at least, the day after the incident/event in question – the “24 hour rule”*)
3. If the issue remains unresolved, the parent should then communicate his/her concerns to the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director may facilitate a meeting with coach/coaches, parents and student-athletes.

If a problem involving the SCP Athletic Policies cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties involved, a committee consisting of coaches, the athletic directors, and an additional administrator will be convened to adjudicate policy issues according to the following procedure:

1. The situation/problem will first be considered by the committee.
2. The committee may then request a hearing with the involved parties.
3. The committee will make their decision with a simple majority vote deciding the matter.

Team Level and Direct Student Communication

Seton Catholic follows “Safe Environment” protocol and requires that all digital communication between adults and minors take place on team platforms (e.g. Band, TeamSnap) or in group emails or texts. Group communication must allow access for viewing by parents/guardians and Seton Catholic Prep. Students and adults may not communicate digitally one on one, this includes any form of social media, direct messaging, messaging apps, texting and phone calls. If a student and adult wishes to speak on the phone - the call must be made with the consent of parents/guardians with parents/guardians present. In person meetings must also follow Safe Environment guidelines. Meetings between an adult and student must be held in an open and visible area, if unavailable, a second adult, such as a parent or staff member must be present.

Section VII: Transportation

Student Transportation

Students traveling to events off campus are expected to follow all rules and regulations in the [SCP Student Handbook](#). Students and parents are expected to be polite and gracious guests when traveling to other schools. A coach or chaperone will be present on all bus trips, regardless of travel distance.

At the conclusion of a game or event, students are expected to ride the bus home unless released by the coach to a parent, or designee outlined in the student's notarized transportation waiver. Many coaches require their teams to travel back to the school after away games with no exceptions. This policy is strongly supported by the SCP athletic department.

Early Release

Students leaving for a sporting event with early dismissal must attend at least 50% of the school day prior early release in order to be allowed to participate. A student missing more than 50% of their classes prior to early release will not be permitted to leave school at the time of early release. See the *Eligibility - Attendance* section above for more information

Overnight Travel

All students, when traveling overnight for any school function, will be required to complete an Overnight Travel Policies Acknowledgement Form. This form must also be signed by a parent and returned to the school prior to the trip. All student behavior expectations are outlined in this form and should be carefully read by both student and parent before signing. All school student handbook rules and regulations are fully enforced for overnight trips.

Section VIII: Team Policies

The team information below is generally accepted athletics policies. Coaches may institute their own policies for their teams and players provided they do not conflict with school and athletic department policies.

Tryouts / Cut Policy

All sports at Seton Catholic Prep are considered cut sports at some capacity. All students are encouraged to try out, and final team selections are made at the discretion of the coach. Students who do not make the team are encouraged to seek feedback and continue developing their skills for future opportunities. Cuts are final, and there is no appeal process.

Playing Time

Playing time is determined by the coach and is based on a variety of factors, including the athlete's performance in practice, attitude, and overall contribution to the team. Parents with playing time questions are encouraged to follow the SCP Communication Procedures outlined in this handbook. The following criteria have been established for the playing time of athletes.

- **Varsity Level Program:** The philosophy of the varsity program is to place the best combination of athletes into a game or match situation. This combination of athletes is to be determined by the coaching staff based on their evaluation of the athletes. Seniors are only allowed to play Varsity level games; however, being a senior does not guarantee a spot on the team.
- **Junior Varsity, Freshman/Sophomore Level Programs:** The philosophy of the Junior Varsity and Freshman/Sophomore levels is to emphasize the development of skills for each athlete. Teams are expected to pursue victory, and not all students are guaranteed playing time, but coaches will make every effort to involve every student athlete.

Attendance

Attendance at practice sessions and contests is mandatory. Coaches will ordinarily provide students with a schedule of both practice and contest dates. Students may be granted permission to miss a practice or contest if an excuse is provided to the coach well in advance and approved. Outside of emergencies, last minute requests to miss a practice or game will be denied. Athletes commit themselves to faithfully attend all practices and games and should plan other activities around them during the season. In the event that two school events coincide (i.e. concert and game), the parents of the athlete/musician involved will decide which event is attended without repercussion from either director or coach, but should notify both coach and teacher of their decision ahead of time.

Uniforms

Seton will provide uniforms and, where applicable, warm-up apparel for all teams. Students are required to return all school issued equipment and uniforms promptly at the end of their season within 10 days of the last scheduled game. School-owned uniforms must be returned at the end of the season in acceptable condition as determined by the coach. A \$200 fee will be assessed thru FACTS account for all items not returned or damaged beyond normal wear-and-tear, and awards, honors, and recognition may also be withheld.

Athletic Lettering and Awards Policy

Head coaches will determine the criteria for receiving an athletic letter and other athletic awards that pertain to their given sport. Awards are based on a combination of athletic performance, sportsmanship, and contributions to the team.

Team Captains

Team captains are selected by the head coach and are expected to demonstrate leadership both on and off the field. Captains are responsible for setting a positive example for their teammates, assisting with team communication, and representing the team during interactions with officials and opponents. In addition to these responsibilities, captains should also mentor younger or less experienced players, helping to foster a supportive team environment. The selection of team captains is based on a combination of skill, attitude, and leadership qualities.

Section IV: Athletic Facilities

Athletic Locker Rooms

Student-athletes are expected to do everything possible to maintain the cleanliness and appearance of the locker rooms. Students may not enter the gym or locker rooms without the permission and supervision of a school official. Students are expected to use the locker rooms (not the restrooms or the parking lot) for changing clothes. No food or drink, with the exception of water, is allowed on the gym floor, weight room, wrestling room or locker room. Use of gym equipment without a coach present is a serious violation of school policy. Safety is the primary concern in use of the gym equipment. Cell phones are not to be used in the locker rooms.

Athletic Lockers

Seton Catholic Preparatory issued locks are required on all athletic lockers. **Lockers must be locked at all times.** Students must not leave their belongings in the locker room unsecured. Colored bumpers are NOT to be removed. Lockers in the girls' and boys' locker rooms are reserved and required for use by the athletes and students in physical education. **Students are not permitted to enter inside a locker.**

Students are not to change lockers without permission and students should not give their lock combinations to anyone. Students may be subject to fines, detentions, or other disciplinary action if their locker is found unsecured or missing the lock, or the lock is on a different locker. Responsibility for locker security rests with the students and the school is not responsible for the loss of personal property (i.e. cell phones, wallets, personal devices, sports equipment). **All lockers must be cleared at the end of the sport season or the last day of PE class & locks returned to the athletic department.** Articles left in lockers after the last day of each semester will be sold, given away, or disposed of.

Lockers and locks are the property of Seton Catholic Preparatory and can be opened at the discretion of an administrator at any time. If a lock is not returned or is lost, there is a \$10 fee charged for a replacement lock.

PE Lockers are assigned and recorded by the PE Teacher; team sports lockers are assigned and recorded by the Athletic Department.

Section V: Event Center Construction

Seton Catholic Preparatory is excited to announce the construction of our new state-of-the-art event center, which will enhance our athletic facilities and provide expanded opportunities for our student-athletes and the broader school community. This construction project will take place over the next two years and requires strict adherence to safety protocols to ensure the wellbeing of all students, staff, and visitors.

The construction site presents numerous safety hazards including, but not limited to:

- Heavy machinery and equipment operation
- Elevated work areas and potential falling objects
- Electrical hazards and power lines
- Unstable ground conditions and excavation areas
- Chemical and material hazards
- Noise levels that may impair hearing and communication
- Dust and air quality concerns
- Restricted visibility areas

Construction Area Boundaries - Designated Restricted Zones

The construction area is clearly marked and designated by:

- Orange safety cones
- Construction fencing and barriers
- Posted warning signs
- Flagging tape where appropriate
- Security personnel when necessary

Access Restrictions

NO PERSON is permitted to enter the construction area without proper authorization. This includes:

- Student-athletes
- Parents and spectators
- Visitors
- Faculty and staff (unless specifically authorized)
- Contractors not directly involved in the project

Student-Athlete Responsibilities

All student-athletes are expected to:

- **Stay Alert:** Be aware of construction boundaries at all times
- **Respect Barriers:** Never cross, move, or tamper with safety barriers, cones, or fencing
- **Follow Designated Paths:** Use only approved walkways and routes around campus
- **Report Hazards:** Immediately notify school officials of any safety concerns or damaged barriers
- **Set an Example:** Demonstrate responsible behavior and remind teammates of safety protocols
- **Supervise Younger Students:** Upperclassmen should guide younger students away from restricted areas

Disciplinary Actions

Violations of the construction safety policy will result in progressive disciplinary measures:

First Offense

- Verbal warning and safety re-education
- Parent notification
- Documentation in student file
- Mandatory review of safety protocols with Athletic Director

Second Offense

- Written warning
- One-day suspension from athletic activities (practice and games)
- Parent meeting required
- Community service related to campus safety

Third Offense

- Three-day suspension from athletic activities
- Formal disciplinary hearing with administration
- Possible removal from team for remainder of season
- Required completion of safety awareness program

Serious Safety Violations

Any violation that creates immediate danger to the student or others may result in:

- Immediate suspension from all athletic activities
- Disciplinary hearing with potential for extended suspension
- Possible removal from athletic programs for the remainder of the school year
- Required safety training before consideration for future athletic participation

Emergency Procedures

In Case of Construction-Related Emergency

- Immediately evacuate the area
- Contact school security or administration
- Call 911 if there is immediate danger
- Do not attempt to rescue property or investigate the situation

Reporting Safety Concerns

Students should immediately report any safety concerns to:

- Their coach
- Athletic Director Jim Shewbridge
- School administration
- Security personnel

Conclusion

The safety of our student-athletes, families, and school community is our highest priority. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we navigate this exciting construction project. The new event center will provide enhanced opportunities for our athletic programs, but only if we maintain the highest safety standards throughout the construction process.

These policies are subject to modification based on construction progress and safety assessments. Any changes will be communicated immediately to all stakeholders.

Remember: When in doubt, stay out. No facility or equipment is worth risking your safety or the safety of others.