



LaCheryl Smith, Principal
BJ Jackson, Athletic Director
Brian Barry, Assistant Athletic Director



Legacy Early College Athlete's Handbook

Mission Statement

To provide a variety of athletic opportunities that will contribute in the development of the overall scholar-athlete. Athletics is an integral part of the educational experience. This experience will provide a learning environment and an opportunity for scholar athletes to develop their leadership potential. Legacy Early College Athletic Department encourages scholar athletes to demonstrate a winning effort, great sportsmanship, and demonstrate respect for all.

I. Introduction

A. To LEC Parents/Guardians

You are receiving this Mission Statement because your son or daughter has expressed interest in participating in interscholastic athletics at LEC. We believe that being a scholar-athlete at LEC is an honor and privilege. LEC will provide a plethora of opportunities and experiences to help your scholar-athlete learn successful habits and character traits to be used throughout their LEC education, as well as later in life.

LEC values your scholar's educational development through athletics. We feel that a properly controlled, well-organized athletic program allows scholars to demonstrate personal expression, develop physical attributes, and learn self-discipline. LEC's mission is to build and maintain an athletic program that exhibits a strong value system, provides positive experiences, and progresses your scholar's educational and athletic careers.

When your son/daughter joins LEC's athletic program, our staff is committed to providing responsibilities and obligation to your scholar-athlete. They are:

- To provide adequate equipment and facilities for your son or daughter
- To provide well-trained coaches that protect the emotional and physical well-being of your son or daughter
- To provide leadership opportunities for your son or daughter
- To provide a commitment to the needs of your son or daughter

Additionally, as scholar athletes, LEC feels that you and your son/daughter have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. We would like to take this opportunity to familiarize you with specific policies that are imperative for a well-organized athletic department.



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It is LEC athletic department's responsibility to implement regulations/expectations that govern the spirit of completion at LEC. These expectations must receive comprehensive support from the community. This is achieved through clear communication to LEC scholar athlete's parents. It is LEC's desire to achieve this objective through this document and our website for scholars and parents.

B. To LEC Scholar Athletes

Being a scholar athlete at LEC is an honor and a privilege. With it, scholar athletes are expected to work hard to maintain LEC's rich traditions through meeting athletic department expectations and responsibilities. Successful athletic department traditions are built with hard work over the course of many years, not one season. As a member of LEC's athletic program, you have earned a great opportunity to build upon previous successes. While our goal is to win, we will only compete with honor and class. As a LEC scholar athlete, it is now your responsibility to uphold our strong, successful traditions.

Completing this challenge will not be an easy task. When you wear LEC athletic apparel, it is understood that you are assuming the duties and responsibilities indicative of our successful culture. While representing LEC is important, meeting our expectations ensures that you will represent you and your family in a successful manner. Your contributions will reflect wonderfully on LEC, but even better on you and your family.

The following are the responsibilities that all LEC scholar athletes have to themselves, their families, and to LEC.

- **Responsibility to Yourself:** The most imperative responsibility is to develop your strength of character for personal growth. You owe it to yourself to make the best of this educational opportunity. Your educational studies, your participation in extra-curricular activities, including athletics, will prepare you for adulthood.
- **Responsibility to Your Family:** Your actions have a direct impact on your family. Receiving high marks in your academic studies and extra-curricular activities at LEC will reflect positively on your immediate family and relatives. Never make a decision that reflects poorly on your family.
- **Responsibility to LEC and Community:** A crucial responsibility you assume as a scholar athlete is to LEC and the community. Our school cannot maintain its tradition as an outstanding institution unless you try your best in every activity you participate. By choosing to be a scholar athlete, you are assuming a leadership role and building LEC's reputation and tradition. LEC's student body and our local community judge LEC based on your conduct/attitude in school, as well as on the field/court of competition. Your objective is to make LEC, your family, the community, and yourself proud by being a leader on and off the court/field.



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II. LEC Athletic Philosophy

A. Opening Statement:

By providing a variety of rich experiences, LEC's Athletic Department will help develop desirable attitudes and habits to help our scholar athletes prepare for life after LEC. Some of the examples include, but are not limited to:

- Respect for expectations/laws and authority
- Respect for a strong work ethic
- Solid commitment to LEC organization
- Desire to always pursue excellence
- Desire to be a cooperative teammate and always have a positive outlook
- Desire to build a strong sense of duty and honor

LEC's interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with current policies and expectations/rules. While LEC's Athletic Department values a winning tradition, it will not promote a "winning at all costs" culture. By avoiding this culture, LEC encourages sportsmanship and overall, good mental health of our scholar athletes. Every day, the LEC athletic department will conduct itself appropriately to justify it as a crucial educational experience.

B. LEC Athletic Department Objectives

1. To promote the development of good health and positive character of each athlete through the values of:
 - Self-discipline
 - Teamwork
 - Competition
 - Leadership
 - Time management skills
 - Fair play
 - Ethical behavior
 - High academic standards
 - An overall commitment to personal excellence.
2. To provide safe, supportive, and knowledgeable coaching to promote the physical, mental, social and emotional well-being of the athlete.
3. To help scholars and parents understand the responsibilities which accompany the opportunity and privilege of sport and team participation by providing a model of good sportsmanship.
4. To clearly communicate behavioral expectations and to enforce consistent consequences for violations of school expectations/rules and regulations.
5. To provide a positive and meaningful experience for all scholar athletes.



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III. LEC Scholar Athlete Eligibility

A. Grade Requirements

All LEC scholar athletes are responsible for maintaining an 80% or higher in all high school and college courses. If a scholar athlete falls below an 80%, he or she is considered failing and ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. It is his/her responsibility to notify the coach in season and attend additional study-hall sessions after school provided by LEC. Scholar athletes who are academically ineligible are suspended from participating in games and practice until the grade is above an 80%. If, at any time, a scholar athlete is failing three or more courses, he or she will meet with the Athletic Director to determine the best plan to help him or her achieve better results in the classroom.

Below are a list of specific eligibility requirements for seasonal sports

Fall Sports Requirements: Scholar athletes must maintain an 80% or higher in all classes for the entire sports season to remain eligible to participate in games/contests and practice.

- If a scholar athlete failed 2 or fewer courses the previous school year, he/she may try out for the team ,but are required to attend study halls for the first half of the sports season (half of the games scheduled).
- If a scholar failed 3 or more courses the previous school year, he/she must attend study hall for the entire sports season.

Winter Sports Requirements: Scholar athletes must have an 80% or higher in all courses at the time of try-outs.

- If two or less courses are below an 80%, scholar athletes are allowed to try-out, but will be suspended from practices and games until all classes are above 80%.
- If more than 2 courses are below an 80%, scholar athletes will not be allowed to try-out.

Spring Sports Requirements: Scholar athletes must have a grade of 80% or higher in all courses for the 1st semester and/or at the time of try-outs.

- Scholar athletes whose grades are below an 80% in two or less courses for the first semester are allowed to try-out for springs sports team as long as they are passing all second semester courses.
- Scholar athletes whose grades are below 80% in two or less classes at the time of try-outs are allowed to try-out, but will be suspended from all activities until grades for all courses are above 80%
- Scholar athletes who first semester grades are below an 80% in three or more courses will not be eligible to try-out or participate on any spring sports team.



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B. VARSITY LETTERS: To be eligible for a letter in a Varsity sport, scholar athletes must compete/dress in at least 80% of the scheduled practices and contests throughout the season.



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IV. LEC Athletics Code of Conduct

A. Conduct of Athletes:

A strong policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the expectations/rules and standards of LEC's Athletic Department. The LEC community, school, administration team, and coaching staff value high standards of conduct and citizenship and believe they are imperative to maintaining a successful athletic program. The welfare of LEC scholars is our main concern and supersedes all other considerations.

All LEC scholar athletes will follow a code of ethics, which will allow them to earn respect and honor through athletic competition. Any conduct that is detrimental to the scholar athlete, the LEC team, athletic department, and community will not be tolerated.

Examples of unacceptable conduct are, but not limited to:

- Ejection from a contest
- Any violation of law, such as, but not limited to:
 - Theft
 - Vandalism
 - Assault
 - Battery
 - Sexual Harassment
 - Sexual Assault
 - All Misdemeanors
 - All Felonies
- Immorality
- Inappropriate postings on social media
- Bullying/Hazing

These behaviors are not indicative of LEC's rich athletic tradition and will be deemed "The Unacceptable Conduct Rule."

CONSEQUENCE FOR VIOLATING UNACCEPTABLE

CONDUCT RULE: Due to the seriousness of this rule, if this rule is violated by a scholar athlete, each coach from the program, the Athletic Director, the Assistant Athletic Director, and the School Administration shall meet to determine the consequence according to the degree of infraction. The consequence can result in, but not limited to:

- ½ game or contest suspension
- 1 or multiple game or contest suspension
- Maximum consequence of permanent denial to participate in entire LEC athletic program.

Violations of this rule that involve breaking civil law will be handled as follows:

- Any scholar athlete that is charged with any violation of law other than a minor traffic violation will be placed on temporary suspension from LEC athletic activities. Additional suspension or consequence may be assessed pending on investigation, guilt, or innocence of the scholar.



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- Any scholar athlete that is charged for possession of **any** illegal substances will be indefinitely dismissed from the LEC Athletic Program
- Any scholar athlete that is found guilty of a misdemeanor or felony will be dismissed from the LEC Athletic Program.

****Suspension from team means that scholar athletes are not allowed to dress or participate in an athletic contests, but must attend and support the team. Additionally, scholar athletes may be required to practice with his or her team.**

*****Dismissal from team means that the scholar athletes are no longer a part of the LEC team and athletic program.**

B. Transportation

The LEC Athletic Department will provide transportation via Legacy Early College bus to all away/road contests. All scholar athletes are required to ride with team transportation to every away/road contest. If special circumstances arise for transportation before or after an athletic contest/event, written request must be submitted by the parent or guardian to the Athletic Director or Assistant Athletic Director at least 24 hours/1 day before each contest/event. A special circumstance written request must be completed for each individual contest/event. For example, if scholar A's parent/guardian submitted a request for a contest at the beginning of the season, he or she would have to submit a separate request for another contest later in the season.

Scholar athletes are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from practices within a 10 mil radius of LEC campus.

*****No scholar-athlete may transport another scholar-athlete outside a 10 mile radius of LEC campus.**

C. Financial Responsibilities for Equipment

Each scholar athlete is responsible for LEC issued athletic equipment. LEC equipment represents a large portion of the athletic expense budget. Therefore, it must be returned at the end of the sports season for which the scholar athlete participates. If the LEC equipment is **LOST, STOLEN, OR NOT RETURN**, the scholar athlete will be responsible for the **FULL COST** of the equipment issued.

LEC equipment is allowed to be worn for ONLY:

- Practice
- Coach/team designated activities
- School competition for the corresponding sport

D. Substance Abuse

See LEC Drug Policy in Scholar Handbook.

E. Attendance

Scholar athletes are not allowed to participate in athletics (practice or game) if they have an unexcused absence for the school day. Excused absences are beyond the control of the scholar with exception to illness. For example, medical appointments (doctor/dental/optometrist/ ophthalmologists) would receive an excused absence; the athletic director, assistant athletic director, and/or the coach would require confirmation notes from the medical professional. A scholar-athlete who is absent or leaves LEC early due to illness is considered too ill to participate in athletics that day. A scholar athlete



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who arrives late because of sickness must arrive by 11:00 AM to earn permission to participate in athletics for the day. Individual coaches have the permission to create specific rules/expectations regarding attendance at practice for their sport.

An athlete who decides to quit a LEC sports team more than or equal to 1 week after the final roster is made, must have a conference with athletic director and/or assistant athletic director. The scholar athlete must discuss his or her reason for quitting and determine eligibility for future sports. Additionally, the athletic director and/or assistant athletic director will report it to the governing body of LEC's athletic department.

Any scholar athletes who qualify for postseason play are required to compete at the event. EMERGENCIES that prohibit competition must be communicated in writing with the head coach. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in immediate dismissal from that team for the next season of that sport (365 days) and will lose the opportunity to letter in that sport for the current season.

F. Cyber Image/Cyber Slander/Cyber Bullying:

Scholar athletes represent LCE for the entire school year, not just during a given sports season. Thus, LEC encourages safe and responsible behavior and use of electronics and internet. LEC requires that scholar athletes avoid the inappropriate use of the public internet websites or applications such as: Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Twitter, Facebook, and other internet sites/social media applications. Any unidentifiable image, photo, video, or posted online conversation discovered that implicates an scholar athlete to have been in violation of LEC Scholar Handbook (alcohol and drug policy, bullying/harassment policy, etc...) will be investigated. Any scholar athlete who posts demeaning comments about any other athlete, coach, parent, classmate, or school administration or faculty will also face suspension.

G. Suspension/Detention

Any scholar athlete who is suspended from school or receives detention for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to participate in games or practices for the duration of the consequence. The athlete **may** be required to attend the game or practice to support their teammates. Scholar athletes who receive detention **WILL NOT BE** allowed to reschedule their detention for a different date in order to participate in an athletic event.

H. Individual Coaches Rules/Expectations

Coaches may establish additional rules/expectations with the approval of the Athletic Director for their respective sport. Rules/expectations pertaining to a certain sport must be given by the coach in writing to all members of the team. They must be fully explained at the beginning of the season to parents **AND** scholar athletes.

*****SCHOLAR ATHLETES WILL SIGN A FORM STATING THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PRESENTED, READ, AND UNDERSTAND THE ATHLETIC HANDBOOK. IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO READ AND UPHOLD ALL CONTENT WITHIN THIS HANDBOOK*****



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Acknowledgment and Receipt

I have received my copy of the Legacy Early College (LEC) Athletic Handbook.

The athletic handbook describes important information about LEC Athletics, and I understand that I should consult the Athletic Director or Assistant Athletic Director regarding any questions not answered in the handbook.

This handbook and the policies and procedures contained herein supersede any and all prior practices, oral or written representations, or statements regarding the terms and conditions of your participation as a scholar athlete with LEC. By distributing this handbook, LEC expressly revokes any and all previous policies and procedures which are inconsistent with those contained herein.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained in this handbook and any revisions made to it.

 Scholar Athlete's Signature

 Scholar Athlete's Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature(s)

Parent/Guardian Printed Name(s)