



# Ridge View High School

*Home of the Blazers*

4801 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29229

(803) 699-2999

Principal – Dr. Brenda Mack-Foxworth, Ed.D.



## RIDGE VIEW ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

### FOREWORD

This material is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics at Ridge View High School and because you have expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. Your family interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences, which assist students in personal adjustments.

We, who are concerned with the educational development of students through athletics, feel that a properly controlled, well organized sports program meets the student's need for self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. It is our hope to maintain a program that is sound in purpose and will further each student's educational maturity.

A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline. This is the reason we place such stress on good training habits. Compliance with the rules of training and self-discipline is balanced with our responsibility to recognize the right of the individual within the objectives of the team. We do not want uniformity or blind conformity as a means for achieving team responsibility and discipline. However, there is no place in high school athletics for students who will not discipline their minds and bodies for rigorous competition. We are striving for excellence and do not want our athletes to compromise with mediocrity.

We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies that are necessary to a well-organized program of athletics. It is the role of the Department of Athletics to establish standards and expectations that govern the spirit of competition for our athletes and their community. These rules need a broad basis of community support that is achieved only through communication to the parent and our community. It is our hope that this handbook helps us address this objective.

Sincerely,

Brian Rosefield  
Athletic Director  
Ridge View High School  
(803) 699-2999  
brosefield@richland2.org

## **ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY**

It is the basic educational philosophy of Ridge View High School to prepare our students to become productive, contributing citizens of our community and society. We believe that a comprehensive program of student activities is vital to the educational development of our students. The athletic program is a component of this philosophy.

Within this context, it is the purpose of the school's athletic program to foster and promote:

1. Appropriate physical, social and psychological development.
2. The ideals of competition, teamwork and sportsmanship while achieving the twin goals of success and participation.
3. The developments of self-confidence, self-discipline, organization, decision making skills and goal orientation.
4. The concept of an integral relationship between a sound mind and a sound body leading to a lifetime appreciation for physical fitness and good health habits.
5. A positive feeling of school loyalty and pride which can be shared by all participants, other students, parents, coaches and the community as a whole.
6. The development of self-esteem and a healthy self-concept.

Athletics should function as an integral part of the total curriculum. It should offer opportunities to serve the institution, to assist in the development of fellowship and good will, to promote self-realization and all-around growth, and to encourage learning qualities of good citizenship. The Ridge View High School Athletic Program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in a democratic society.

## **ATHLETIC OBJECTIVES**

- A. To provide a positive image of school athletics at Ridge View High School.
- B. To strive always for playing excellence that will produce winning teams within the bounds of good sportsmanship and mental health of the student athlete.
- C. To ensure growth and development that will raise the number of individual participants; that will give support to increasing attendance at each contest; that will provide funding for athletic events; and that will support a maintenance and improvement program for facilities.
- D. To provide opportunities that will allow the program to serve as a laboratory where students may cope with problems and handle situations similar to those encountered under conditions prevailing in the contemporary world.
- E. To provide a superior program of student participation that includes appropriate activities for a wide variety of student interests and abilities.
- F. To provide opportunity for a student to experience success in an activity he or she selects.
- G. To provide those activities which offer the greatest benefits for the greatest number of students.

- H. To create a desire to succeed and excel.
- I. To provide for the students' worthy use of leisure time now and in the future.
- J. To develop high ideals of fairness in all human relationships.
- K. To practice self-discipline and emotional maturity in learning to make decisions under pressure.
- L. To be socially competent and operate within a set of rules, thus gaining a respect for the rights of others.
- M. To develop an understanding of the value of activities in a balanced educational process.
- N. To learn to respect and respond to authority figures as a life skill for today's world..

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF A RIDGE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE**

Being a member of a Ridge View athletic team is the fulfillment of an early ambition of many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built over night, and it takes the hard work of many people over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad at Ridge View High School, you have inherited a wonderful tradition that you are challenged to uphold.

Our tradition has been to win with honor and class. We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our school and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best effort of all concerned. Over the past few years our squads have achieved more than their share of Region and State championships. Many individuals have set records and won All-Region and All-State honors and received full athletic scholarships.

It will not be easy to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. To compete for your school may mean that you will have to decline other activities and that you not only understand our tradition, but are willing to assume the responsibilities that go with them. However, the contributions you make should be a satisfying accomplishment to you and your family.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOURSELF**

The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your high school experiences. Your studies and your participation in other extracurricular activities, as well as in sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR SCHOOL**

Another responsibility you assume as an athlete is to your school. Ridge View cannot maintain its position as having an outstanding school unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participation in athletics to the best of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school.

You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the community know you. You are on stage with the spotlight on you. The student body, the community

and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role you can contribute greatly to school spirit and school PRIDE! Be proud and make others proud of you and Ridge View High School.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION**

Remember that as an athlete you are not eligible to participate in any sport until the following items have been completed.

- A. physical exam(dated after April 1 of the previous school year), consent to medical treatment form and concussion form completed and on file in the Athletic Director's office;
- B. parent permission form signed and on file in the Athletic Director's office;
- C. \$50 participation fee paid; this fee is paid one time each year no matter how many sports a student elects to play. In addition, students trying out for athletics teams must have resolved any other school debts they have prior to trying out.
- D. birth certificate must be on file in Athletic Director's office. (Birth certificate must be a city, county, or state certificate with a seal and file number on the certificate. Hospital birth certificates are not acceptable);
- E. all academic requirements met; and good standing with athletic department.
- F. Signature form from each athlete and guardian for Concussion recognition and acknowledgement of each athlete must be on file in Athletic Director's office.

## **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION**

1. Student must be enrolled at Ridge View High School or its feeder schools.
2. The student has not attained his/her 19th birthday prior to July 1st proceeding the year of participation.
3. **Academic requirements for the South Carolina High School League are as follows:**
  - A. A student, while participating, must be a full-time student as determined by guidelines set forth by the State Department of Education. A student who is repeating a course for which he has previously received credit cannot count this course as one required for eligibility. This is considered as monitoring a course.
  - B. To participate in interscholastic athletic activities, students in grades 9-12 must achieve an overall passing average in addition to the following:
    1. To be eligible in the first semester a student must pass a minimum of five Carnegie units applicable toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school. To be eligible during the second semester the student must meet one of the following conditions:
      - a. If the student met first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of four, 1/2 units during the first semester.
      - b. If the student did not meet first semester eligibility requirements then he or she must pass the equivalent of five, 1/2 units during the first semester.

**In most cases on a traditional or AB block schedule, the following example would apply:**

- **If eligible first semester, must pass four subjects**
- **If not eligible first semester, must pass five subjects**

**In a 4 X 4 block schedule where units or ½ units are granted at the end of the first semester the following will apply:**

- **If eligible first semester, must earn 2 units**
- **If not eligible first semester, must earn 2 ½ units**

2. Students must satisfy eligibility requirements in the semester preceding participation.

**a.** Credits earned in a summer school approved by the State Department of Education may apply for first semester eligibility. A maximum of two units per year may be used.

**b.** Students eligible for a first semester sport will be permitted to complete that sport even if it extends into the second semester. Under the current League program, this will apply to participants in basketball and wrestling in the high school and middle school programs.

A maximum of two credit recovery units may be used toward eligibility, to include the two units presently allowed in summer school. The course would have to be accepted by the State Department of Education for graduation and accredited by a certified teacher in that field. To be eligible for recovery credits, the student must have received a minimum grade of 60.

NOTE: Credit recovery must be completed by the following dates:

Courses taken for first semester eligibility must be recovered by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in August.

Courses taken for second semester eligibility must be recovered by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in March.

**Richland Two Academic requirements** stipulate that eligibility is determined by the grade point average from the previous semester. For fall/winter sports, use the semester 2 average from the previous year. Spring sports, use the semester 1 average from the current year. GPA requirements are 1.5 for 9<sup>th</sup> graders, 1.75 for 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and 2.0 for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

4. Each student has eight (8) consecutive semesters of competition once the student has entered the 9th grade.
5. Transfer students must have had an accompanying change of residence by his/her parent(s) or guardian during the period of their last high school enrollment. All transfer students are ineligible until proven eligible by the South Carolina High School league's rules regarding transfer students. Transfer students should contact the Ridge View Athletics Director to verify transfer student requirements regarding athletic eligibility.
6. The student must not have accepted money, merchandise, memberships, or services of value for participation in athletics, sports, or games. They must not have signed a professional sport contract.
7. An athlete may not participate in any outside competition in a sport during the season he/she has represented his/her school in that sport.

## **Academic Standards for Middle School Athletic Participation**

To participate in athletics at the middle school level, students must have a 2.0 GPA during a specified grading period. Refer to the following sports below to see qualifications.

Academic requirements for students enrolled in the seventh and eighth grades, including first semester 9th graders are:

1. Students passing the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades by academic promotion pursuant to district policy are considered as having met the requirements for academic eligibility for first semester.
2. Students in grades seven and eight must be meeting the school district promotion policy at the end of the first semester in order to be eligible second semester. (Second semester ninth grade students must meet League academic regulations.)
3. A seventh or eighth grade repeater shall not be eligible during a school year if academic requirements for promotion were met during the previous year.

4. A student who previously failed the seventh or eighth grade is eligible during the second semester if he/she has satisfactorily passed first semester work. Second semester eligibility begins when first semester ends and the student is added to the certificate of eligibility form signed by the principal.

\*\*Summer School grades replace yearly average for promotion only (does not replace fourth nine weeks grades.) \*\*

## **AMENDED/NEW LEGISLATION (2015)**

Eligibility for participation in interscholastic activities (Amended) Section 59-39-160.

(A) To participate in interscholastic activities, students in grades nine through twelve must achieve an overall passing average and either:

- (1) Pass at least four academic courses, including each unit the student takes that is required for graduation; or
- (2) Pass a total of five academic courses. Students must satisfy these conditions in the semester preceding participation in the interscholastic activity, if the interscholastic activity occurs completely within one semester or in the semester preceding the first semester of participation in an interscholastic activity, if the interscholastic activity occurs over two consecutive semesters and is under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina High School League.

(B) Academic courses are those courses of instruction for which credit toward high school graduation is given. These may be required or approved electives. All activities currently under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina High School League remain in effect. The monitoring of all other interscholastic activities is the responsibility of the local boards of trustees. Those students diagnosed as handicapped in accordance with the criteria established by the State Board of Education and satisfying the requirements of their Individual Education Plan (IEP) as required by Public Law 94-142 are permitted to participate in interscholastic activities. A local school board of trustees may impose more stringent standards than those contained in this section for participation in interscholastic activities by students in grades nine through twelve.

(C) The State Board of Education may grant a waiver of the requirements of this section.

(1) This waiver may be granted when a written statement from a school district superintendent and athletic director has been received stating circumstances, including, but not limited to:

- (a) a student's ineligibility to participate in interscholastic activities is due to misinformation concerning eligibility requirements being provided by district personnel;
- (b) a student's ineligibility to participate in interscholastic activities is due to a long-term absence as a result of a medical condition, but the student has been medically cleared to participate by his health care practitioner; or

(c) any reasonable circumstances as determined by the State Board of Education.

(2) The State Board of Education shall establish guidelines to administer this section.

## **CONDUCT OF AN ATHLETE**

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in all the following areas:

In the area of athletic competition, a real athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics, and learns fast that losing is part of the game and that you should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

In the academic area, a good athlete becomes a good student. A person cannot be a classroom laggard and then be an outstanding athlete. If you are lazy in class, you are likely to be lazy on the practice

field or floor and not reach your full potential. As an athlete you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies to insure acceptable grades.

In addition to maintaining good scholarship, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for other faculty and students at all times. Horseplay and unnecessary boisterousness are not approved habits of behavior.

A healthy athlete should have a good attendance record, never cut classes or school.

The way you act and look on campus is of great importance. Athletes should be leaders, and fellow students will respect and follow them.

Gross disrespect of athletes, coaches, officials, fans, security personnel, etc. will not be tolerated and can result in suspension and/or removal from the Athletic program for a season, remainder of a school year or permanently removed from Athletic participation at Ridge View High School. (This includes, but is not limited to: profanity, refusal to obey (insubordination), harassment, bullying, physical and/or verbal altercation/battery/assault and threatening, hazing, vandalism, stealing.)

## **GROOMING AND DRESS POLICY**

A member of an athletic team is expected to be well groomed. "He/she shows up best who shows off least." Appearance, expression and actions always influence people's opinions of athletes, your family, the team and the school. Once you have volunteered to be a member of a squad, you have made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of athletes in this community.

- A. Hair will be of reasonable length and neat.
- B. Earrings and jewelry shall not be worn during contests or at practices.
- C. Facial hair should be neatly trimmed. Any individual coach may mandate that no facial hair be allowed.
- D. Only uniforms issued by the Department of Athletics will be permitted to be worn for contests or practices if applicable.
- E. An athlete shall dress presentably at all times, on trips, or at assemblies or banquets.

## **TRAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

It is the overwhelming opinion of health educators and coaches that athletes perform best when they follow intelligent training rules, which include restrictions on tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Medical research clearly substantiates the fact that use of tobacco; alcohol and any type of mood modifying substances produce harmful effects on humans. The coaches of Ridge View High School, concerned with the health habits of the student athletes of this community, are convinced that athletics and the uses of these substances are not compatible. Students have to decide if they want to be athletes. If you do wish to be an athlete, "you have to pay the price" in order to be a competitor. A big part of this price is following a simple set of training rules, which the Department of Athletics believes to be fair.

Uses of tobacco, use of alcohol and drug abuses are injurious to the development of human growth. You cannot compromise athletics with substance abuses. The student who wishes to experiment with such abuses should remove himself from the team before he/she jeopardizes team moral, team reputation, and team success and does physical harm to their self.

Richland Two and Ridge View rules and consequences apply to school related events both on and off campus, during and outside of school time. This includes gang related and legal charges in the community.

**USE OF TOBACCO-** Research emphasizes that use of tobacco is physically harmful to young adults. This rule means no use of tobacco (in any form all year, in or out of season).

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES-** There is no way to justify athletes using alcoholic beverages, even though social pressure may be hard to resist. This rule means no use of alcohol (in any form all year, in or out of season).

**DRUGS-** Simply stated, drug abuse is the consumption of any chemical substance or the smoking of some plant derivatives for the purpose of mood modification. The rule against substance abuse is in effect all year.

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE-** An athlete shall not participate in athletics (practice or game) on the day he/she has been absent from school. If a student is too ill to attend classes he/she is too ill to participate in athletics.

**DISCIPLINE-** An athlete must work to his/her academic potential in his/her academic subjects as established by the guidance department and administration. He/she must also display good school citizenship at all times. Disciplinary action taken by the Administration may be supplemented by additional disciplinary action by individual coaches and the Athletic Department.

## **VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES**

Consistent and fair enforcement of regulations in this handbook is key to the success of our program. The community, school administrators, and the coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program of athletics. It is our intent to preserve rules that reasonably pertain to the health and safety of the individual and to the orderly conduct of sports. We do not wish to establish arbitrary personal preferences. The welfare of the student is our major consideration. What happens to them is of primary importance.

In the event an athlete fails to comply with these necessary standards, it will be interpreted by the Athletic Department as an indication that the athlete does not have sufficient desire to participate in the interscholastic athletic program. Therefore, the athlete will be denied the privilege of participating until such time as he/she can establish commitment to the athletic program.

The precise period of suspension will depend on the violation and the attitude of the athlete. Generally, a minimum of one-week suspension will be necessary for first offenses. An athlete may be required to attend an intervention program for alcohol and drug offenses before they may return to athletic participation. The athlete will be denied the privilege of participation until they establish the commitment to return to their team and comply with the standards, which have been established for the benefit of the athlete and the team. Repeated or flagrant violations may result in total suspensions from the interscholastic athletic program.

Gross disrespect of athletes, coaches, officials, fans, security personnel, etc. will not be tolerated and can result in suspension and/or removal from the Athletic program for a season, remainder of a school year or permanently removed from Athletic participation at Ridge View High School. (This includes, but is not limited to: profanity, refusal to obey (insubordination), harassment, bullying, physical and/or verbal altercation/battery/assault and threatening, hazing, vandalism, stealing.)

**DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE-** The coach or athletic director may immediately suspend a player from contests or practices for up to five consecutive school days.

A meeting of the athlete's coach and the Athletic Director shall determine any suspension period of more than five school days. The following will be required.

1. a written statement of violation by the Coach and notification to the Athletic Director.
2. consultation with the parent or guardian or the representative, preferably by a meeting; and
3. consultation with the student athlete.
4. No athlete will be immediately dismissed from a team. While this may be a result the athlete will not be dismissed until all procedures have been carried out.

**APPEAL PROCEDURE-** The parent or guardian of the student athlete may appeal the decision of the above committee to the Executive Committee. This committee shall be made up of the Principal, an Assistant Principal, the Athletic Director, and a neutral coach. The appeal will require the following:

1. The written appeal must be presented to the Athletic Director within five days of the initial ruling.
2. The student and parent/guardian shall have the privilege of attendance.
3. The appeals committee shall render a decision within five school days, in writing, to the student and his/her parent or guardian.

### **MORE ON CONDUCT OF ATHLETES**

We expect our student-athletes to be models of good behavior. In communicating our expectations to our athletes, we should emphasize to them that participating in athletics is a privilege and not a right. Responsible behavior is required for this privilege.

Any student who has been suspended from school (in or out of school suspension) cannot participate in interscholastic sports or extracurricular activities during their suspension.

Any student expelled from school OR any student who is returned to their original school on probation following an expulsion hearing in which the hearing officer finds that he or she violated District or school policy shall lose the privilege of participating in inter-scholastic sports or extracurricular activities for a minimum period of 30 school/work days.

A student who is on probation during winter break, spring break or during the summer months when regular school is not in session cannot participate in practices, weight training, conditioning programs, summer leagues, tournaments, summer camps involving school to school competition, etc., until the 30 school/work day loss of privilege have been fulfilled. If a student is allowed to attend the district alternative program(s) following a disciplinary hearing, the student may use these days to satisfy the –loss of privilegell so long as the student attended there at least 30 school days.

Each head coach is expected to publish and distribute his/her expectations and rules for participation to all team members at the very beginning of the season.

These rules should be posted in the team locker room as a daily reminder. Each team members' parent/legal guardian must be asked to read the rules and sign a document indicating that they have read and comprehend the team rules and expectations.

# **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES**

## **TRYING OUT FOR TEAMS**

1. Any student who is qualified under the provisions of the South Carolina High School League shall have the right to try out for any sport and be evaluated on merit and performance.
2. Selection of team members shall not be made on any basis other than ability and compliance with regulations established by the Board of Education and Ridge View High School.
3. A student athlete shall have free choice of sports without dictation or coercion. Coaches will not use pressure of any kind to keep student athletes from participating in any sport or to force them to participate in a particular sport. It is up to the coach's discretion as to when tryouts will be completed and a final roster is set. The SCHSL sets the dates for when tryouts can begin. A minimum of one day will be allowed for tryouts before a roster is set. Students who wish to leave one team to move to another sport must comply with procedures.
4. Students that owe debts to the school must be on a payment plan.

## **QUITTING A TEAM**

1. Quitting is an unacceptable habit to acquire. A quitter may lose the privilege of participating in athletics. On occasion however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop participation in a sport for good reason. If this is the case, the following procedure must be followed:
  - A. Talk with your immediate coach and then the Head Coach.
  - B. Report your situation to the Athletic Director.
  - C. Check in all equipment
2. Unless there are unusual circumstances, an athlete will not be allowed to quit one sport and join another team. The sport the athlete has quit must have its season completed before the athlete may begin practice with another sport. If there are unusual circumstances both coaches concerned and the Athletic Director will decide if the athlete can join another team. The athlete should contact the Athletic Director to initiate this process. Failure to follow this procedure in quitting a sport can result in loss of all athletic privileges for up to one year.
3. If a student leaves or is removed from a team under the dishonorable conditions described below, he/she shall become ineligible in all sports immediately. The Athletic Director, Principal and Head Coach of the sport involved will determine the length of the suspension.
  - A. Smoking, alcohol and/or drug abuse
  - B. Vandalism
  - C. Theft
  - D. Conduct unbecoming an athlete as determined by the Head Coach and Athletic Director
  - E. Quitting a team and failure to follow procedures

- F. Failure to return any or all equipment issued to the athlete by the Ridge View Athletic Department. Athlete is held financially responsible for equipment
- G. Suspension from school (In-School or Out-of-School)
- H. Gang related or legal charges in the community

## **PRACTICE**

1. Practice sessions are vital for both the student athlete and the team. It is for this reason that the student athlete should be in attendance at all practice sessions. Attendance is vital for game preparation and injury prevention.
2. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the coach prior to any absence and present valid reasons for nonattendance. Any unexcused absence will be dealt with by the Head Coach of that sport. Missing practice may result in a loss of playing time, missing a contest or dismissal from a team.
3. There may be extenuating circumstances which may prevent a student from being present at all sessions. The coach's decisions on questionable absences shall be based on what is the best interest of both the student and the team.

## **TRAVEL**

All athletes must travel to and from away RVHS athletic events in transportation provided by the athletic department (Exceptions can be made by the Athletic Director in writing. Email is an appropriate form of communication.). Athletes may return from a contest with their parent or guardian. The Head Coach must approve this (Email is an appropriate form of communication.)

Athletes will remain with their squad and under the supervision of a coach while attending away contests.

All regular school bus rules will be followed, including food, noise, seating, and care for equipment.

Dress appropriately and in good taste.

## **COLLEGE RECRUITMENT POLICY**

In the event an athlete should be contacted personally by a college recruiter, he/she has an obligation to work through his/her coach and the athletic department. Inform your coach of such a contact as soon as possible. There should be equal involvement between the coach and parent or guardian. The athletic department will handle as much of the responsibility of recruitment as the parent or guardian wishes.

## **CONFLICT IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extracurricular activities will undoubtedly be in a position of conflict of obligations.

The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities; and to this end will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts.

Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities when conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

When conflicts do arise, the sponsors will get together and work out a solution so the student does not feel caught in the middle. If a solution cannot be found then the Student Activities Director and the Athletic Director will have to make a decision based on the following:

- A. the relative importance of each event;
- B. the importance of each event to the student;
- C. the relative contribution the student can make;
- D. the length of time in advance each event is scheduled; and
- E. input from parents.

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed that decision, the faculty sponsor or coach will not penalize him/her in any way. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligation of a school activity, he/she should withdraw from that activity.

## **Participation Fee**

Once a student is chosen for the team, he/she must pay a \$50 participation fee before being allowed to compete. Coaches of teams that do not cut participants must communicate this requirement to all students interested in participating before they come out for the team. \$50 is the maximum any student must pay during a school year, regardless of the number of teams he/she tries out for or participates on.

## **Online Fee Payments**

Richland School District Two is excited to announce our new online payment system! In an effort to reduce time, money, and paper waste, parents of returning students can avoid the long lines of school start-up and pay their children's school fees through a secure online website that is accessed through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. With a few simple mouse clicks, parents can view assessed fees, any outstanding balances, and pay for all of their children in a single transaction. Payments can be made by Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. For general information about fees, please contact your child's school. Our fee management and online payment system is an easy and secure way to pay school fees from the comfort of your home or office.

## **Insurance**

Richland School District Two will provide insurance coverage through Team Assure for:

1. athletes injured while participating in interscholastic sports.
2. students injured on a Richland Two school campus or off campus while participating in a school sanctioned and school-supervised activity.

The insurance, which helps cover the cost of medical care by a physician or healthcare facility, is in excess of the student's primary coverage. The coverage provided is at 70 percent coinsurance with limits on physical therapy, ambulance and dental. The district's supplemental coverage becomes the primary coverage if a student or athlete is uninsured. The district does not select medical doctors or medical facilities and has no control over the amount of money they charge for services. The parents of the student athlete must obtain an injury claim form to have access to these potential benefits, please note all claims must be filed within 90 days of injury. Below are the procedures to obtain an injury claim form for athletic related injuries. 30

High School Athletics: Injury Claim Form Procedure

Step 1: Parents of an injured student athlete, who has been referred to a physician by a staff athletic trainer, should receive or ask the staff athletic trainer for a claim form. In the event an athlete sees a physician for an injury, but was not referred by a staff athletic trainer, the athlete's parent should contact the head athletic trainer ASAP.

Step 2: The parent should complete the claim form and follow the directions to file the claim. Parents are strongly encouraged to make a photocopy of the completed claim form for their records. Failure to do so may result in a claim not being filed.

### Middle School Athletics: Injury Claim Form Procedure

If the injury sustained by the middle school student athlete while participating in a high school sponsored sports team then the claim form must be obtained from the high school.

Step 1: Parents of an injured student athlete who has been seen by a physician or healthcare facility for an injury sustained during middle school athletic participation should contact the middle school Athletic Director for a claim form.

Step 2: The parent should complete the claim form and follow the directions to file the claim. Parents are strongly encouraged to make a photocopy of the completed claim form for their records. Failure to do so may result in a claim not being filed.

\*Please note all claims must be filed within 90 days of injury.\*

Coaches should report injuries that occur as a result of participation in school sponsored athletics to the school's athletic trainer who will complete the school accident portion of the insurance claim form. The athletic trainer will make a copy of the insurance claim form for school records and then give the original to the student's parent or guardian to file with the insurance company.

## **DEBTS**

In accordance with Richland School District policies students must pay previous debts to any Richland Two schools before being allowed to participate fully in the activities and privileges of Ridge View High School.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINER AND INJURIES**

If injured during practice or competition, the head coach is to be contacted immediately. The Athletic Trainer should then be notified. The Athletic Trainer will determine when the athlete is ready to resume practice or competition. The Athletic Trainer should also be notified in writing if you have gone to a physician and have been given instructions concerning your injury. The Athletic Trainer will serve as the go-between with the coach and physician.

## **ATHLETIC AWARDS Recognition Events**

Each sport plans and schedules their Athletic Recognition event. The Athletic recognition events are held to honor athletes who have maintained good standing with the coaches through the year. Awards will be presented at this time.

The RV Letter is given to first year letter persons in that sport at the Varsity level. A star is given for lettering in a sport for a second year, third year, etc. If a student letters in more than one varsity sport they will be given a pin specific to that sport to add to their original varsity letter. Requirements for letters will be determined by the coach for each sport. Seniors that have participated on a team for the entire season should receive a varsity letter

Athletes that owe the Athletic Department debts will not receive any awards until such debts are paid in full.

## **BOOSTER CLUBS**

Each sport may have a Booster Club. The purpose of Athletic Booster Clubs is to support in every way possible each athletic program. The commitment of each club will at all times keep the best interests of the school paramount in their thought. It is clearly understood that this club shall never in any way attempt to enter into the policy or administration of Ridge View High School or Ridge View's Athletic Department. This club is to promote and encourage the highest type of sportsmanship, not only among students, but among adults as well. The booster clubs are separate from the school, but both clubs and athletic programs work in collaboration with each other for the betterment of each athletic program.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

The Ridge View High School Athletic Department encourages various ways in which everyone can practice good sportsmanship and bring about desirable relationships with other schools. Students and adults should set a good example in the matter of sportsmanship and should quickly condemn unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the students or adults. To this end they should:

1. Remember that a student spectator represents his/her school the same as does the athlete.
2. Recognize that the good name of the school is more valuable than any game won by unfair play.
3. Accept decisions of officials without comment.
4. Recognize and applaud an exhibition of fine play or good sportsmanship on the part of the visiting team.
5. Insist on the courteous treatment of the visiting team as it visits the local community and school building, and extend the members every possible courtesy.
6. Acquaint the adults of the community and younger students with ideals of sportsmanship that are acceptable to the Ridge View High School community.
7. Advocate that any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship be requested not to attend future contests.
8. Insists on fair, courteous and truthful account of athletic contests in local and school papers.
9. Encourage the full discussion of fair play, sportsmanship, and school spirit through classwork and other curricular activities in order to promote ways by which students can develop and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

## **SPORTS PRESENTLY OFFERED**

### **FALL**

Varsity Girls Tennis

Varsity & JV Girls Cross Country  
Varsity & JV Boys Cross Country  
Varsity & JV Football  
Varsity & JV Volleyball  
Varsity Girls Swimming  
Varsity Boys Swimming  
Varsity Girls Golf  
Varsity, JV, and Spirit Cheerleading squads

**WINTER/SPRING**

Varsity Boys Lacrosse  
Varsity Girls Lacrosse

**WINTER**

Varsity & JV Girls Basketball  
Varsity, JV, & B-Team Boys Basketball  
Varsity & JV Wrestling

**SPRING**

Varsity/JV Boys and Girls Track  
Varsity/JV Girls Soccer  
Varsity/JV Boys Soccer  
Varsity/B team Boys Baseball  
Varsity/JV Girls Softball  
Varsity Boys Golf  
Varsity Boys Tennis