

# **RUSH ARTS**

# **Student-Athlete**

# **Handbook**

# **2020-2021**

**Revised August 2020**

**This handbook is designed specifically for student-athletes and their parents/guardians. It is in addition to any policies at Rush Arts in the Student-handbook or on the website and in addition to the official School District of Philadelphia Code of Conduct**

**Created by Mr. Todd Corabi. C.A.A.  
Certified Athletic Administrator**

***with input from coaching staff  
and reviewed by Mrs. DeFields: Principal***

***(changes from previous school year hi-lighted in yellow)***

# Varsity Student Athlete Handbook: CONTENTS

<p><a href="#">Vision:</a></p> <p><a href="#">General information:</a> Team Colors: Team Mascot: Home locations:</p> <p><a href="#">Communication and websites/apps:</a></p> <p><a href="#">PERMISSION:</a> <a href="#">PIAA CIPPE:</a> <a href="#">EH 80:</a></p> <p><a href="#">ELIGIBILITY:</a></p> <p><a href="#">DAILY ATTENDANCE</a></p> <p><a href="#">Athlete Safety</a></p> <p><a href="#">Concussion Return to Play Protocol</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPORTS and time frame:</a></p> <p><a href="#">_Varsity/JV</a></p> <p><a href="#">_Extramural/Regional</a></p> <p><a href="#">_Intramural</a></p> <p><a href="#">_Cooperative Partnership</a></p> <p><a href="#">SCHEDULE:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Early Dismissal:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Transportation:</a></p> <p><a href="#">TRYOUTS:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Making a team:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Minimum Number of Participants:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Playing time:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Statistics:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Conflicts with other activities:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Sport Specific Specialization:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Can a student athlete play two sports in one season?</a></p> <p><a href="#">EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS:</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Spectator Policies:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Awards:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Fundraising</a></p> <p><a href="#">Varsity Letter Criteria</a></p> <p><a href="#">Parental involvement:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Donations</a></p> <p><a href="#">Booster Clubs or Grants/Donations</a></p> <p><a href="#">NCAA ELIGIBILITY</a></p> <p><a href="#">BEHAVIOR/CONDUCT:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Removal from a team:</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: CYBER BULLYING &amp; SOCIAL MEDIA</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: BULLYING &amp; HAZING</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: SPORTSMANSHIP</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES Including Appearance and Performance Enhancing Drugs</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: TOBACCO and ALCOHOL and other "legal" drugs/medications</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: MEDICAL MARIJUANA</a></p> <p><a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE: Illegal Activity.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Constitutional and Federal mandated rules on Athletics:</a></p> <p><a href="#">TITLE IX:</a></p> <p><a href="#">Other Constitutional law:</a></p> <p><a href="#">State, County and City law:</a></p> <p><a href="#">RUSH ARTS Athletes equipment appendix</a></p> <p><a href="#">SDoP official polices on Student Athlete code of conduct and fan behavior</a></p>
--	---

# Varsity Student Athlete Handbook

The Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush is a School District of Philadelphia Public High School competing simultaneously in the Philadelphia Public League and District XII of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA). Rush Arts, as the school is commonly referred, currently has Nine(9) Varsity Sports and one(1) Junior Varsity sport. This handbook is meant to further understand the policies related to Interscholastic Athletics for student-athletes and their families.

All coaches must adhere to this handbook as well as current PIAA, School District of Philadelphia and NFHS sports-specific rules, regulations and policies. Issues should be discussed between the player and/or parent/guardian and the coach. Any Parents/Guardians who contact Principal will be referred to this manual and Athletic Director for follow up. Athletic Director in most cases, will encourage communication between parents/guardians, player and coach.

This handbook, in pdf form, is made available via the school's athletic website. A link to the file will be sent to parents/guardians and student athletes via email. When changes are made to this document mid-season and approved by the Principal, updates will be sent to current student athletes. A paper copy will be made available upon request.

## Vision:

Athletics are to be promoted as a tool to enhance a student's wellness through sports (physical health, intellectual health, social health, emotional health and spiritual health as in morals/values.) The role of a coach is that of a teacher first; instructing in all aspects of development and competition including but not limited to technical skill, tactical skill, fitness, and character as it relates to sports. By the coach teaching and developing the sport skills of the player as an individual and the team as a whole, it is the hope of our department that students who are selected for teams gain a life-long appreciation for the sport and can apply key fundamentals concerning effort, achievement, sportsmanship, character, determination, and at times failure, to all aspects of life thus, overcoming adversity and clinging to successes earned.

## General information:

**Team Colors:** Purple, Black, White

**Team Mascot:** Knights

## Home locations:

**Volleyball, Basketball** = School gym =11081 Knights Road, 19154

**Field Hockey, Soccer, Baseball, Softball** = Academy Sports Association =

“front” entrance: Academy and Torrey, 19154

“back” entrance: 3337 Byberry Road 19154  
Drive way entrance just East of Rite Aid

## **Communication and websites/apps:**

### **EMAIL:**

The School District of Philadelphia requires that any email sent to students from coaches must be sent to their School District of Philadelphia Student email ([studentid#@philasd.org](mailto:studentid#@philasd.org)). For Fall sports, new, incoming may temporarily use a personal email.

Coaches are encouraged to send weekly emails to students and parents summarizing the week and previewing the upcoming week

### **School Athletics Website:**

The official school athletics website is <https://rushartsknights.org/>

On it, you can find any and all information you need to concerning athletics at the school. You can also subscribe to news alerts as well

### **APPS:**

Only approved apps can be used from communication (other than School District email and the website)

The approved apps are FAMILY ID, which will show the full schedule and track attendance and VNN, which will show game results and have quick, full team alerts.

All student-athletes need to make an account on the Family ID platform.

The use of and requirement for the VNN app will be determined by the district at a later date

Parents are encouraged to make an account on Family Id and VNN (which will also sign you up for alerts on the website)

Coaches will take time out of an early season practice to demonstrate the app to students

### **Other:**

Some coaches will create a Google classroom or Google sites page devoted specifically for their team. These are optional

In addition, MAX PREPS, is the state's statistics website. Coaches are no longer required to use Max Preps for game information but may continue to do so if they choose

## **PERMISSION:**

### **PIAA CIPPE:**

In order to be permitted to try out for a Varsity Sport, the official CIPPE form from the PIAA must be filled out. **NO OTHER FORM** may substitute for the CIPPE despite what some medical offices will say. The CIPPE, basically is a 6 page packet providing both parental permission, student agreement, and a medical physical.

Paperwork for each school year must be dated after May 31<sup>st</sup> of the prior school year in order to be compliant. Doctors should use a STAMP and include their medical ID # or the paperwork can be rejected. Doctors may choose to use information from a physical prior to 5/31 to complete the forms however, the date on the form should be the date it was signed.

Example: Joey wants a physical filled out for basketball **October 17<sup>th</sup> 2020** but he's not due for another physical until December because his last physical was December 20, 2019. The family's insurance will not pay for another physical and they do not want to pay for a new one. The doctor may fill out form on October 17<sup>th</sup> **SIGN THAT DATE** on page 6 along with a STAMP, then place a note "with information from physical **dated December 20<sup>th</sup> 2019**". Physicals with notes like this **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED without a stamp** but are legal based on recommendations by the state's board of pediatric medicine.

### **EH 80:**

The EH 80 is a School District mandated 1 page paper required to be filled out whenever a student takes a trip. School Athletic Trips are trips. Paper must be completed prior to first game. If the form is not submitted to coach AND athletic director by first game, the student may not travel to any game or contest. By School District Policy, this includes HOME GAMES. Teams that travel outside of the city for games need an additional EH-80 form filled out.

### **Additional forms:**

Additional forms requested by coach, school or school district, will be made available as soon as possible

## **ELIGIBILITY:**

All students participating in Interscholastic Athletics must meet the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association eligibility requirements. The requirements listed below are the PIAA eligibility requirements.

- A.** PIAA CIPPE must be submitted prior to any practice including tryouts. All additional required forms must be submitted before first contest.
- B.** Student Athletes must have passed at least four full-credit subjects or the equivalent during the previous grading period, except that eligibility for the first grading period is based on your final grades for the preceding school year (does not apply to any first year 9<sup>th</sup> graders).

If a student athlete fails to meet this requirement, they will lose eligibility for 15 school days of the next grading period, beginning on the first day report cards are issued. Students must be certified as Passing before Eligibility is restored.

- C.** Student athletes must be passing at least four full-credit subjects or the equivalent as of each Friday during the grading period. If a student athlete fails to meet this requirement, they will lose their eligibility from the following Sunday through the Saturday immediately following the next Friday as of which you meet this requirement.
- D.** In the event that a student athlete is meeting the PIAA eligibility requirement however, has other full credit failing grades, that student will be placed on academic probation. The student athlete should be notified and it is their responsibility to make up missed work. (ex. A student has 6 full credit courses with 2 F's and 4 passing grades. They are eligible to play but are on academic probation).

**RUSH ARTS ADDITION to item D:** Students who are failing a class or classes for more than one week but who are eligible under the terms listed in items B and C above, must conference with their teachers on make-up work to bring their grade to passing.

Student athletes are responsible for making up all missed work and turning in home based assignments due on days they will not be in class due to athletic contests on the day they are due based on the teacher's agreed upon accommodation.

- E.** Students who fail a class on a report card but otherwise meet the eligibility criteria, must adhere to their credit recovery program as mandated by school policy. The student athlete must be excused from practices for tutoring. Conversely, with the Principal's permission, student-athletes must be excused from attendance from tutoring for official games/contests.

It is the Principal's discretion if a student who failed a course for a report card may continue to participate in any athletic program at the school

- F.** In most cases, students may only participate for 4 years beginning at the start of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- G.** A student athlete may not have reached their 20th birthday before the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- H.** If student-athletes are absent from school for 20 or more unexcused absences from school during a semester, the student athlete will lose their eligibility until they have been in attendance for a total of 45 school days following the 20th day of absence. SEE NEXT PAGE
- I.** A Student-Athlete who transfers into Rush Arts after the start of 9<sup>th</sup> grade must sit out for 20 school days before playing in a contest. In addition, the Athletic Director must submit a transfer waiver to the school in which a student came.

## DAILY ATTENDANCE

In addition to the above Attendance policy, student-athletes at Rush Arts must have fewer than 9 absences or lateness in order to be eligible. This policy aligns with the school's code of student conduct for all students. As per the school's code of student conduct, any student who has 9 or more occurrences of lateness or absences, will prompt an investigation and possible ineligibility status for all extra-curricular activities including sports.

## ATHLETE SAFETY

Injuries are inherent in athletics during normal play. Both student-athletes and parents/guardians recognize these risks when they sign the PIAA permission forms. Although it is impossible to prevent all injuries from happening, it is the goal of all coaches to make the experience as safe as possible. This includes review of equipment and field conditions prior to play, the teaching of concepts such as dynamic sports specific stretching prior to participation, hydration, nutrition, cardio and muscular conditioning and the safety rules of play for each sport (such as wearing correct types of helmets or shin guards).

To help respond to injury, coaches are required to take courses online each year from the National Federation of High Schools on the following topics:

- Concussion Education
- Cardiac Arrest
- Heat-Related illness prevention (Fall outdoor sports)
- Bullying and Hazing
- Sportsmanship
- **and new in Fall 2020,**
- **COACHING DURING COVID-19**

In addition, every two years, the coaches are required to be recertified by the American Red Cross in First Aid, CPR and use of an AED.

Furthermore, the PIAA permission forms has education about Concussions and Cardiac Arrest for students and parents/guardians to read before signing.

Finally, there are student versions of the coach courses listed above for students to become knowledgeable about safe practices before, during and after participation. Students can sign up for and take any of the FREE courses, by visiting <https://rushartsknights.org/student-athlete-education/>

There is a difference between general soreness and injury. Coaches will follow the Red Cross plan of First Aid and Safety which includes an "interview" of symptoms and visual inspection, when available of the site of injury for inflammation and irregularities. Students need to be truthful with their coaches. At times, students claim to be "fine" when in fact they are not just because they want to continue to play. Further play may aggravate or worsen injuries.

When in doubt, sit them out.

To assist coaches in the evaluation of student injuries, each school is assigned a shared Athletic Trainer from the University of Pennsylvania Sports Medicine division. Our current Athletic Trainers are shared with Washington, Swenson, Northeast and Lincoln. They are available at our school in the nurses office by appt two days per week and attend games/matches on a rotating schedule with the other schools

It is possible that in the event of non-emergency situations that coaches or Athletic Trainers on site may evaluate a student as able to continue. In this case, the student must let the coach know if the pain worsens or additional symptoms occur in which case, they will be removed from the game/match and referred to a physician.

If a student is injured so that they cannot continue to play in a contest, they must be evaluated by either the Athletic Trainer or a physician. If the student needs additional follow-up by an Orthopedist, Neurologist, Sports Medicine Physician or other specialist, they **must** received in writing, the student's ability to return to play including any restrictions.

If a student's fall or winter season is ended due to injury, they must get page 8 filled out for future sports seasons

The exception to these rules are the return to play for a concussion. REGARDLESS of what a Physician says on their return to play orders, a student must adhere to the state approved return to play protocol included on the next page of this document

*The information below is being added to this handbook for the 2020-2021 school year to make it easier for parents/guardians to find. It is not new or revised but hi-lighted in yellow anyway, since it's inclusion in this document is new.*

## **NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS: RETURN TO PLAY CONCUSSION PROTOCOL**

Taken from Transcript of “Concussions in sports” course, Unit 3 Located at <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/61129/concussion-in-sports>

**Return to Sports Activity Program should include:**

### **STEP 1: BACK TO REGULAR ACTIVITIES (SUCH AS SCHOOL)**

The athlete is back to their regular activities (such as school) and has the green-light from their healthcare professional to begin the return to play process. The athlete’s return to regular activities involves a stepwise process. It starts with a few days of rest (2-3 days) and is followed by light activity (such as short walks) and moderate activity (such as riding a stationary bike) that do not worsen symptoms

*There should be at least 24 hours (or longer) for each step of progression. If any symptoms appear or worsen during the process, the student must stop that activity. After a day of rest in which the student does not experience symptoms, the student should progress to the next step. If any symptoms worsen, the student should go back to the previous step. Weight training should be added only in the later stages (stage 3 or 4 at the earliest).*

### **STEP 2: LIGHT AEROBIC ACTIVITY**

Begin with light aerobic exercise only to increase an athlete’s heart rate. This means about 5 to 10 minutes on an exercise bike, walking, or light jogging. No weight lifting at this point.

### **STEP 3: MODERATE ACTIVITY**

Continue with activities to increase an athlete’s heart rate with body or head movement. This includes moderate jogging, brief running, moderate-intensity stationary biking, moderate-intensity weightlifting (less time and/or less weight from their typical routine). *May include light drills if health care professional recommends.*

### **STEP 4: HEAVY, NON-CONTACT ACTIVITY**

Add heavy non-contact physical activity, such as sprinting/running, high-intensity stationary biking, regular weightlifting routine, non-contact sport-specific drills (in 3 planes of movement).

### **STEP 5: PRACTICE & FULL CONTACT**

Young athlete may return to practice and full contact (if appropriate for the sport) in controlled practice.

### **STEP 6: COMPETITION**

Young athlete may return to competition. (*regular game*)

**SPORTS and time frame:**

**VARSITY and JV sports hosted by RUSH ARTS**

**Fall Sports:** Girls Volleyball                      Field Hockey                      Girls Soccer                      Boys (JV) Soccer

Sign ups =                      May of the prior school year through first day of tryouts

Tryouts =                      First week of Practice as dictated by PIAA  
Usually 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in August  
PIAA physical 1<sup>st</sup> day of tryouts

**Winter Sports:**                      Boys and Girls Basketball                      Boys and Girls Bowling  
(not co-ed...separate teams)

Signups =                      Begin in October and go through last Thursday in November  
prior to official tryout date

Tryouts =                      First week of Practice as dictated by PIAA  
Usually 3<sup>rd</sup> week in November

**Spring Sports:**                      Boys Baseball                      Girls Softball

Signups =                      Begin in January and go through last Thursday in February

Tryouts =                      First week of practice as dictated by PIAA  
Usually 1<sup>st</sup> week in March

**EXTRAMURAL/REGIONAL sports our Students may participate in**

**Rowing:** Hosted by Philadelphia City Rowing:  
Tryouts are in Early Winter and training/competition extends through spring

**Swimming:** Winter sport.  
Students may swim "Independent" at any Public League meet so long as they coordinate through Athletic Director. Rush Arts students may not participate on any school-based relay teams  
Most meets are at Fels High School.\

Transportation to regional training centers is responsibility of the student athlete and his/her parents.  
The school will not permit early dismissal for practice. Early Dismissal for games must be no earlier than 1:15pm

## Cooperative Partnership:

PIAA rules permit a cooperative partnership with an additional host school for any sport not offered at the home school AS LONG as one of the two schools has an enrollment LESS THAN 300 students in a particular sex in grades 9-11.

Because of this rule, Rush Arts has a cooperative partnership with George Washington High School for the following male team sports: Varsity Soccer, Football, Wrestling, Volleyball and Lacrosse.

Rush Arts currently has too many females to have the same type of partnership as we do for male sports (as we have greater than 300 female students in grades 9-11). However, as of August 17, 2020, the state allows partnerships if the host school, in this case Washington, agrees to withdrawal from state playoffs. Washington has withdrawn from state playoffs in the sport of Lacrosse. Therefore, our female athletes may participate at Washington officially in Lacrosse

Furthermore, our students (male and female) may choose to participate as an individual athlete in each of the following sports: Tennis, Golf, Cross-Country, Indoor Track, and Outdoor Track and Field at Washington as well as Swimming at Fels High School. Our students may not participate in sports with relay races (track and swimming).

Finally, our students may tryout for a regional Rowing program at Philadelphia City Rowing. Details come out in November for this program

Transportation to Washington is the responsibility of the student-athlete and their parents.

The school will not permit early dismissal for practice.

Early Dismissal for games must be no earlier than 1:15pm.

Parents/Guardians do not need to sign their children out however,

a copy of their game schedule MUST be given to the Athletic Director **PRIOR TO THEIR** first game

**Rush Arts is not a charter school and thus, No student may play any sport at any other school**

## SCHEDULE:

The game schedule is mandated by the Office of Athletics based on PIAA requirements.

Most of the time, students will be expected to play in 2 games per week. This is subject to change based on weather related re-scheduling

The general start time for games is 3:00-3:15pm. Playoff games may be scheduled in the evening. Some contests may be scheduled for evenings or weekends OR in the case of fall sports, in the morning during summer.

It is expected that Varsity athletes participate 5 days per week during the season. 1 Day may be assigned to students for tutoring/homework help, studying and catch up. Students may be excused from some practices due to school related official duties OR when speaking to a coach ahead of time.

In general, players who miss practice will not start in the following contest UNLESS excused for official school business and approved by coach. If players are not normally starters, they will not be "first subs". Players who leave early from practice may have playing time limited as well.

Players who miss practice due to official mandatory dress rehearsal CONFIRMED by communication from their art major teacher OR, miss practice due to obligatory (not voluntary) tutoring, grade recovery, or credit recovery, will be EXCUSED from practice and may still start the following game. Players who voluntarily miss practice for work, other clubs, appointments that could've been made at other times, will not be excused from practice.

AN EXCEPTION WILL BE MADE for failure to attend practice due to a GRADED activity such as an Arts master's class, School Action Council meeting OR a special, onetime event such as a National Honor Society induction

**Early Dismissal:**

These times are approximate and may change based on start time of game

Home games: Volleyball, Basketball = 2:15

Field Hockey, Soccer, Softball, Baseball = 1:40pm leave school by 2:00pm

Away games: All Teams:

1:45pm bus dismissal = 1:20 dismissal from class

1:30pm bus dismissal = 1:10 dismissal from class

Coaches will send a dismissal message via the official sports communication app

The Full schedule is also emailed to all school staff with a weekly email reminder.

Teachers may decide they do not need to see the dismissal message after the first couple of games.

Teachers MUST allow students to be dismissed and allow for arrangements to take tests missed prior to leaving school or at a time that is mutually conducive. However, it is the responsibility of the student-athlete to communicate this need as well as make up all missed work. If a teacher does not allow the student-athlete to leave, the student should tell the coach and athletic director. The student SHOULD NOT engage with teacher in an argument or walk out of the room.

If a student-athlete gives information about a test they took ahead of their peers, it could be a violation of the Code of Conduct for Academic honesty. Following due process, the student will be suspended from the team for 1-3 games (depending on extent of violation)\

**Transportation:**

School buses are provided for all away games with the exception of games that are at local schools on half days or evenings OR required contests on weekends

On some occasions, due to location proximity to Rush, teams will opt out of return school buses for away games and will be dismissed from fields

As per School District Policy, Students ARE permitted to leave away game locations and travel directly home following completion of the contest

Field Hockey, Soccer, Softball and Baseball home games are walked to by the student athletes. They may choose to take Septa if they wish. Some students car pool but this is not coordinated at the school level and is a decision that must be made by parents/guardians

Students who drive may use their own car to attend practice and away games.

Students driving other students to practice is NOT coordinated at the school level and is a decision that must be made by parents/guardians

Students MAY NOT drive other students from school to away contests but may drive their own car following the bus. As indicated above, Students ARE permitted to leave away game locations and travel directly home following completion of the contest.

Students may usually leave with other students OR with other parents with written permission from their own parent. This maybe via an email or text message.

## **TRYOUTS:**

As the school fields only one team per sport, all interested students must try out to play.

Coaches must keep the minimum number of participants per sport but do not need to keep more.

### **Signing up DOES NOT guarantee a spot on the team.**

It is a privilege to play a high school sport not a right. Criteria for selection is individualized for each team however, includes technical skill in the specific sport, ability to follow directions, commitment, conduct, eligibility, and availability.

To ensure maximum skill level of teams, experienced players who currently play on club teams/programs in the sport but who can also fully commit as much as other students trying out for a school team will be given preference over new, beginner potential student athletes.

Tryout information including assessment format (observation, rubric, specific skills or qualities being look at) should be communicated to students. Written notification via email is preferred however, verbal communication at "open" gym or during first day of tryouts is permitted.

It is reiterated that no student may tryout without the proper completed PIAA paperwork.

There will be a standard due date for all paperwork the first day of practice in the summer or the Thursday prior to the first day of official practice for winter and spring sports.. Students who do not have their paperwork in on time may be excluded from tryouts. Coaches may agree to an extension but are not required to grant an extension.

### **Making a team:**

Once a student is selected for or "makes" a team, it is expected they continue to meet all eligibility requirements. In addition, a coach should give a written letter to the students concerning not only eligibility, but specific coach created expectations and requirements for their team. This letter may be via handout or email. If via email, parents/guardians should be Cc'd in the communication.

Students who fail to adhere to team guidelines, can be "benched" or suspended from the team for 1 game per coach decision. Subsequent violations could result in the student being removed from the team.

Expectations shall follow the School District of Philadelphia, PIAA, and NFHS general guidelines.

### **Minimum Number of Participants:**

**Volleyball and Basketball = 12**

**Bowling = 5 Boys and 5 Girls (max = 7 boys and 7 girls)**

**Baseball, Softball, Field Hockey, and Soccer = 16**

Coaches may choose to keep more players if they wish but do not have to. Some sports have a maximum number of players that can be kept per School District guidelines. If a team does not get the required minimum number of players, their sport may be canceled.

To the extent possible based on resources, a limited number of players who just "missed the cut" and additional beginner or lower level players who otherwise would be "cut" from the team during tryouts, will be permitted to play on a "practice squad" should they agree to terms. Terms may include just practicing with the team OR attending games and serving as helpers/equipment managers. Practice squad players might not ever get into a game/match and are on the team to develop their personal skill and be part of all practices in whatever way the coaches see fit.

### **Playing time:**

Being selected on a team roster does not guarantee playing time. The primary goal of any team at Rush Arts is to teach and develop the sport skills of the player as an individual and the team as a whole. However, it is a fine balance between inclusion in athletics for learning and trying to win games to advance into playoffs. It must be recognized that our teams are Varsity teams that are competing for playoff spots as well as both District and State Classification Championships. There is no minimum amount of playing time promised to the students.

Factors such as but not limited to progression in instruction, skill level compared to teammates, comparative fundamental technical skill, speed and conditioning compared to opposition, effort, attendance at practice, game situation, tactical plans etc. will all be used to determine playing time. A combination of observation, coach/student conference and specific statistics/data will drive these decisions

It is reiterated that students who miss practice may have their playing time, including the ability to start, effected.

Issues should be discussed between player and coach. Any Parents/Guardians who contact Principal will be referred to this manual and Athletic Director for follow up.

### **Statistics:**

Each sport requires that results be submitted to a central score service. It is not a league requirement that statistics be kept but is strongly recommended **using either Google sheets, a centralized statistics platform or Max Preps**

### **Conflicts with other activities:**

It is understood that several students are involved in multiple activities. During the varsity season, commitment must be made to the team. As stated in the "playing time" section of this handbook, failure to attend practice may limit participation in games. For all intents and purposes, student-athletes should not be in a second, equally time consuming, school activity.

### **Sport Specific Specialization:**

Coaches are prohibited from mandating student-athletes specialize in a single sport.

The official policy at Rush Arts is to promote participating in multiple sports and physical activities both in and out of school, in order to enhance personal levels of fitness

## Can a student athlete play two sports in one season?

Generally speaking, no. However, the following exceptions can occur.

### **Exception 1: Transfer player**

A player may transfer teams during a season if ALL of the following criteria is met:

- The team they are playing for is the same sex OR Title IX guidelines are followed.
- The player's first team will not fall below the minimum number of athletes
- The primary (original) team is eliminated from playoffs OR the transfer is promoted by the primary team coach.
- The deadline to add players to New team so that that player is eligible for post season competition has not passed

### **Exception 2: Shared players**

If a student athlete would like to play on two teams during a season, ALL of the following criteria must be met:

- Both coaches must be in agreement
- The teams must be the same sex OR Title IX rules must be followed
- Student-athlete MUST select in writing, where both coaches sign, one team as their primary team and one team as their secondary team
- Attendance at primary team games when they conflict with secondary team are mandatory with exception of "transfer" player rules above
- Student-athlete must be in addition to the minimum number of student athletes for secondary team (if min number is 16, the team must have 16 without this shared player)
- Student-athlete must attend practices for primary team unless other arrangements are made in signed agreement. Failure to attend practice may result in less playing time

## EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS:

The school will LEND the required uniform to all student athletes. It should be maintained and returned at the end of each season. Failure to comply will result in a charge of the price to replace the single uniform which is significantly higher than its original cost. Often, the cost of a single replacement uniform is \$35.00-\$100.00.

In addition:

**All athletes:** Need their own mask (suggested to always have two available)  
need their own water bottle  
need their own hand sanitizer

**Soccer players** should purchase cleats (outdoor) and sneakers (indoor)  
Shin guards that are NOCSAE approved  
Long sleeve black shirt that may be worn in cold weather UNDER jersey  
(Female athletes: It is suggested to purchase sports bra and sliding shorts)

**Volleyball players** should purchase sneakers and knee pads  
(It is suggested to purchase a sports bra)

**Field Hockey** should purchase cleats (outdoor) and sneakers (indoor)  
Shin guards that are approved for Field Hockey use  
(It is suggested to purchase a sports bra)  
It is also suggested for girls to purchase their own protective goggles and gloves  
Both are optional.  
(The school provides sticks but players may purchase their own)

**Basketball players** should purchase sneakers  
Any under-garments MUST conform to NFHS RULES...SEE COACH  
(Female athletes: It is suggested to purchase a sports bra)

**Bowlers:** A shirt will be provided from the school.  
The Bowling Alley may provide balls and shoes.  
Students are encouraged to buy their own Ball and Shoes and practice weekly  
on their own at a local bowling facility in addition to any formal practices/matches

**Baseball players** should purchase cleats (outdoor) and sneakers (indoor)  
and their own glove.  
  
It is suggested for students to purchase batting gloves, a cup and sliding shorts.  
  
(the school provides helmets, bats and catchers equipment but students may  
also purchase their own. Helmets and catchers masks must be NOCSAE  
approved including the new 2020 Chest Protector standards and Bats must  
meet the requirements of PIAA and NOT be on the NFHS banned bats list)

**Softball players** should purchase cleats (outdoor) and sneakers (indoor)  
and their own glove.  
  
It is suggested that players purchase a sports bra, sliding shorts and batting  
gloves.  
  
(the school provides helmets, bats and catchers equipment but students may  
also purchase their own. Helmets and catchers masks must be NOCSAE  
approved and must meet the requirements of PIAA. They do not need to be a  
specific color. Bats must NOT be on the NFHS banned bats list)

## **Spectator Policies:**

**SPECIAL NOTE: Covid-19 restrictions DO NOT ALLOW spectators in the school building as of August 2020. Outdoor venues may allow spectators but the spectators are NOT permitted on the team side of the field .**

**In the gym: Basketball/Volleyball games: THIS POLICY IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

### **At the fields: Field Hockey, Soccer, Softball and Baseball**

The fields are public fields. **Officially spectators are not permitted due to Covid-19 restrictions. Unofficially, if spectators attend contests, they must adhere to these rules:**

No smoking.

Stay away from player bench areas at all times

Student Athletes are not permitted to associate with their friends not on the team without permission.

Appropriate behavior and conduct are expected. Improper conduct may result in a forfeit.

As with indoor away games, spectator policies vary for each away team.

**This may include an admission fee or no spectators at all.**

### **At the Alley: Bowling**

**Polices regarding spectators are venue specific and will be communicated prior to season by coaches**

## **Awards:**

Each team that wins any sort of championship will receive a banner hung in the gym containing a team logo and names of all players. Additional standard awards appear below

### Division Championship:

The School athletic department will purchase for each student a trophy OR medal

League Classification Finalist representative in District XII Championship: aka "Public League Classification "Champion" (note quotes)

The school athletic department will purchase for each student a trophy OR medal

### League Championship:

The school athletic department will purchase for each student a Trophy or agreed upon reward item

### District XII and State Level Classification Championship:

To be determined

## **Additional awards such as t-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, warm up suits or jackets, are the responsibility of team fundraising efforts**

In addition, coaches MAY decide to give season awards for individual accomplishments and senior gifts. The season awards standard item is a certificate. Seniors gifts, if applicable, are at the discretion of the individual coach. Season long awards and senior gifts are coach's discretion NOT the school athletic department or fundraising.

## **Fundraising**

It is required that each team conducts an APPROVED fundraiser during the course of the season **If they want any team specific merchandise and to assist in team specific fees such as but not limited to field lining paint.** These fundraisers cannot include candy or baked goods UNLESS approved in advance AND taking place AFTER SCHOOL.

Funds raised by the team will be used for team expenses including but not limited to league dues, awards, uniforms, and practice/training equipment.

Fundraising activities must be approved by Athletic Director first followed by the Principal.

Violations of the School District wellness policy such as candy sales or bake sales will not be supported during school hours. Candy and Baked goods may be part of a concession stand during contests or sold after school with Athletic Director permission following School District Wellness Policy Guidelines.

In addition, for any fundraisers such as but not limited to eat-in fundraisers at local restaurants that the athletic department is facilitating during a season, the coaches for each sport during that season MUST promote with their teams and their teams should attend the event barring schedule conflicts from officially approved school events or work related activities. Coaches from out of season teams should promote the events with their players as well.

## Varsity Letter Criteria

It was decided in spring of 2019 due to budget restrictions to stop the awarding of Varsity Letters. This traditional award is not looked at the same way at Rush Arts as it is at some schools who have been opened much longer. Furthermore, the awarding of the letters has come to represent a participation award and not its intended traditional purpose. Coaches may elect to award a "Varsity letter of participation" at the end of the season. In such case, They will be printed on card stock and framed for each student earning an award.

## Parental involvement:

A strong home and school connection is vital to the success of all school based programs. However, parents/guardians must recognize the assigned coach is an employee of the school and the playing field is essentially a practice classroom or performance area. **We encourage parents/guardians to help in matters of field set up, providing snacks after games, setting up booster clubs (see booster club section), and providing emotional and moral support. Thank you in advance for your assistance.**

Parents who volunteer for the above listed roles with the supervision of a coach may do so at any time. Parents/Guardians who want to volunteer for a more permanent support role, such as but not limited to "team mom", must submit their volunteer clearances to the School.

Any parent/guardian who wishes to volunteer and assistant coach a team must speak to the head coach. IF the head coach agrees, the parent must get all of the required volunteer clearances AND required PIAA, NFHS, SDoP coaching certifications. **This will be an un-paid role with specific supervision and facilitation responsibilities with coach direction and therefore, must be approved by the School District of Philadelphia Division of Athletics.**

Unfortunately, there are at times parents become overzealous, excited and possibly disruptive. Parents/Guardians may not approach a coach during a game/contest to argue, debate, accuse or otherwise interfere with the current game when there is a designated coaching area OR player bench area. If a parent/guardian violates this "approach" clause, they will be asked to move to the designated parent or spectator area. If they continue to violate the rule, their child will be removed from the game and the parent/guardian and their child will be asked to leave contest venue. Failure to leave the contest venue will result in contact of Philadelphia Police, student being removed from the team, and follow-up action by School Administration.

Student-Athletes are instructed to listen only to their coach and/or official school staff during contests so parents should refrain from yelling in contradictory instructions.

Any Issues with a coach should be discussed between the player and/or parent/guardian and the coach. Any Parents/Guardians who contact Principal will be referred to this manual and Athletic Director for follow up. Athletic Director in most cases, will encourage communication between parents/guardians, player and coach. If a formal ruling must be made, the Athletic Director will conference with the parents/guardians and coach. The conferences may be separate.

In addition, any parent who approaches any school district staff, student, official, or other parent and threatens, harasses, violates the School District of Philadelphia's bullying, harassment or discrimination policies or otherwise attempts to harm may be excluded from attending any school events.

Any threat or act of violence will also be reported to School Police as well as Philadelphia Police. Furthermore, coaches are School District Instructional staff and thus, a "protected class" under city and state statutes. Assault on a coach may result in criminal prosecution.

## Donations

Donations to the individual teams or the athletic program as a whole from Parents/Guardians and Alumni are encouraged

Anyone offering donations (including alumni, parents/guardians, other family members/friends, the general public, non-profit or for profit companies or organizations), choosing to give a donation in the amount of \$9,999 or less, may make their donation directly to the school student-activities fund with reference to the specific sport or the athletic department as a whole.

Donations of equipment not already owned by another School District School, must be in new or close to new condition, meet all safety standards for the sport, and have a total value less than \$10,000

There will be NO ADVANTAGES such as but not limited to a child being admitted into the school, additional playing time, or a vending or services contract being granted with a particular company, for donations.

In addition, donations cannot be accepted from agencies or organizations that are deemed to be political or religious in their affiliations unless the agency is an official provider of School District of Philadelphia services and all such donations from organizations in amounts less than \$10,000 need to be approved by the school's action council.

## Booster Clubs

Parents and Alumni are encouraged to create a Booster club for a specific sport OR the entire athletic program. This may or may not be part of the current established Rush Arts Home and School Association. Booster clubs, parent clubs or Alumni clubs are meant to support the "extras" that go along with the teams such as but not limited to Awards, Secondary jerseys, hooded sweatshirts, warm up suits or jackets or other special apparel.

In the event an official Alumni, Parent or Booster Club is established:

- Must be a formal non-profit organization established with a tax id number.
- Booster Clubs must have a constitution, executive board, and their own account.
- There must be a minimum of 2 representatives from the Booster Club board counting and confirming all transactions including signing of checks.
- All financial records of money in and money out must be shared with the Athletic Director and Principal at the end of the season.

If the Booster Club is part of the existing home and School they must follow Home and School By-laws

If the Booster club is un-official aka, an alumni group or a parents club, any fundraising efforts should be coordinated as if being facilitated by the coach and team (approval by Athletic Director, Principal, and all monies deposited directly into team accounts via student activity fund)

## **NCAA ELIGIBILITY**

Students who might be interested in playing a sport in College NEED to get educated in the process. There is information on our school athletics website

In short, if a student is planning on playing for a school listed as an NCAA Division 1, Division 1A, or Division 2 school, they must register for the NCAA Eligibility Center and meet certain requirements in GPA, courses completed AND SAT scores by the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Failure to do so will forfeit their ability to play sports in college as a freshman and may affect their future eligibility as well.

Students who are attending NCAA Division 3 schools do not need to register for the NCAA Eligibility Center but it is a good idea to do so anyway.

In addition, if students are going to attend a school designated as an NAIA school or junior college and plan on competing in athletics, they also need to register for separate league specific eligibility centers by the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

Questions should be addressed with Athletic Director BY October of 11<sup>th</sup> grade!

## **BEHAVIOR/CONDUCT:**

Exclusion from Interscholastic athletic contests as a punishment from any person other than the Principal, Athletic Director or coach is not permitted UNLESS the exclusion is a result of an in school or out of school suspension issued for a behavior infraction by a Principal, Dean or other Principal designee including school wide detention supervisor

Student Athletes are expected to conform to all rules, regulations and policies as related to the School District Code of Conduct, Arts Academy of Benjamin Rush, PIAA, NFHS and individual coach. That includes, for example, dress code for traveling to away games. If a student athlete does not conform to code of conduct rules, the coach may choose to refer them to disciplinary action as if the infraction occurred in school.

If a student athlete violates a level 2 or level 3 infraction as per school district code of conduct, they will be held accountable as if in school. In addition, additional penalties from the league or state association may be issued.

### **Removal from a team:**

#### **By Principal or Athletic Director:**

A student may be removed from a team at the discretion of the Principal or Athletic Director as part of consequences for violation of school rules following due process. In most cases, the infraction must be a level 2 or level 3 offense. Level 1 offenses may result in removal from the team if a direct result of being a member of the team OR repeat violation.

**By Coach:** A student may be removed from team by a coach after all the following criteria is met:

- Violation of team based rules including rules dictated by School District of Philadelphia, PIAA, or NFHS
- A student/coach conference was held
- A suspension from the team or school was issued prior to removal

If a student is being removed from a team, the removal must be made following contact with a parent/guardian

## **SPECIAL NOTES ON SPECIFIC VIOLATIONS OF CONDUCTS FOLLOW**

## **SPECIAL NOTE: CYBER BULLYING & SOCIAL MEDIA**

The School and School District have a strict policy against bullying INCLUDING cyberbullying. Tormenting, Harassing or threatening any other students in our school, on your team, in another school team, or on an opposing team, will be dealt with by consequences including suspension or removal from the team. Any accused act of Cyber-Bullying or Social Media Misuse will be investigated

Normal "talking up your team" in the spirit of the game can be permitted so long as threats or degrading actions are not taken toward an opposing team.

Following investigation, if found to be accurate, violation of cyberbullying rules and policies will result in a 1-3 game suspension based on severity and in coordination with Principal, Athletic Director and Dean/Disciplinarian. In addition, The Office of Athletics may also impose suspensions or removal from teams for violations

THE NFHS has an informative, free, online course concerning use of Social Media. It can be accessed by visiting our school's athletic webpage at <https://rush.philasd.org/athletics/> Then clicking the selection on the right titled Safety and Student-Athlete Education. Scroll down on this page and view ALL of the available courses for student information

## **SPECIAL NOTE: BULLYING & HAZING:**

As in life, light-hearted teasing where everyone is laughing together is permitted. However, Bullying, Harassment or any form of hazing is not permitted. Perpetrators will be suspended following due process and investigation. They *may* be removed from the team pending Principal review.

Telling non-seniors to carry equipment is not considered hazing.

Asking non-seniors to move so that seniors have preferential seating on buses is not hazing.

Both of these items are privileges afforded to our seniors.

THE NFHS has an informative, free, online course concerning bullying and hazing. It can be accessed by visiting our school's athletic webpage at <https://rush.philasd.org/athletics/> Then clicking the selection on the right titled Safety and Student-Athlete Education. Scroll down on this page and view ALL of the available courses for student information

## **SPECIAL NOTE: SPORTSMANSHIP**

It is expected that Student-Athletes practice good sportsmanship AT ALL TIMES towards but not limited to our coaches, opposing coaches, officials including referees and supervisors, opposing players and teammates. Violation of this rule will result in appropriate consequences based on severity when compared to code of conduct. Referees, supervisors and opposing coaches are considered an extension of School staff. Violations may also result in a 1 game suspension followed by removal from team if repeated again.

In addition, support of your partner sports team(s) in season at the Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush is essential for a solid athletic program. Opinions portraying jealousy, dis-respect, unsportsmanlike behavior or insinuating favoritism, should be kept to one's self. Failure to do so may result in removal from their team.

Example: Saying "They like watching the boys basketball team more than us" may be an appropriate statement because it may be observable that more spectators go to see the boys basketball team rather than the girls. However Saying "He likes seeing us lose" or "they hate our team" is not appropriate. Bottom line: BE SUPPORTIVE of the ENTIRE Athletic Program not just your own team.

THE NFHS has an informative, free, online course concerning Sportsmanship. It can be accessed by visiting our school's athletic webpage at <https://rush.philasd.org/athletics/> Then clicking the selection on the right titled Safety and Student-Athlete Education. Scroll down on this page and view ALL of the available courses for student information

## **SPECIAL NOTE: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES including Appearance and Performing Enhancing Drugs**

In general, the Athletic Controlled Substances policy will follow the School District of Philadelphia Code of Conduct and in the case of Appearance and Performance enhancing drugs, the PIAA and NFHS.

Students who violate these policies will be referred to the Principal and disciplinarian/dean and given due process to state their case in front of the Principal, Athletic Director, and disciplinarian/dean (if applicable). The student will be suspended from competition during the due process investigation.

If found in violation of the controlled substance policy or policies related to Appearance and Performing Enhancing Drugs a suspension of not less than (3) games and not more than one full season will occur (including any games already missed IN ADDITION to school based consequences including suspension from school).

For additional details, please see illegal activity

Specific to Athletics, these variations must be understood by student athletes:

- off-site athletic venues and locations are extensions of School District property
- Nutritional supplements must not contain medication, steroids or any prohibited substances
- Corticoid steroids prescribed by a Physician are permitted so long as they are used the way they are intended (to decrease rash or inflammation) for a limited time or to treat an emergency.

THE NFHS has an informative, free, online course concerning Appearance and Performance Enhancing Drugs. It can be accessed by visiting our school's athletic webpage at <https://rush.philasd.org/athletics/> Then clicking the selection on the right titled Safety and Student-Athlete Education. Scroll down on this page and view ALL of the available courses for student information

## **SPECIAL NOTE: TOBACCO and ALCOHOL and other "legal" drugs/medications**

- Tobacco and Alcohol are banned on School District property. Use of these substances during practices or games on site or at playing venues OR during any overnight or late night official, supervised, events, will result in referral to Principal or Dean/Disciplinarian for further school based consequences AS WELL AS a 1-3 game suspension.
- Rec Centers and other venues NOT owned by the School District but used for athletic contests are considered School District Property for the purposes of this policy
- Student Athletes are encouraged to follow safe, legal health practices for decision making in use of these substances
- In addition to the legal ramifications of under-age drinking, student athletes should recognize that the potential lack of coordination that occurs up to 48 hours after under-age drinking occurs can place un-necessary additional risk for injury.

## **SPECIAL NOTE: MEDICAL MARIJUANA**

As of 2017, Pennsylvania passed a law permitting the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes that is not smoked. This law was revised in 2019 to permit the medical use of Dried Leaf Marijuana products from vaporizers. In addition, the law only permits the use of Marijuana to treat specific ailments under specific guidelines.

Student-Athletes utilizing Medical grade, Legal, Marijuana/THC products to treat a medical condition may participate on an athletic team IF ALL of the following criteria are met:

- Prescribed by a Physician OR permitted by the student-athlete's family physician
- the family Physician signs the PIAA CIPPE form OR physician who prescribed/recommended the use of medical marijuana is an authorized medical examiner permitted to sign PIAA CIPPE
- Side effects of the products do not negatively affect performance including speed, agility, balance or coordination
- Published guidelines from PIAA, NFHS and School District of Philadelphia are followed.

Over the counter CBD infused products do not currently fall under "Medical Marijuana" SO LONG as the CBD products are permissible to be used on school grounds AND by students under 18

## **SPECIAL NOTE: Illegal Activity.**

In the un-likely but possible event that a Rush Arts student athlete is involved in illegal activity resulting in arrest INCLUDING any activity outside of school, they will be suspended from competition until they return to school and complete, if applicable, any School District related consequences IF they are eligible under PIAA and School District guidelines.

If they are being held for trial OR their arrest is a result of an alleged violation of a level III School District offense, they will be removed from the team and lose all future eligibility status with the following two exceptions:

- If a student is accused of a crime, attends court, and found not guilty, they will regain their eligibility status for current and future school years. PAST time will not be recuperated
- If a court order is given allowing the student to return to school with all rights and privileges while awaiting trial, they will be eligible as if no such infraction has taken place so long as no School District consequences were issued

## **Constitutional and Federal mandated rules on Athletics:**

### **TITLE IX:**

Title IX was created in the 1970's and adapted in 1978 to ensure equal opportunities, facilities, etc. for girls in athletics as boys at that time received. It has evolved to ensure equal opportunities regardless of gender. Rush Arts follows Title IX in all aspects. For specific PIAA rules, please go to PIAA.org. In short, we offer a suitable, acceptable number of sports for the population we have interested in participating in sports.

Girls Sports: Volleyball, Soccer, Basketball, Softball, Bowling

Boys Sports: Basketball, Baseball, Bowling

For full year to year list, students should inquire with Athletic Director

### **SPECIAL NOTE: School District Policy 252**

The School District's Policy 252, formally titled "TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING STUDENTS", gives certain rights to students that fall into the protected categories. The Policy specifically states that Decisions on Interscholastic Athletics will be determined on a case by case basis.

In an attempt to clarify, Interscholastic Athletics are based on sex rather than gender/gender identity. Title IX does permit females to participate in a male only sport if there is no such comparable sport. Example, a young lady may not play Basketball on the boys team if a girls team is offered. Male student athletes may not usually play sports specifically designed for females (such as a boy playing softball) but occasionally there are exceptions (such as a boy playing field hockey)

When a student wants to play a sport specifically designed for the opposite sex in a biologically driven binary, they may do so long as their height, weight, stature and overall body mass index, would not make the sport un-safe for the student or other players OR give their team a power/skill in-balance.

HOWEVER, Policy 252 allows for students who's gender identify differs from their biological sex or sex assigned at birth due to anatomy, to play on the sport that matches their gender identity with none of the Title IX restrictions. To do this, the parents/guardians agree to sign the PIAA CIPPE, School District EH-80 AND any additional required paperwork with the student's gender identity as well as a notation of any name changes IF the name and gender identity do match what appears on official School District records and the School District's information system. As Policy 252 prohibits school staff from discussing issues related to said policy with parents/guardians without the student's consent, STUDENTS must begin the conversation with their potential coach, Athletic Director and parents/guardians. Coaches are not permitted to speak to parents/guardians concerning their child's gender-identity without the student's consent.

If a student has a gender identity other than male or female, their sport will be determined based on their sex listed on official school records. If a student has a gender identity that is gender fluid, their sport will be determined based on their sex listed on official school records unless again, parents/guardians sign the PIAA CIPPE and other paperwork appropriately, Once a student tries out for a team in any season, that designation must remain for the entire school year unless a brand new PIAA CIPPE is resigned by both parents/guardians and a physician (sports physical).

## **Other Constitutional law:**

As dictated by the PIAA, the school athletic program follows Constitutional law directed for Public Schools. The Amendments most often cited in complaints to Constitutional law for Public Schools are:

- First Amendment:
  - Students are permitted to take part in voluntary religious displays in private but NOT mandated
  - Students are permitted to wear religious garb as part of their uniform
  - The supreme-court has chosen not to rule on most cases concerning free speech concerning athletics as participation is voluntary.
  - Student Athletes should not speak to media without coach's consent
  - Coaches may speak to media on matters permitted with current School District of Philadelphia Office of Athletics guidelines. Other requests for interviews should be made through the Office of Athletics
- Fourth Amendment:
  - Locker and back pack searches are permitted by coaches in absence of school police if there is a reason to believe they contain contraband including but not limited to drugs, drug paraphernalia or weapons. Philadelphia Police Department should be notified.
- Fourteenth Amendment:
  - All students must have equal access to the athletic programs, equal opportunity to register, equal opportunity to try out, and must be judged impartially with the same criteria as their peers. Stating "I did not know of sign ups" has not been upheld as a valid cause for complaint.

## **State, County and City law:**

When not otherwise stated, all State, County and City laws must be followed

**RUSH ARTS Athletes equipment appendix and SDoP official polices on Student Athlete code of conduct and fan behavior follow**