

Clinton Public Schools

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

*Student Athlete &
Parent/Guardian*

2023-2024

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Clinton Public Schools is to empower learners to embrace and influence the future with courage and compassion.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

As a Professional Learning Community, we will:

1. Create an equitable learning system to ensure inclusion, access, and achievement for all students.
2. Provide individualized and personalized learning experiences to develop engaged and reflective learners who can apply their learning.
3. Create a welcoming and supportive school community focused on establishing relationships and providing supports that foster the health and well-being of all.
4. Create a safe, effective, and fiscally responsive school district by ensuring proper planning and management of district resources.

Interscholastic Athletics at The Morgan School & Eliot Middle School

The Morgan School is a collaborative learning community dedicated to providing opportunities for all students to reach their maximum potential academically, civically, and socially. Working in partnership with parents, citizens, businesses, and civic organizations, we ensure the development of each individual's talents, skills, and character so that all of our graduates are prepared to be independent and successful members of our society.

THE MORGAN WAY

We are Morgan. We are family.

Respect yourself and others

Respect environment and property

Respect learning

TOGETHER the Jared Eliot Middle School Huskies Will...

Prepare

Aim and

Work Collaboratively for

Success

The Morgan and Eliot Schools interscholastic athletic program is consistent with, and contributes to, the basic mission of the school. As an integral part of the total educational process, Morgan and Eliot athletics make significant contributions toward helping students grow in mind, body, and spirit. Sports participation is an effective way to teach students about good character, discipline, teamwork, and the benefits of a healthy, fit body. Morgan and Eliot athletic programs aim to:

- Promote self-discipline and responsibility, and teach the value of sustained effort.
- Develop teamwork, good sportsmanship, and a competitive spirit.
- Build school and community pride and unity.
- Develop fitness and athletic skills and teach the lifelong benefits of sports and fitness for physical and mental well-being.

Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right.

Students develop personally and academically when they participate in interscholastic activities. Such participation is a privilege, not a right. Students earn the privilege to participate by adhering to high standards of personal conduct and academic performance. Personal conduct and attitude of student participants must reflect high standards of respect, loyalty, attitude, and morality.

Athletic Expectations

The Morgan School is a Class Act School. The Morgan School and Eliot Middle School abide by the [CIAC Class Act Guidelines](#).

Student Athlete

A student athlete assumes a leadership role when they are on an athletic team. As a member of a team, a student athlete serves as a role model. They are admired and respected by many, including younger athletes, and their behavior and actions often have a significant impact on others. The student athlete plays an essential role in the promotion of sportsmanship, and must accept the responsibility to always display high standards of sportsmanship.

The student body, our community, and other communities judge our school by the conduct and attitude of our student athletes both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, student athletes can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride by consistent demonstration of the following ideals:

Student athletes and team managers will:

- Demonstrate exemplary behavior towards teammates, opposing players, fans, coaches, event staff and officials. Tauting, heckling or using inappropriate language towards teammates, opposing players, fans, coaches, event staff and officials will not be tolerated.
- Conform to all rules set forth by the team and athletic department, The Morgan School/Eliot Middle School, the Clinton Board of Education, the Shoreline Conference (SLC), The Pequot Football Conference, and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Association (CIAC)
- Cooperate with officials, coaches, and fellow participants to conduct a fair contest.
- Treat opponents with respect; shake hands before and/or after each contest.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, and fellow students
- Live up to the high standards of sportsmanship established by the coach.
- Win with humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity.

Coaches

- Always set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Instruct participants in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship the number one priority.
- Refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators; no gestures which indicate an official or opposing coach does not know what he or she is doing.
- Develop and enforce penalties for participants who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

Win with humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity.

Parents and Fans

- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams and coaches in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.
- Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as athletes.
- Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Respect fans, coaches, and participants.
- Remember that you are at the contest to support and cheer for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans. Be a fan...not a fanatic.

Conflict Resolution

Discussion of concerns with parents/guardians or students may not take place before or after games. Appointments can be made among the coaches, parents/guardians, student athlete, and administration for a time when it is convenient for all concerned parties.

Areas that will not be discussed include the following:

- *Playing time*
- *Discussions about other student athletes*
- *Game strategies.*

Steps to follow for conflict resolution: Each step will involve a scheduled meeting. If the result/outcome of the step is not satisfactory, then the athlete should move to the next step:

- 1. Athlete - Captain**
- 2. Athlete - Coach**
- 3. Athlete - Athletic Director**
- 4. Parent - Student Athlete - Coach**
- 5. Parent - Student Athlete - Athletic Director**
- 6. Parent - Student Athlete - Principal**

Program Overview

- **League Affiliation**

The Morgan School is a member of the Shoreline Conference, the Pequot Football Conference and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), which is affiliated with the National Federations of State High School Associations.

Morgan and Eliot student athletes are governed by the rules, regulations, and requirements of the CIAC, the Shoreline Conference, and Pequot Football Conference. Eliot Middle School participates in interscholastic athletics with neighboring Shoreline Schools.

- **The National Federation of State High Schools Association- NFHS**

The National Federation consists of the fifty individual state high school athletic and/or activities associations. The purposes of the Federation are to serve, protect and enhance the interstate activity interests of the high schools belonging to the state associations; to assist in those activities of the state associations which can best be operated on a nationwide scale; to sponsor meetings, publications and activities which will permit each state association to profit by the experience of all other member associations and to coordinate the work to minimize duplications.

- **The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference- CIAC**

All schools are voluntary members of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference and must compete only with member schools or other state association schools in District One. As a member school district Clinton agrees to abide by and enforce all rules and regulations promulgated by the association.

- ❖ The primary role of the state association is to maintain rules and regulations that ensure equity in competition for the student athletes and a balance with other educational programs. The association solicits input and is responsive to requests for rule modifications from member schools, appointed committees, Athletic Directors' Association, and Coaches' Association.
- ❖ The state association attempts to enforce such rules that assure the greatest good for the greatest number and to ensure that competition is conducted in an appropriate manner.

- **Shoreline Conference- High School**

Coginchaug	Cromwell	East Hampton	Haddam Killingworth
Hale-Ray	Lyme- Old Lyme	Morgan	North Branford
Old Saybrook	Portland	Valley Regional	Westbrook

- **Pequot Football Conference**

Canton	Coginchaug/Hale-Ray	Coventry/Windham Tech/Bolton	Cromwell
Ellington	Gilbert/NWR	Granby	Haddam Killingworth
Lewis Mills	Morgan	North Branford	Nonnewaug
Old Saybrook/Westbrook	SMSA University	Stafford/East Windsor/Somers	Valley Regional/Old Lyme
Windsor Locks/Suffield/East Granby			

- **Shoreline Conference- Middle School**

Eliot	Haddam Killingworth	John Winthrop	Lyme-Old Lyme
Nathan Hale-Ray	North Branford Intermediate	Old Saybrook	Portland
Strong	Westbrook		

Interscholastic Programs Offered

The Morgan School

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Cheerleading	Cheerleading	Baseball
Cross Country	Boys Basketball	Boys Golf
Field Hockey	Girls Basketball	Girls Golf
Football	Co-Ed Fencing	Boys Lacrosse
Boys Soccer	Indoor Track	Girls Lacrosse
Girls Soccer	Wrestling	Boys Outdoor Track
Girls Volleyball		Girls Outdoor Track
		Softball
		Boys Tennis
		Girls Tennis

**Co-op opportunities exist for the following sports, Gymnastics, Boys Ice Hockey & Boys Swimming. Please contact the Athletic Department if you are interested in participating in these sports or other co-op opportunities.*

Eliot Middle School

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Cross Country	Cheerleading	Baseball
Field Hockey	Boys Basketball	Boys Outdoor Track
Boys Soccer	Girls Basketball	Girls Outdoor Track
Girls Soccer		Softball

Program Descriptions

Middle School Athletics

The athletic program at Eliot Middle School is designed to provide opportunity and participation for middle school students as facilities and supervision will reasonably and safely allow. Through interscholastic programs, it is the goal of the middle school athletic program to provide broad ranged lifetime activities that increase skill level, enhance self-esteem, and develop and prepare students for future athletic endeavors.

Freshman Program

Some programs are available to students in the ninth grade. At this level, the focus is on learning athletic skills and game rules, fundamentals of team play, and the importance of winning and losing gracefully. Programs are conducted with a desire for socio-emotional growth, appropriate physiological demands, and healthy competition. The freshman programs are designed to encourage maximum participation and opportunities for the athletes.

At this level, cutting student athletes is not desirable. However, if the number of students trying out for a team creates a situation that is difficult to manage, poses a safety concern, or is problematic because of facility consideration, reducing team size may be necessary. Playing time for all athletes is desired as long as team rules are followed and athletes are properly prepared.

Junior Varsity Program

The junior varsity level is intended for those athletes who display the potential to develop into varsity level performers and offers the opportunity to participate in a competitive setting. An attempt will be made to play all participants. Some participants, however, may not play equally in individual games and over the course of the season. Coaches attempt to find meaningful playing time for all eligible athletes based on degree of effort, skill improvement, ability to compete, and execution of skills at game speed demonstrated by the athletes in practice and games.

Increased emphasis is placed on physical conditioning, refinement of skills, and strategies of team play. Junior varsity programs work toward achieving a balance between continued team and player development and playing time. Winning is not a major focus. With the goal of becoming a varsity athlete in sight, athletes at this level are expected to demonstrate a high degree of dedication and commitment.

Varsity Program

Varsity competition is the culmination of each sports program. Seniors and juniors generally make up the majority of the roster. At the varsity coach's discretion, underclassmen may be included on the team, provided that evidence of advanced levels of physical development, athletic skill, and appropriate developmental maturity are demonstrated.

Squad size at the varsity level is limited. The number of participants on any given team is a function of those needed to conduct an effective and meaningful practice and to play the contest. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time is never guaranteed.

Expectations and commitment at this level are high. The dedication needed to participate at the varsity level needs to be taken seriously.

Specialization of Sports at an Early Age

The Clinton Public Schools department of interscholastic athletics supports the foregoing philosophy as stated in the CIAC handbook and urges all students to participate in a variety of athletic programs. It is our hope, that in all cases, participation for the students will be an enjoyable, worthwhile educational experience.

Specialization in one sport during the middle-level and high school years, to the exclusion of most others, and too often at the expense of other equally valuable and wholesome activities, is at variance with the basic philosophical premise of American education, which seeks to produce well-rounded individuals with interests and abilities in many areas. Students should be discouraged from devoting all their energies and time to a single sport, but rather should be encouraged to allow themselves the experience of more than one sport.

The objective of the greatest possible personal growth of the student is best served by a varied program of academic and athletic activities, keeping proper perspective on the total development of the student athlete from adolescence to adulthood, and which allows the student to do and be other things as well. The formative years should be a time of growing in body and mind, a time of expanding horizons and outlook, not of specialization and narrowing of interests.

Participation Requirements

In order to participate in Interscholastic Athletic Programs, students must be enrolled at The Morgan School or Eliot Middle School.

Students may try out for any sport as long as they remain eligible and are in good standing with athletic department policies.

Eligibility and Trying Out for a Team

In order to participate at any level in any athletic program at Morgan or Eliot, the student must be registered and approved through FamilyID BEFORE the student can practice or try out. The student also must have an updated sport physical before starting practice or try outs.

FamilyID registration includes the following which must be met or completed before any student can participate in tryouts for the current season:

1. The parents/guardians are responsible for completing the FamilyID registration form and ensuring that any and all medical information concerning your child's health, medical concerns, injuries, medications, and allergies are reported to the Athletic Department and coaches. (See [Permission/Emergency Information For Coaches](#) below)
2. Agree to the state mandated Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Informed Consent and Concussion Education Plan and Consent Forms included in the registration program.
3. Digitally sign the Athletic Handbook/Team Rules Acknowledgement.
4. Submit a copy of the student's **most recent physical** to the School Nurse. A [State of Connecticut Health Assessment Record](#) is required every 13 months.

Please be aware that students may not participate in any tryouts, practices, or contests unless these forms are filled out completely and correctly, submitted, and approved—NO EXCEPTIONS OR SUBSTITUTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

The athletic department will hold informational meetings for students interested in trying out for sports teams.

Prior to the beginning of each season, the head coach of each particular interscholastic athletic program will receive a list of all registered and approved student athletes. If the student on the particular interscholastic list has not received approval, the student is not eligible to try out for or participate in a sport until they are registered and cleared for participation.

Once the team roster is completed and handed into the athletic office and then forwarded to the CIAC office, it becomes the official roster for each sport in that particular season.

Sports Physical Exams

All student athletes are required to have a physical exam that has been completed by their healthcare provider on record in the nurse's office. This physical is only valid for thirteen (13) months from the date of the exam, at which time a new physical is required to continue sports participation. This thirteen (13) month rule includes a 30-day grace period to accommodate policies that do not allow for exams to take place before one year has passed. This form must be signed and stamped by the health care provider.

Please note the following:

- Students cannot try out for a sport unless the nurse's office has an up-to-date sports physical exam on file.
- Students/parents/guardians are responsible for keeping track of when the student athlete is due for a new exam.
- The physical exam dates are not checked by the athletic office until seasonal tryouts take place. To avoid interruption in play during the school year, it is recommended that physical exams be scheduled during summer recess when possible.

Permission/Emergency Information For Coaches

This consent form must be completed each sports season by the student athlete's parent/guardian. The purpose of this form is to provide emergency contact and medical information (e.g., conditions, allergies), as well as grant permission to treat the student athlete in case of emergency. This form must be completed (on FamilyID) and signed by the student, a parent/guardian. The signatures on this form also indicate acknowledgement of the athletic handbook/athletic team rules.

Acknowledgement of Athletic Handbook/Athletic Team Rules

Coaches may have team rules that provide expectations that go above and beyond the guidelines established in this document. Those elevated expectations must be approved by the Athletic Director and signed by the player/parent prior to the start of the season.

An electronic signature by a parent/guardian and student athlete is required to acknowledge that you have read and understand the content of the student athletic handbook and agree to adhere to the regulations set forth. This is electronically signed on FamilyID. *(please see the Standards and Expectations section below)*

Team Selection

The coaching staff makes team selections after a tryout period at the start of the season. In certain sports, no cuts are made. In others, cuts may be necessary due to safety (facility or player/coach ratio), time limitations (reasonable opportunity for active participation in practice and/or games).

Individuals selected as team members, shall be considered as members of the team through the completion of that regular sports season unless they are removed for disciplinary reasons, academic ineligibility, or mutual agreement between player and coach.

Changing Sports

- A student athlete will not be allowed to drop one sport for another in the same season except with the permission of the coach of the team they want to transfer to, prior to the first game, and before the team roster has been submitted to the CIAC.
- If a student athlete is cut from one sport, he/she may try out for another sport in the same season, provided the first contest in the receiving sport has not been played.
- An athlete removed from a sport for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to join another team in the same season.

Academic Eligibility - The Morgan School

Student eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics is decided in accordance with Board of Education policy, Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), Shoreline Interscholastic Athletic Conference, and Pequot Football Conference policies and procedures. A copy of the CIAC by laws is available for reference in the athletic office or online at www.casciac.org.

To be eligible to participate in The Morgan interscholastic athletic program, the following rules apply:

- An athlete must be officially registered as a student at The Morgan School.
- Student athletes at all levels of play, including freshman, junior varsity and varsity, must conform to all Clinton Board of Education academic requirements and all CIAC eligibility requirements.
- Eligibility for fall sports is determined by the number of credits received toward graduation at the close of the previous school year, not the fourth marking period grades. Credit must have been received in at least five courses for which credit was not previously received to be eligible for fall sports participation. This may include credits earned during the summer. Thereafter, marking period grades, not semester grades, are used to determine eligibility. A student athlete must take a minimum of five (5) courses and earn passing grades in five (5) courses, in addition to meeting the academic requirements of The Morgan School, to achieve eligibility.

For additional information on academic eligibility, speak to the athletic director. First time ninth grade students are automatically eligible for the first marking period.

- ❖ Student eligibility is determined on the date that grades are verified by the assistant principal. Course failures may not be made up for eligibility purposes in any manner until the next report period grades are distributed.
- ❖ Course incompletes must be made up within ten (10) school days following the date that student eligibility was determined for that marking period. Year-end failures may be made up through successful completion of The Morgan School approved summer school courses in the courses failed.
- ❖ A student has eight consecutive semesters, or four consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into ninth grade, to be eligible for interscholastic competition. No student athlete shall participate in the same sport more than four (4) seasons in grades 9-12, at any school. Date of entry is defined as the first date of enrollment as a grade nine student taking five (5) or more high school subjects.
- ❖ A student will not be allowed to start a season or compete during a season in which his/her twentieth (20th) birthday falls.
- ❖ Students who fail to meet the eligibility requirements in any marking period, will be immediately

excluded from participation in interscholastic athletics until the completion of the next marking period when grades are reevaluated.

Ineligibility Process-The Morgan School

At the close of each academic quarter

1. Grades are stored historically
2. Report Cards printed (Per CIAC report cards and ineligibility lists must be generated no later than 14 days following the close of the academic quarter)
3. F and I list run from report cards
 - a. Students not passing 5 classes are not eligible to participate in extracurricular activities
4. Ineligible list created and Parents/Students/Coaches notified
 - a. Parents(phone call) and student(meeting) notified by Assistant Principal
 - i. student is ineligible from extracurricular activities until report card for next quarter is printed.
 - b. Coaches cannot allow ineligible students to participate once notified.

Students/Parents will be notified by a school administrator-**it is not the responsibility of the coach to notify a student of his/her ineligibility.**

Academic Eligibility -Eliot Middle School

- ❖ Athletes are required to maintain a C- average or better in all courses.
- ❖ If a grade falls below a C- average (D or F), the player is ineligible until grades improve as notified by the player's teacher. Coaches have assumed the responsibility of checking student grades. Homeroom teachers will be given a copy of team rosters so they can notify coaches of possible academic issues.
- ❖ Students will work with teachers to improve grades in order to maintain academic eligibility

In-Season Requirements

The following requirements apply to all student athletes.

1. Student athletes may not switch from one school team to another after the first scheduled contest in that sport.
2. Athletes may not practice or play with an outside team in the same sport. Participation on an organized non-school team in a sports competition, practice, or try-outs, during the high school contest season – including CIAC tournaments – in the same sport will result in suspension from all interscholastic sports until the athlete is reinstated by the CIAC Board of Control.
3. A student athlete may participate in golf, gymnastics, indoor track, outdoor track, swimming, and tennis as an individual (unattached) and not as a member of a team during the high school contest season without loss of interscholastic eligibility provided the following criteria be met:
 - Participation may not go beyond the number of practices and contests allowed per week for

that sport.

- In golf, gymnastics, swimming, and tennis, no more than four (4) unattached outside meets preseason are permitted. Athletes in these sports may practice, but not compete with a non-CIAC team during the season. These practices may not interfere with, or replace, school practices.
 - Track athletes should contact the athletic director for the specific requirements for their sport. Prior approval of the coach, athletic director, principal, and parent/guardian.
 - Prior arrangements are made to complete academic lessons, assignments, tests, etc.
 - Students and parents agree to not accept, directly or indirectly, any awards, gifts, trips, merchandise, etc., which would be in violation of CIAC regulations.
 - Athletes may not miss any CIAC sponsored tournament contest for which he/she is eligible.
4. Participation in Olympic or college tryouts, college showcases, college auditions, or student clinics during the authorized contest season, including CIAC tournaments, in the same sport, is permissible provided all the following are met:
- Each student is limited to two (2) events per season;
 - Each event is limited to one (1) day in duration;
 - The school must grant permission if there is any loss of school time;
 - The coach determines that the event does not interfere with any functions of the in-season school program; and
 - Written consent is given by the school principal and athletic director prior to the student attending such activities.
5. Student athletes are permitted to receive individual lessons in their sport during the season.
6. Student athletes may not attend camps during the high school contest season.
7. Participation in non-school athletic contests, practices, camps, etc., may affect eligibility. Speak with the athletic director before participating in these events to avoid violation of CIAC rules and to discuss any questions or concerns.

Out-of-Season Requirements

Generally, student athletes are permitted to participate in any activity or sport they wish to during the off season without being in violation of CIAC rules. There are limitations for participation in camps, clinics, or other organized activities which the coach or school is involved in. A full copy of the CIAC rules is available for reference in the athletics office or at the CIAC website at www.casciac.org.

Residency

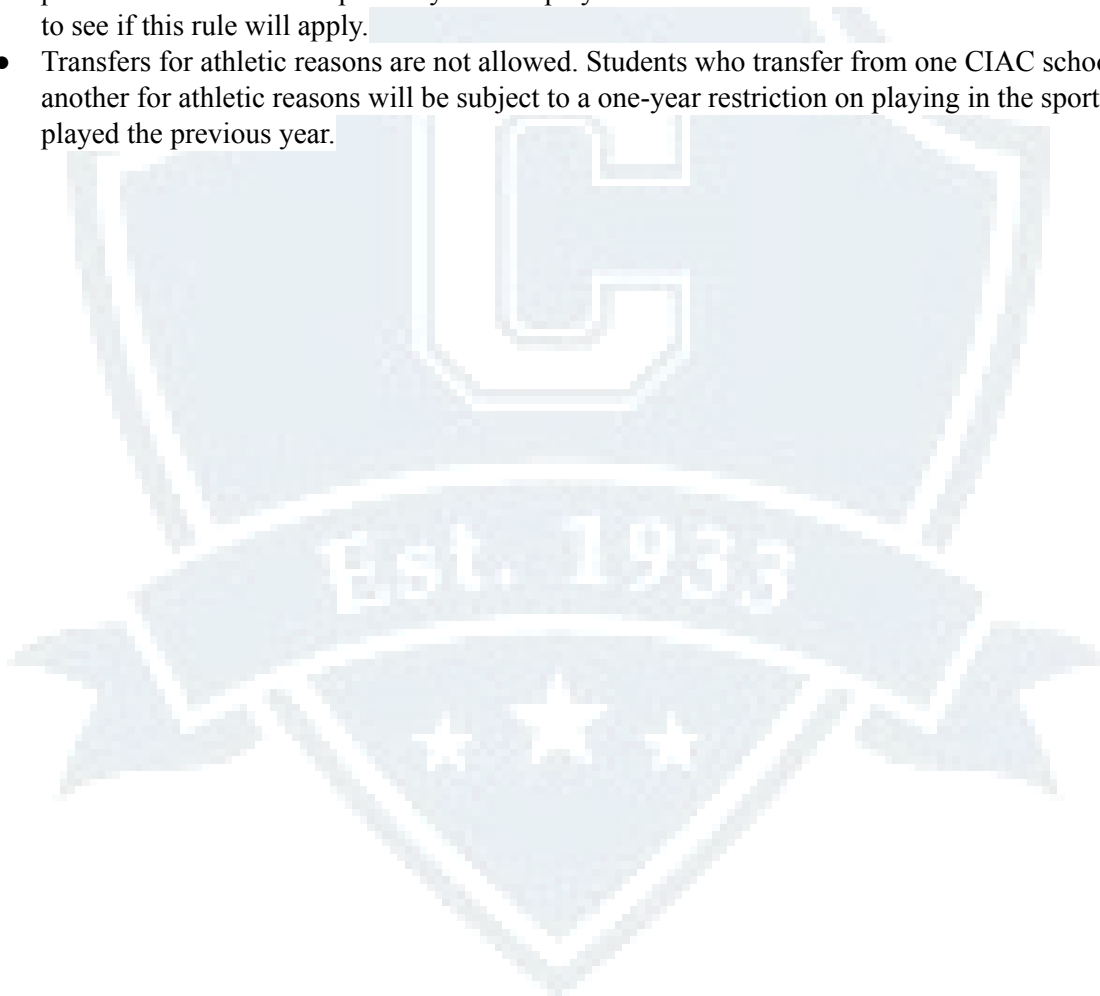
Student athletes under the age of eighteen (18) must reside with their parent or legal guardian (as determined by the Probate Court) to be eligible to participate in interscholastic sports. Residence with and supported by any individual other than the parent or legal guardian, for a period of one year or more, establishes residency of the student for athletic purposes.

CIAC High School Transfer Rule

Transferring from one CIAC school to another may have implications for athletic eligibility.

Students who plan to transfer to The Morgan School need to make an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the effects of the transfer on their eligibility. The following apply:

- Students who transfer from one CIAC school to another at the end of grade nine (9) will be immediately eligible at their new school providing they are otherwise eligible.
- Students who transfer in grades 10-12 with a corresponding change of legal address and are residing with their parent(s) or legal guardian will be immediately eligible providing they are otherwise eligible.
- Students who transfer from one CIAC school to another in grades 10-12 without a corresponding change of legal address may be subject to a 50% sit-out in the first varsity sport played at their previous school and the sport they wish to play at their new school. Check with the athletic director to see if this rule will apply.
- Transfers for athletic reasons are not allowed. Students who transfer from one CIAC school to another for athletic reasons will be subject to a one-year restriction on playing in the sport they played the previous year.



Expectations of Athletes

Standards and Expectations

Participation in the Morgan School and Eliot Middle School interscholastic athletics program is a privilege granted to individuals who possess the ability, attitude, and desire to represent the student body, the school district, and the Clinton community in a manner we can all be proud of. Therefore, athletes are held to higher standards and expectations and student athletes must, in turn, be willing to assume certain responsibilities that accompany this privilege.

There are standards and expectations in the areas of academics, citizenship, training expectations, and sportsmanship that must be met by participants, and it is essential that student athletes and parents be thoroughly familiar with all rules and regulations governing athletic participation in Clinton. The student athlete serves as a reflection of his/her coach, team, family, school, and community. Students are expected to display high standards of good behavior, remain chemical free, exemplify good sportsmanship, show respect for others, dress with care by keeping neat and well-groomed at all times, and meet The Morgan School/Eliot Middle School eligibility requirements. Furthermore, as with all privileges, it is important to remember that the school reserves the right to revoke the privilege of participation if the participant does not comply with these rules, regulations, and expectations. Students are expected to behave with respect and concern for the rights, safety, and welfare of all individuals while participating in the athletic program.

The Morgan School and Eliot Middle School students who wish to participate in the athletics program, must set priorities and make wise choices. Academic performance takes precedence over participation in athletics. Students who must receive extra help after school or make up academic work, should bring a note from the faculty member to their coach upon arriving at practice. Any disciplinary action, including detentions, takes precedence over athletic practices. **Suspensions (In-School/Out of School)** take precedence over both athletic practices and contests. The following rules, in addition to disciplinary action as outlined in the discipline procedures section of this handbook, will apply to all athletes participating in interscholastic athletics at The Morgan School and Eliot Middle School. Any conduct unbecoming of a student-athlete both on and off the field, and school campus, at any time will not be tolerated. Any incident will be reviewed on an individual basis and shall not set precedent for any future decision.

Team Specific Expectations

Coaches will provide to all student athletes, in writing, any additional rules and regulations specific to that sport and his/her coach, not covered in this handbook. These rules will be provided in writing at the team orientation meeting that is held at the beginning of each season and will be explained fully with all team members and parents. These rules adopted by the head coach for a particular team will be approved by the athletic director and kept on file in the athletic office

Transportation

Athletes are required to travel with the team, and the school district provided transportation to away competitions. If a parent/guardian needs to transport a student to or from a contest, the parent must provide a signed Travel Release Form with an explanation to the coach for approval, at least 24 hours prior to the contest. Forms cannot be accepted the day of the contest. At no time will students be allowed to transport themselves, or travel with anyone other than a parent/guardian. Proper bus conduct is expected at all times. Team members must leave the bus in a clean and appropriate condition.

Equipment / Uniforms

Each student is responsible for and must wear the equipment and uniforms that are issued. The students must pay for any lost or damaged equipment or uniforms. Any student in possession of school equipment not directly issued will face disciplinary action that may jeopardize further participation in the athletic program.

Responsibility for Equipment / Uniforms:

- All school issued equipment will remain the property of the school and must be properly cared for by the student/athlete to whom it is issued.
- It is the responsibility of the student athlete to ensure that the equipment is returned at the end of the season or departure from the team.
- Any student athlete failing to return a uniform or obligation payment (at the rate of the replacement cost) at the end of a season is ineligible for play in the next sport season until the account is cleared.
- Game uniforms should only be worn on the day of the contest upon approval from the coach.

Responsibility Regarding Locker Rooms:

- Student athletes should not bring valuable items to school.
- The school is not responsible for, nor is it liable for a student athlete's personal property.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure all their personal belongings are kept in a safe place while they are participating in their sport.
- Lockers should be locked at all times and combinations not shared with anyone.
- Lockers will be cleaned out at the conclusion of each sport season, at which time locker combinations are changed for security purposes.

Please refer to the [Locker Room, Equipment and Uniform Expectations](#) for additional information.

Health Concerns/Substance Use

Alcohol Use, Drugs and Tobacco

Participation in the athletic program is a privilege. Accordingly, there are high expectations for athletes regarding their personal conduct on and off campus. Student athletes represent The Morgan School and Eliot Middle School at all times. If their conduct at any time compromises the high standards set by the school, their participation in athletics may be jeopardized.

Any student athlete who attends a party/social gathering at which there is underage consumption of alcohol, illegal drug use, or the presence of related drug paraphernalia, must leave the event immediately. Failure to do so will subject the student athlete to the sanctions outlined in this handbook. Any student athlete who hosts a party/social gathering at which there is underage consumption of alcohol, illegal drug use, or the presence of related drug paraphernalia, will be subject to sanctions.

This policy will be in effect during the entire calendar year, inclusive of all training, conditioning, practices, scrimmages, contests, or other school related activities, and the policy remains in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Substance Abuse Regulation -The Clinton Board of Education seeks to promote a healthy environment for students and to maintain a substance-free district. Pursuant to that goal, Board of Education policies [5114](#) Student Discipline, [5127](#) Drug & Alcohol Use by Students, and [5129](#) Chemical Health for Student Athletes have been adopted to achieve this goal. In accordance with CIAC participation rules and the Board's obligation under state and federal law, the Board prohibits the unauthorized use, sale, distribution or possession of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, performance enhancing substances or alcohol during any school sponsored athletic activity, whether occurring on or off school property. It shall be the policy of the Board to take positive action through education, counseling, discipline, parental involvement, medical referral, and law enforcement referral, as appropriate, in the handling of incidents by student athletes involving the possession, distribution, sale or use of substances that affect behavior, including performance enhancing substances. This policy applies to all student athletes at Eliot and Morgan participating in school sponsored athletics, whether or not such athletes are participating in CIAC controlled activities.

Student athletes and students choosing to participate in other school sponsored extracurricular activities are not to be in the presence of underage consumption of alcohol, any intoxicants, mood altering drugs or substances, look alike drugs, or any related drug paraphernalia. They are expected to remove themselves immediately from any situation(s) described above whether occurring on or off school grounds. Any individual who violates these rules either on or off campus, will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined below, which may include removal from the team. This is a 24-hour policy and extends beyond the school day/week/year/season.

Disciplinary Actions for Violations:

❖ Tobacco and/or Nicotine

- **1st Offense:** The student will be suspended for 10% of the regular season (No suspension will be less than one contest). Loss of Leadership Role.
- **2nd Offense:** The student will be suspended for 50% of the regular season contests. Loss of Leadership Role

- **3rd Offense:** The student will be dismissed from the team for 366 days. Loss of Leadership Role

❖ **Alcohol and Illegal Drug**

- **1st Offense:** The student will be suspended for a minimum of 20% of the regular season contests. No suspension will be less than two (2) contests. The severity of the incident may result in a lengthier suspension, which can extend through the end of the season or the remainder of the school year. Loss of Leadership Role.
- **2nd Offense:** The student will be suspended from the team and for that entire season; therefore, the student is prohibited from participating in another sport for the noted “suspension season.” For example, a student who is suspended from the basketball team in the winter season, may not join and/or participate in indoor track, another winter season team/sport. (The school administration reserves the right to determine the length of athletic participation on the timing of the second offense.) Loss of Leadership Role.
- **3rd Offense:** The student will be suspended from participating on any team for 366 days from the date the student and parent(s)/guardians(s) are notified. Loss of Leadership Role.
- **4th Offense:** The student will be suspended from all athletic participation for the remainder of his/her high school athletic career at The Morgan School. Loss of Leadership Role.

The CIAC has established minimum consequences for violation of the CIAC chemical health policy regarding performance-enhancing substances. Please see the CIAC Handbook for a complete description of the CIAC policy and consequences (<http://www.casciac.org/pdfs/ciachandbook>).

As outlined in policy 5129 Chemical health for student Athletes, any reports or allegations of suspected substance abuse, should be immediately reported to the building administration, who will investigate the allegations. After the investigation, the building administrator will determine appropriate consequences to be taken.

NOTE:

During suspension, the student will not practice or travel with the team, and/or will not participate in any competition/ performances. After the suspension is fulfilled, the athlete must complete a reentry interview with the athletic director and coach. Athletes found guilty of violating these rules are not eligible to receive postseason awards involving character and leadership.

Captains or student athletes found guilty of violating these rules will lose their position and are ineligible to be named captain of a team until 3 seasons of play have passed from the date of their violation (which includes the season in which the violation occurred).

Violations of Standards and Expectations

Unacceptable Behavior

It is the athlete's responsibility to be aware of and to conform to the expectation rules and regulations that comprise responsible and successful student-athlete behavior. Student involvement in unacceptable behavior is considered to be a serious violation of the athletics code and school policy. These behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- theft and assault.
- malicious destruction of individual, private, or school property.
- infraction of school rules requiring administrative action.
- misconduct by an athlete that is potentially detrimental to the school or athletic program or school district.
- hosting or attending any event where under-age drinking or the use of illegal drugs is occurring.

Violations of standards and expectations include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

Hazing, Bullying and Initiation

Hazing, bullying, and/or initiation activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the Clinton Board of Education and Connecticut State Law and are prohibited at all times. (Clinton Public Schools Policy [5114 Student Discipline](#) and [5130 Bullying Prevention and Intervention](#)). Team members are responsible to report any hazing or harassment incidents to their coach and/or the athletic director immediately.

Student Athletes/Team Captains that organize and/or participate in any hazing/initiation activities will be immediately dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season. In addition, captains will lose their position as team captain. The school reserves the right to invoke discipline for incidents of serious misconduct that occur off campus and off-season.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fighting/Taunting

- Any athlete ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike behavior or fighting is ineligible to participate in the next contest at the same level of play (even if the next contest does not occur until league or CIAC tournament play or next year). Unsportsmanlike behavior includes taunting, which is defined as, but is not limited to, any actions or comments by coaches or players which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean other players, coaches, or game officials.
- Upon the second disqualification, if that violation is for initiating a fight or retaliating in a fight, that student athlete will be dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season.
- Any student athlete or coach who physically assaults an official, coach, opposing player, or spectator will be immediately dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season.

Disciplinary Action

For behavior that violates school rules, school disciplinary action will apply. In addition, there may be athletic discipline. Examples of athletic discipline include, but are not limited to loss of a starting position, loss of captaincy, game suspension, team suspension, or community service.

Violation of athletic behavioral standards and expectations may also jeopardize a student's eligibility to receive postseason athletic awards, scholarships, and other school/community awards.

Students are reminded that participation in athletics is a privilege and expectations for acceptable behavior applies at all times. The school reserves the right to invoke discipline for incidents of serious misconduct that occur off campus and off-season.

Attendance

Attendance at Practice and Games

- Student athletes must attend school for a minimum of four (4) hours on a full day or two (2) hours on a half-day in order to participate in a game or practice.
- If a student goes home early, they may not return to participate, even if they have been in school for the minimum required hours, without prior approval from school administration.
- Absences not related to illness and excused by the school administration, do not prohibit an athlete from participating. **Any athlete assigned to in-school or out-of-school suspension is prohibited from participating in practices or games on those days.**

Participation in Physical Education

No athlete may participate in team activities if he/she has a medical excuse for physical education class. Athletes who do not participate in their physical education class on the day of a practice or contest are not eligible to take part in that day's practice/contest.

Game Schedules

- Daily athletic game schedules are included in the morning announcements and are posted on the Digital Message Boards and the school website. ([Morgan](#) & [Eliot](#))
- Students are advised to listen for schedule changes after 12:30 pm, as everything possible is done to go ahead with scheduled competitions and practices.
- Game reschedules and cancellations are immediately updated on the CIAC website Please be aware that weather will, most likely, not be a factor for games scheduled to play on a turf field.
- In the event of an official school closing or weather related early dismissal, all scheduled contests and practices are automatically canceled.

Game Schedule Changes and Cancellations

Game schedules are constantly changing due to many factors. It is important to stay updated at all times as to when games and bus times are. Please access the most current schedules on the [CIAC website](http://ciacsports.com/site/) (<http://ciacsports.com/site/> click on the Schedules icon at the top).

[Stay Up-To-Date on Your Team- Schedule Changes, Game Scores, Tournament Rosters](#)

Sunday/Holiday/Days of Religious Observance

Consistent with Board of Education policy on recognition of religious holidays, it is the practice of the athletic department not to schedule games on religious holidays. In planning both Shoreline Conference and CIAC League activities, the conference attempts to avoid conflicts with major religious observances. Absence from practice to celebrate a religious holiday shall be an excused absence. Coaches will not penalize athletes observing religious holidays.

Athletes/parents need not be concerned that your standing/position on the team will be affected by observing religious holidays. It is the responsibility of the athlete/family to inform the coaching staff of an intended absence due to a religious observance. Further:

- No Sunday game/practices may start before 12:00 p.m.
- Scheduling of practices, including Sunday and school holidays, is at the discretion of the coach with the approval of the athletic director.

The athletic department has adopted the following policy in accordance with the CIAC Sunday game rule. A regular season postponed game is permitted on Sunday under these conditions:

- Agreement of the two competing schools to play on Sunday
- The CIAC may grant permission for other sports to play on Sunday afternoons due to unforeseen circumstances and with mutual consent of both schools

Athletic Vacation Policy

Vacations and other out of school activities, without prior approval from the coach, are not valid reasons for missing practices and contests. Family vacations that interfere with organized practice and/or games should be discussed with the coach prior to the season in a timely manner. The following regulations have been developed to be fair to all, especially to the athlete who may have no choice but to go with the family, and to the athlete who has to take the absent athlete's place during practice and contests that occur during the vacation period. If an athlete is on vacation during the season he/she should be prepared to sit out a certain number of games depending on the level of the sport (Freshman, JV or Varsity).

Due to weekly game limitations set by the CIAC and length of schedule, conflicts during vacation periods cannot be avoided. The Shoreline and CIAC do not schedule around vacations. This is impossible to do because there is no one standard vacation week for all Connecticut public schools. Athletes and parents need to be aware that games over vacations will be played and/or forfeited and not changed. This is a league as well as state policy.

Social Media Updates

- ❖ Follow Morgan Athletics on **Twitter**: @morgan_huskies
- ❖ Follow Morgan Athletics on **Facebook**: <https://www.facebook.com/morganhuskies>
- ❖ Follow Morgan Athletics on **Instagram**: @morgan_athletics
- ❖ Follow @ciacsports on Twitter for the quickest updates for results, postponements, and information for all CIAC championships as well as other CIAC news. We also tweet decisions by the board of control and sports committees where appropriate.

Team Captains

All team captains are expected to be leaders on their teams and in the school community, foster team and athletic program spirit and pride, set examples of academic integrity in the classroom, and follow the policies and procedures outlined in this handbook. In addition, they must serve as positive role models to the youth.

The team captain for an athletic team is a key leadership position and carries with it a tremendous responsibility. The captain is viewed as a mature leader who is looked upon by students, athletes, coaches, and administrators to set a positive example for team pride, fair play, dedication, and school spirit.

Captains are expected to have the following attributes: honesty, leadership, compassion, and integrity. Captains who are unwilling or unable to meet these requirements will be relieved of their position.

Selection Process

At the conclusion of each school year, captains will be selected for athletic teams for the upcoming school year. To be eligible for selection as a captain, an athlete must meet the criteria stated in the captains' expectations. Both in and out of season, team captains are expected to be appropriate role models in the school community. A captain who, in or out of season, commits a violation of the Captains' Expectations will risk his/her position as a team captain. Captains in season who violate the captains' expectations will lose their captaincy. Administration reserves the right to reject a nomination for captaincy based on a student's prior record at Morgan or Eliot and revoke any captaincy if there is a violation of the captains' expectations.

Please Note:

Students are encouraged to demonstrate their leadership skills and abilities during the off-season.

The head coach will exercise good judgment, common sense, and the advice of the athletic director in selecting a captain candidate. All captain nominees will be submitted to the athletic director/administration for final approval.

Students accepting the responsibility and honor of a captaincy, must adhere to the captains' expectations and sign the captain's pledge, as must their parents/guardians.

Under unusual circumstances, and with approval of the athletic director, the selection process may be delayed if it is in the best interest of the team.

Captain's Practice

"Captain's practice," no matter how well intentioned on the part of the team captains, violates CIAC policy and jeopardizes eligibility. The Morgan School athletic department fully supports the CIAC position on captain's practices for safety and liability reasons, and captain's practices are expressly forbidden. An adult presence (parent or volunteer) does not make a captain's practice legal. Student athletes with questions or concerns regarding practices outside the normally scheduled team practices should speak with their coach or the athletic director.

Captains' Expectations

- Selection to the position of team captain carries with it tremendous responsibility. Before accepting this key leadership position, the student-athlete must weigh the responsibilities that come with it. Students accepting the role of captain will be expected to:
 - *Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with The Morgan School expectations for acceptable behavior and citizenship.*
 - *Follow the athletic training expectations in and out of season.*
 - *Follow the Clinton Public Schools hazing policy.*
 - *Follow the code of conduct stated in the captain's pledge in and out of season.*
 - *Failure to meet these expectations will risk a student's position as a team captain.*

- Captains are expected to be major contributors to the tone and direction of a team both on and off the field. Personal qualities coaches look for in captains include:
 - *Role model - hard working, committed, dedicated, humble, lead by example, integrity, dependable, unwavering convictions, and positive attitude.*
 - *Well respected by teammates and the school community.*
 - *Good citizenship - respectful, loyal, cooperative, trustworthy, unselfish, honest, caring, with a great deal of pride in the school and its positive reputation.*
 - *Committed to being chemical free - will not use tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs.*
 - *Good school behavior - punctual, acceptable academic progress, and abides by school rules.*
 - *Athletic qualities - well skilled, dedicated, committed to the sport, display good sportsmanship, hardworking, and has good communication skills.*
 - *Willing to act as the liaison between teammates, coaches, athletic director, and other appropriate school personnel.*

- Coaches should expect that captains will:
 - *Live up to the expectations of the position.*
 - *Lead by example on and off the field.*
 - *Not be afraid to step out of the crowd, that is; to speak to teammates making poor or inappropriate choices.*
 - *Be a motivator (encouraging, modeling).*
 - *Be a role model for good sportsmanship.*
 - Captains can be of great assistance in actively working to encourage teammates to follow the athletic training expectations during the sports season and in preventing the use of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, or any other inappropriate substances.
 - Captains are expected to complete the [NFHS Captains Course](#). Proof of course completion must be submitted to the Athletic Director prior to the start of their season.

Athletic Disciplinary Actions

Both in and out of season, team captains are expected to be appropriate role models in the school community. A captain who, in or out of season, commits a violation of the captains' expectations as stated in the captain's pledge and the athletic training expectations will risk his/her position as a team captain. Captains in season who violate the captains' expectations will lose their captaincy. The Morgan administration also reserves the right to revoke any captaincy if there is a violation of the captains' expectations out of season. Any captain who violated the captains' expectations will not be eligible to receive post season Morgan athletic awards/scholarships involving character and leadership.

Captain's Pledge

The following pledge is required of all team captains. Failure to meet these expectations will risk a student's position as a team captain.

"I realize being selected to the position of team captain carries with it more responsibility than being just a team member; others in the school and greater community look up to me as a leader and role model. I will do my best to exemplify the qualities that the administration, athletic department, head coach and school community expect of me. I pledge to adhere to the captains' expectations in and out of season.

I pledge to:

Conduct myself in a manner consistent with The Morgan School expectations for acceptable behavior and citizenship as outlined in the student-parent handbook.

Adhere to the guidelines stated in the captain's' expectations in and out of season.

Follow the athletic training expectations by remaining chemical free. I will not use tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs.

Follow the Clinton Public Schools expectations and policies prohibiting bullying/hazing.

Earn the respect of my teammates, the school community, and the larger Clinton community.

Be a good citizen. I will demonstrate respect, loyalty, cooperation, trustworthiness, selflessness, honesty, compassion, and pride in my school and its positive reputation.

Demonstrate good school behavior. I will be punctual and abide by school rules.

Demonstrate positive academic qualities. I commit to academic progress and my best effort.

Demonstrate positive athletic qualities. I commit myself to good skills, dedication to the sport, good sportsmanship, hard work, teamwork, and communication skills.

Be willing to act as the liaison between teammates, coaches, athletic director, and other appropriate school personnel."

"The higher the level of competition – the higher the expected dedication."

General Information

Morgan Booster Club Passes

- Morgan Booster Club Passes can be purchased during the Morgan Booster Club Drive that is held in early September. Passes may also be purchased at the first home game at which admission is charged for each sport.
- Morgan Booster Passes allow the purchaser free admittance to ONLY Morgan regular season athletic contests when an admission fee is charged.
- Morgan Booster Club Season Passes are not accepted at league or state tournament contests.

Dress on Game Days

The Athletic Department understands and appreciates the team spirit and pride that our student athletes demonstrate. All athletic spirit worn on game days and to school sponsored athletic events must adhere to the school dress code policy (Clinton Public Schools Policy [5132](#) Student Dress).

Athletic Trainer

The Morgan School employs the services of a full-time and part-time certified athletic trainer (ATC) in order to provide immediate care in the event of injury. The ATC is scheduled to be in the training room every day right after school and before practice for taping, treatment, and consultation. When requested, the ATC will supervise rehabilitation in order to minimize the risk of re-injury. The trainer, however, is not here to replace the family's own medical specialist. The trainer provides immediate emergency first aid. The ATC works in conjunction with the athletic director, coaches, orthopedic physicians, and other health care professionals to create a teamwork approach when caring for the athlete.

The ATC circulates the campus during practice hours and most game days. Athletic training services are provided by Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine Centers (PTSMC) and available for all sport teams.

Injuries

All injuries incurred while participating in The Morgan School or Eliot Middle School interscholastic athletic program must be reported to the athletic trainer and/or coach. The trainer and/or coach will administer first aid at the time of the injury. Should additional medical attention be required, the athletic trainer/coach will arrange to have the athlete transported to the hospital and parents will be notified immediately.

Concussion Awareness Information

The State of Connecticut has followed the enacted concussion legislation requiring all schools provide concussion education to student-athletes and parents. The Connecticut Association of Schools - Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference(CAS-CIAC) strongly recommends that all student athletes and parents view the CAS-CIAC video on concussions and concussion management. Please navigate to www.casciac.org for concussion awareness Information.

Concussion Protocol

A concussion is described as a traumatic brain injury, or TBI, which is caused by a hit to the head or body that causes the brain to move around inside the skull. Symptoms of a concussion vary greatly from person to person but the most common symptoms seen are headache, dizziness, nausea, and feeling “in a fog”. Many of these symptoms are subjective, meaning they are felt by the patient and cannot be seen by the person examining them. Not all concussions are caused by a blow to the head, a large percentage are caused by the neck being jerked in a whiplash like fashion. Because of their subjective nature, this protocol has been put in place for the protection of the student athletes at the Morgan School and Eliot Middle School. Concussions will be managed as a team including the student athlete, parent, doctor, athletic trainer, and the school nurse.

Concussion Symptoms

If any of these symptoms are seen after a hit to the head or body a concussion should be suspected and the athlete should be removed from play and the athletic trainer notified.

Signs of a concussion may include but are not limited to:

- Headache
- Unconsciousness for any length of time
- Seizure
- Dizziness
- Nausea/vomiting
- Unequal pupils
- Trouble balancing
- Lethargy/disorientation
- Light/sound sensitivity

What happens after a concussion is suspected?

If the athletic trainer suspects the athlete to have a concussion, they will contact and inform the parent/guardian and advise them to take the athlete to a physician and will recommend one if needed. Under the athletic training scope of practice, a concussion can be managed by an athletic trainer but only under the supervision of a doctor. As long as the athlete still has symptoms of their concussion, they may not practice or participate in any activity. After the athlete has been symptom free for 24 hours and cleared by a physician, they are required to go through a 5-day return to play process. This 5-day return to play process cannot be skipped and if symptoms reappear during these 5 days, the process must start over after symptoms resolve.

5 Day return to play protocol

- Day 1: 15 minutes running or riding a stationary bike
- Day 2: 20 minutes running or riding a stationary bike
- Day 3: Sport specific activity/ no contact
- Day 4: Non-Contact practice
- Day 5: Full practice

Every day of this protocol will be managed by the athletic trainer. The athlete is not to return to full practice or play unless the coach receives a note of clearance from the athletic trainer. This return to play process is meant to provoke concussion symptoms if the concussion has not fully resolved.

Why have a protocol?

Concussions are a serious injury that left untreated can have long-term effects. An athlete that goes back into play before fully recovering from the first concussion risks Second Impact Syndrome which can lead to serious brain injury and can be fatal within minutes which is why we must take concussion care seriously.

In conclusion, if an athlete sustains a possible concussion, the following steps must be followed:

- Notify Athletic Trainer
- Notify Parent/guardian
- Athlete must see a doctor
- No activity until symptoms resolve
- After symptoms resolve, athlete must be cleared by the doctor
- 5-day return to play
- Coach receives a note clearing the athlete to fully return to play

Insurance

The athlete's family insurance policy is the primary carrier for any medical costs incurred because of sports injuries. The Board of Education provides a supplemental insurance

plan for all athletes and coaches participating in interscholastic sports. The policy is an "excess coverage" policy, which is a form of insurance that reimburses for medical expenses, within the policy limits, only to the extent that basic family medical insurance does not. If there is no family insurance in effect at the time of an injury, the sports insurance may cover the claim to the extent of the policy provisions.

For additional information regarding supplemental insurance, parents should contact the Athletic Office.

Fundraising

All Morgan School athletic programs and booster organizations wishing to conduct fundraising activities, must receive prior approval for the project/event from the athletic director by completing a fundraising form. Fundraising solicitation forms can be obtained from the athletic office. This form must be submitted to the athletic director at least two (2) weeks in advance of the proposed event.

The Athletic director will calendar all planned fundraising activities for each school year ensuring that several groups are not fundraising at the same time. This calendar will include the event name, date(s), and responsible party.

Fundraising may not proceed until the fundraising form has been approved and returned to the sponsor of the group conducting the fundraiser. All fundraising materials and fliers must be approved by the athletic director.

Purpose for Fundraising

- 1) Providing supplemental funds that help defray the costs of optional activities that support school programs.
- 2) Providing supplemental materials or equipment that enhances the athletic programs and/or athletic facilities.

Consideration for Approval

- The fundraiser does not detract from or conflict with the greater fundraising efforts of the school or school district.
- The fundraiser promotes team or school community.
- The fundraiser provides students with a positive experience.
- The planned project does not take too much student, parent, coach, faculty, or administrative time.
- The project cannot be covered through the school's annual operating budget.

Other Fundraising Guidelines

- Food items will not be sold during the operational hours of Clinton Public Schools Food Services.
- Fundraisers will be scheduled on a first come first served basis.

Funds Raised

All funds raised MUST be turned into the athletic secretary within 48 hours of the fundraiser. The head coach of the applicable athletic program will receive a receipt for the funds. ONLY the head coach and/or athletic director, with administration approval, can request to have funds withdrawn from their programs account.

Team Bench Protocol

The team bench is an athletic classroom. Athletes on the bench are expected to focus and concentrate on the game, listen to the coach, and support their teammates. The bench area can provide an important and unique opportunity to learn and teach. It is the athlete's responsibility to know what is going on: offensive game plan and defensive assignments, any adjustments already made, opponent's defensive tendencies, key offensive and defensive strategies, techniques, and skills the coach is trying to identify and teach.

We ask that parents and spectators afford the coach and players the same respect and courtesy that they would to teachers and students in the academic classroom. Most of our playing fields provide ample spectator viewing areas located on the opposite sides or ends of our fields. Please maintain an appropriate buffer or distance as to allow an athletic classroom atmosphere around our team benches.

Team Bench Composition

Team officials shall consist of school administrator, athletic director, head coach, assistant coach, manager, up to two (2) primary care personnel (who are qualified to diagnose and/or treat injury and/or illness, and authorized by the school district), and student athletes that are on the CIAC eligibility list.

Team officials are considered part of the team, and as such may be expected to wear the association uniform.

All team officials must wear flat, enclosed shoes, or joggers.

Team Bench & Personnel

Team Officials and bench players may not indulge in inappropriate comments or behavior.

Corrective Actions:

- When any incident/altercation occurs at a contest (unsportsmanlike disqualification, injury, transportation issue), the coach in charge at the contest MUST contact the athletic director immediately following the game.
- If the school administration and/or athletic director decides an investigation into the incident is warranted based on the severity of the incident/altercation, anyone involved in the incident will not be allowed to participate in practice or game situations until such investigation is completed.
- Disciplinary action regarding the party(ies) involvement/behavior may lead to dismissal from the program and/or position with the athletic program that the incident/altercation occurred in, or from athletic department programs.

Due to the field or court set up, team officials may stand BEHIND the Team Bench, but under no circumstances may they be MOVING UP AND DOWN the side lines, or along goal lines during play.

CIAC Athletes' Right of Due Process

There may come a time when, because of special personal circumstances, an athlete either commits an act, or fails to perform a duty, which results in his/her being declared ineligible to compete in a high school sport. In some cases, exceptions to the eligibility rules can be granted. All athletes have the right to the due process. Please review the CIAC's procedures [here](#).

ATHLETIC RESPONSIBILITY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Athlete's Name _____ Year _____

Sport(s): _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Prior to participating in any practice or tryout sessions for any interscholastic sport, each athlete must:

1. Successfully pass a physical examination by a registered physician, within the past thirteen months, and a copy of such examination must be on file in the office of the Athletic Director.
2. Return to the Athletic Director the Athletic Responsibility form properly signed. (signed electronically sign on FamilyID)
3. Return to the Athletic Director the properly filled out Parent Permission form.(electronically completed on FamilyID)

As a Clinton Public School student athlete participating voluntarily in interscholastic athletics, I understand that:

1. I will abide by the C.I.A.C., Clinton Public Schools Board of Education, School, Athletic Handbook, and team policies and rules .
2. I will conduct myself in an exemplary social manner at all times.
3. I will be responsible for all athletic equipment issued to me throughout the season, and will return such equipment at the conclusion of my season, and will pay the current replacement cost for any of the equipment not accounted for by me at the end of my season.
4. I will not use or be in possession of nicotine, tobacco, alcohol or narcotics. If I do use any of these substances, am in possession of such substances, or am suspended from school for use or possession of these substances, I will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the athletic handbook and Board of Education policy.
5. I acknowledge that I have been properly advised, cautioned, and warned by the administrative and coaching personnel of the Clinton School District that I am exposing myself to the risk of injury, including, but not limited to, the risk of sprains, fractures and ligament and/or cartilage damage which could result in a temporary or permanent, partial or complete impairment in the use of my limbs, brain damage, paralysis or even death. Having been so warned, it is still my desire to participate in sports and to do so with full knowledge and understanding of the risk of injury.
6. I, along with my parents, certify that we have read and understand all of the Athletic Department Rules and Policies in the Athletic Handbook and that in order to be eligible for participation I must comply with all requirements listed.

Athlete's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent(s) Signature _____ Date _____

**Electronically acknowledged and signed off on through registration on Family ID.*