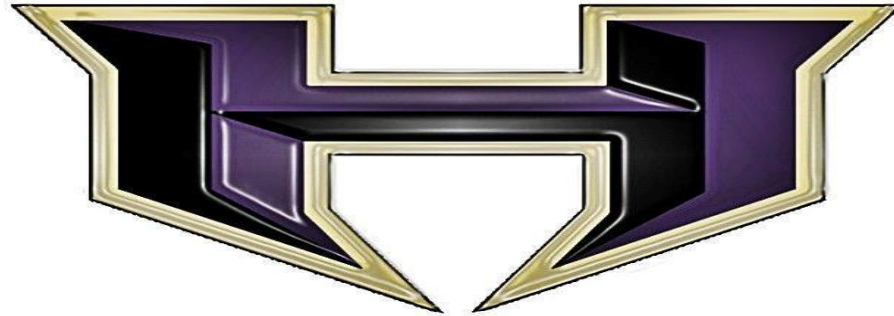


Holland ISD Athletic Handbook



Holland Independent School District
2023-2024

Mission Statement

The Holland Athletic Department will set forth policies to enhance the educational experience of all students. Participation in athletics offers students a unique leadership, perseverance, loyalty, fairness, and discipline. Policies are written to serve as guidelines. Understanding these expectations is intended to help everyone have a great athletic experience.

Coaching Staff

Brad Talbert, Athletic Director
Head Football

Mindy Walker	7th Volleyball, 7th Basketball, Assistant HS/JH Track
Todd Winkler	Head Girls' Basketball, Head Cross Country, and Assistant HS/JH Track
Scott Brothers	Head Boys' Basketball, Assistant Football, Assistant HS/JH Track
Patrick Kruger	Head Baseball, Offensive Coordinator Football, 7th Basketball and JH Track
JB Chaney	Head Powerlifting, Defensive Coordinator Football, Head Girls Track
Kelly Taisler	8th Volleyball, 8th Girls Basketball, and Assistant HS/JH Track
Megan Gersbach	Assistant HS Volleyball, Assistant HS Girls Basketball, and Assistant HS/JH Track
Patrick Mays	Assistant Football, Assistant Basketball, Assistant Baseball and JH Track
AJ Walker	Assistant Football, Head Softball, and JH Track
Haygen Tibbetts	Assistant Football, 8th Basketball, Assistant Pwl and Head Boys Track
Jessica Cammack	Head Volleyball, Assistant Softball, and JH Track

Administration Staff

Shane Downing, Superintendent
Alex Swick, High School Principal
Gracie Schlickeisen, Middle School Principal

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

Goal: *Promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, loyalty, and positive competitive attitude using regulations approved as a guide for Behavior.*

- The athletic department policies are set forth to enhance the educational experience of the students.
- Participation in athletics offers students a unique experience in leadership, perseverance, loyalty, fairness, and discipline.
- Policies are written to act as a system of guidelines.
- Understanding these expectations is intended to help everyone have a great experience.

Student Participation:

A student in grades 7-12 may participate in extracurricular activities on or off campus at the beginning of the school year only if the student has earned the cumulative number of credits in state-approved courses.

In order to be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity event for a six weeks period following the initial six weeks period of a school year, a student must not have a recorded grade average lower than 70 in any course for the preceding six-weeks period.

School Attendance:

Students must be present one-half of the school day in order to participate in an athletic event unless the absence is accompanied by a medical excuse.

Athletic Attendance:

Each student athlete is expected to be in school, athletics, and practice everyday. Illness, family emergency/situations, or school related functions are the only reasons for an excused absence. The athlete or the parent must notify the coach if the athlete is going to miss practice or a game. **Make-up for excused absences will be dealt with on an individual basis.** Injured or ill students who are at school are expected to attend practice and games dressed accordingly.

Unexcused absences from practice or a game will not be tolerated. Athletic Director has final say when determining whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

- **Unexcused practice absence policy-** The first offense will result in a sport specific practice detention. The second offense will result in double sport specific practice detention and a parent conference. The third offense will result in a parent conference and possible removal from the sport. The penalty imposed must be completed before participating in a game. Documentation will be kept in the Athletic Director's office.
- **Unexcused game absence policy-** Each game that is missed due to an unexcused absence will result in the athlete suiting up but not playing during the next game on the schedule. One day of a tournament is equivalent to one game on the next scheduled playing date.

ISS/Alternative School:

Students placed in In School Suspension may practice after school but may not participate in games unless they have fulfilled their ISS assignment. ISS assignments are made at the discretion of the principal as directed by the Student Code of Conduct to promote student safety during the school day and at school-sponsored or school-related activities. Students in the Bell County Alternative School for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities during that period until the last day of DAEP assignment.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct:

The student athlete is expected to represent their community and school with integrity and class. Any athlete removed from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, whether toward an opponent, coach, or official, will meet with the head coach, and the athletic director the next day and before the athlete participates in another game or match to determine the consequence of such action. The following discipline management techniques may be used—alone or in combination—for behavior prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct or by campus or classroom rules:

- Verbal correction, oral or written.
- Sport specific detention.
- Parent-coach conferences
- Not starting athletic competition
- Sitting out of the entire game or a portion thereof
- Cooling-off time or “time-out.”
- Behavioral contracts.
- Other strategies and consequences as determined by school officials.

More severe consequences may be implemented based on options listed above should the behavior be repeated.

Quitting:

Students shall not change sports during a season. As coaches and teachers, we strongly encourage all athletes to finish what has been started. Any athlete that quits a sport may not begin another sport until the regular season is over for the sport the student quit. Quitting Offseason is considered quitting the Athletic Program. *A parent conference with the Athletic Director and Coach must occur before a student quits a sport or the Athletic Program. A contract must be signed which states that if a student quits a second sport during the same school year, that student will be suspended from attempting another sport for the remainder of the school year.* A two week trial period will be allowed for quitting a sport without any consequences.

Suspension from the Athletic Program:

Only the Athletic Director may suspend an athlete from the athletic program. Reinstatement may occur if the coaching staff has determined that the athlete’s attitude has changed. The Athletic Director is responsible for seeing that discipline is consistent across all sports.

Equipment:

Once an athlete has been issued equipment, it becomes the athlete's responsibility to care for it. Loss or damage of equipment is the athlete's financial obligation. Students going from one sport to another must have all equipment turned in before being issued the next sport's equipment.

Lettering:

We believe that the sports awards that students receive at the end of the year are symbols of hard work, dedicated effort, positive attitude, and a desire to be successful. Student athletes will receive a letter jacket if they are on the varsity team and finish the season.

Injury or Illness:

It will be the judgment of the coach on whether or not the injured or ill athlete dresses in full uniform for games. Unless extenuating circumstances, the injured athlete will dress uniform for practices and games with the team. Injured athletes must remain with the team at all times unless the coach directs otherwise. Attendance rules for practice still apply for injured and ineligible students.

Off-season Expectations:

A student athlete, who has made a team or previously participated on a team, must be enrolled in the athletic class for off-season workouts in order to develop strength, speed, agility, skills, team unity, and character development. A conference with the student athlete, parent, principal, counselor, and athletic director must occur if an academic reason exists for an athlete not to participate in the athletic conditioning class. Quitting the Athletic Period is considered quitting the Athletic Program. By doing this, the student will not be permitted to participate in any extra-curricular sporting event unless the coach and Athletic Director allows the student back into the Athletic Program. The returning student will have two weeks of conditioning before being allowed to be part of a team.

Drugs / Alcohol / Tobacco

As a student athlete you represent your team and coaches, your school and your community. With that privilege comes responsibility. In order for Holland ISD to be a competitive program, athletes must maintain a healthy lifestyle free from use of illegal substances.

1st Offense: an athlete that is served a Minor In Possession, under the influence, selling or delivering a controlled substance at any time during the school year as reported by a law enforcement official will be placed on probation for one year and assigned a sport specific detention.

2nd Offense: Suspension from athletics for a six weeks period.

Dress Code

The student athlete will dress out in school issued clothing. No jewelry will be worn during the athletic practice or games.

Banquets:

The Athletic Department will provide a recognition banquet for Fall and Spring High School Sports. All athletes will be acknowledged for their participation in sports and All-District honors attained.

Classroom Expectations:

Student athletes will be expected to:

- Maintain a grade of 70 or above in all classes to be eligible to play or to participate in all extracurricular activities according to U.I.L. Rules. Athletes who fail a grading period are ineligible for competition but are eligible and expected to practice.
- Exemplify the same discipline and work ethic in the classroom as they do on the playing field.
- Operate successfully under the authority of the teacher, and to demonstrate a respectful and cooperative attitude.
- The Athletic Department will ensure that all classroom expectations are met.

Conduct and Attitude:

A person's conduct is directly related to their attitude. Athletes should see themselves as ambassadors, not only for their program, but for their school and community as well. People in other communities will develop an impression of Holland based on the conduct of our athletes. Athletes with excessive inappropriate behavior or attitude problems will be disciplined and could be removed from the athletic program.

Transportation:

We want Varsity players to ride to and from games with the team. Saturday games are an exception but need to let the head coach know of the arrangements. Athletes need a parent's signature with a coach after the game for sign-out.

Sub-varstiy players can ride home with parents after the games but still need to sign out with coach. If special circumstances arise **there must be previous communication with everyone involved.** Please contact Athletic Director to make arrangements with all people.

Acknowledgment of Receipt of: Holland ISD Athletic Handbook

Dear Parents,

Please read the following information, sign and return to the Athletic Director.

We have received, read and understand the Holland Independent School District's Athletic Handbook.

We have received, read, and agree to abide by the Holland ISD's Athletic Handbook. I understand that my child,

_____, will be accountable for the behavior and disciplinary consequences outlined in the Athletic Handbook. I understand that this includes all behavior at school, school-sponsored and school-related activities, school sponsored travel regardless of time or location. I understand that any student who violates the Student Code of Conduct or the Athletic Handbook guidelines is subject to disciplinary action.

I have read and understand all the statements above.

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____

Signature of Athlete _____ Date _____

ALL ATHLETES MUST RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT BY AUGUST 18, 2023.