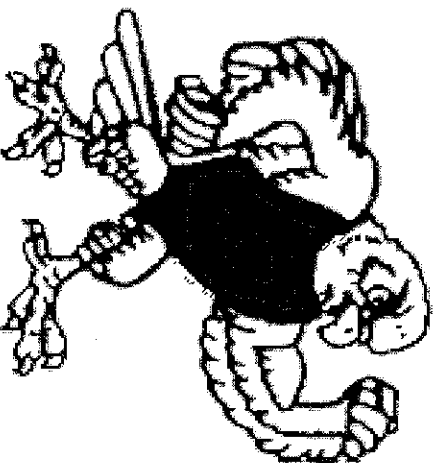


FRONTIER

JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL

2013-2014

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



Home of the Falcons

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THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF SPORTSMANSHIP

THE PLAYER

1. Treats opponents with respect
2. Plays hard, but plays within the rules
3. Exercises self-control at all times, setting the example for others to follow
4. Respects officials and accepts their decisions without gesture or argument
5. Wins without boasting, loses without excuses and never quits
6. Always remember that it is a privilege to represent the school and community

THE COACH

1. Knows the rules
2. Inspires in the athletes a love for the game and the desire to compete fairly
3. Is the type of person he/she wants the athletes to be
4. Disciplines those on the team who display unsportsmanlike behavior
5. Respects the judgment and interpretation of the rules by the officials
6. Knows he/she is a teacher and understands the athletic arena is a classroom

THE OFFICIAL

1. Knows the rules
2. Places welfare of the participants above all other considerations
3. Treats players and coaches courteously and demands the same from them
4. Works cooperatively with fellow officials, timers, and/or scorers for an efficient contest
5. Is fair and firm in all decisions, never compensating for a previous mistake
6. Maintains confidence, poise, and self-control from start to finish

THE SPECTATOR

1. Attempts to understand and be informed of the playing rules
2. Appreciates a good play no matter who makes it
3. Cooperates with and responds enthusiastically to cheerleaders
4. Shows compassion for an injured player, applauds positive performances, does not heckle, jeer or distract players, and avoids use of profane and obnoxious language and behavior
5. Respects the judgment and strategy of the coach and does not criticize players, coaches, or officials for loss of a game
6. Respects property of others and authority of those who administer the competition
7. Censures those whose behavior is unbecoming

This handbook is an attempt to cover most of the questions, problems and situations that come up during the course of a school year concerning athletics at Frontier Jr.- Sr. High School. We have tried to answer as many questions about how the athletic department operates, the responsibility of athletes, parents, coaches, and the administration as is possible. It is our hope that this handbook will help establish and maintain a high level of understanding between the coaching staff, athletes, parents, and others involved with the athletic department. For our program to be successful, we need the support, communication, and cooperation of our athletes and our parents. If you have specific concerns or questions about the material contained in this handbook, please feel free to contact the athletic department or administration at any time. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

The following sources were used as background for this handbook:

- (1) The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association's Reference Manual.
- (2) The IHSAA By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation.
- (3) Frontier School Corporation Bylaws and Policies
- (4) Athletic Policies from nearby schools

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Athletics at Frontier Jr.- Sr. High School

A. To Our Athletes

Being a member of a Frontier athletic team is the fulfillment of an early ambition for 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 overnight; it takes the hard work of many people over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad of Frontier Jr. - Sr. High School, you have inherited a wonderful tradition, a tradition you are challenged to uphold.

Our tradition has been to win with honor. We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our school and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. Over many years our teams have achieved their fair share of recognition. It will not be easy to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. When you wear the colors of your school, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but also 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.

- 1. 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 Jr. - Sr. High School experiences. Your academic studies, your participation in other extra curricular activities as well as in sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.
- 2. Responsibilities to Your School:** Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. Frontier Jr. - Sr. High School cannot maintain its position as having an outstanding school unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in athletics to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school. You assume the leadership role when you are on an athletic team. 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/court. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make Frontier Jr. - Sr. High School proud of you, and your community proud of your school, by your faithful exemplification of these ideals.
- 3. Responsibilities to Others:** As a member of an athletic team, you also bear a responsibility to your home. If you never give your parents anything to be ashamed of, you will have measured up to the ideal. When you know in your heart that you have lived up to all of the training rules, that you have practices to the best of your ability every day, and that you have played the game "all out", you can keep your self-respect and your family can be justly proud of you. The younger students at Frontier are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Don't do anything to let them down. Set good examples for them.

B. To The Parent(s)

This material is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics and 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 assists students in personal adjustments. We, who are concerned with the educational development of our students through athletics, feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets the students' needs 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 and self-denial. These are the reasons we place such stress on good training habits and positive behavior. Failure to comply with the rules of training and conduct means exclusion from the team. This concept of self-discipline and self-denial is tempered by our responsibility to recognize the rights of the individual within the objectives of the team. There is no place in 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.

When your son/daughter enlisted in one of our sports programs, he/she committed our staff to certain responsibilities and obligations, which are:

1. To provide adequate equipment and facilities.
2. To provide well trained coaches.
3. To provide equalized contests with skilled officials.

Likewise, we feel that you have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies that are necessary for a well-organized program of athletics. It is the role of the department of athletics to make rules that govern the spirit of competition for the school. These rules need a broad basis of community support, which is achieved only through communication to the parent(s). It is our hope to accomplish this objective through this athletic publication for students and parents.

PARENTS' CODE

Parents should remember:

- * Children have more need of example than criticism.
- * Make athletic participation for your child and others a positive experience.
- * Attempt to relieve the pressure of competition, not to increase it. A child is easily affected by outside influences.
- * Be kind to your child's coach and to officials. The coach is providing valuable community service often without reward other than the personal satisfaction of having served the community.
- * The opponents are necessary friends. Without them your child could not participate.
- * Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.

Between the exuberance of the winner and the disappointment of the loser we find a person called a referee. All of them follow the same creed to watch every move of every player and to call the game to the best of his/her ability.

- * Do not openly question his/her judgment and never the honesty.
- * Accept the results of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship.
- * Accept the results of each game. Encourage the child to:
 - a. Be gracious in victory, and
 - b. Turn defeat to victory by working towards improvements.

Parental evaluation carries a great deal of weight with the pre-adolescent. The attitude shown by parents at games towards the child, the opposing team, the officials and the coach influence the child's values and behavior in sports.

Parent (Fan) Decorum

Frontier Community Schools will not condone or permit inappropriate parental behavior directed toward Frontier staff or players, the opposing school and all its representatives, or the game officials. Such behavior by parents can cause the school to suffer severe sanctions from the IHSAA and is embarrassing to the school and reflects poorly on our values as a community.

Frontier High School supports the IHSAA rules and emphasis on good sportsmanship. We embrace this fully by definition and in spirit of intent. Proper human courtesies, kindness and decorum must apply to all relationships and situations, and sports are no exception. High school sports exist to build character, allow students to express themselves through physical exertion, and as entertainment. There is no place for poor behavior toward anyone. Parents need to understand certain facets of the structure of high school athletics and the relationship involved.

There is no inherent right to participate.

By allowing one's child to participate in sports, the parent is, in effect, turning the child over to that coach for that time period. The coach, as is naturally assumed, will instruct the child and keep the child safe within normally expected standards.

Coaches are professional and, until proven otherwise, it is assumed that they are operating within the best interests of all student athletes in their charge.

It is inappropriate for a parent to confront a coach after a practice or event. Parents should wait until the next day and schedule a meeting with the coach. This will help avoid conflict at a potentially emotional time.

Making derogatory comments about the officials, coaches, players of either team or other parents and fans at an athletic event is never acceptable.

Swearing in public at athletic events is never acceptable.

Coming to an athletic event intoxicated is not acceptable.

Being offensive in any fashion is not acceptable.

Parents who violate any of the above standards of decorum risk sanctions by the School Corporation including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1- A warning, verbal or written.
- 2- Removal from the contest or premises.
- 3- Banishment from attendance at athletic contests for a short period of time or even permanently.
- 4- The severing of further contact with team personnel.
- 5- Civil or legal action could result.

In conclusion, we commend those parents who have always exhibited exemplary behavior and who, by such, have served as positive role models for our student-athletes. We encourage our parents to volunteer, to become involved with the teams, and to be supportive of the attempts of the entire community to educate our youth. By working together, we will establish Frontier Schools and athletics as a "class" act. We sincerely want to strive to make sportsmanship at Frontier an exception where we let the players play, coaches coach, officials officiate, and let fans be positive.

Athletic Philosophy

Athletics at Frontier Jr. – Sr. High School is an integral part of our school program. It is by far the broadest and most comprehensive component of our student activities program. The purpose of our athletic program is to provide opportunities for our students to learn and improve their individual skills in a competitive situation, to develop physical fitness and desirable habits of health and safety and to make meaningful friendships through team play. More importantly, we believe that athletics helps instill the meaning of sportsmanship, responsibility, respect and sacrifice. While we take great pride in winning, we do not condone "winning at any cost" and frown upon any and all pressure, which might tend to submerge good sportsmanship and good mental health beneath the desire to win. We expect our athletes and coaches at all times to represent our school and community in the finest possible manner. Athletic competition adds to our school spirit and helps all students and spectators as well as participants to develop pride in their school.

Objectives of Participation

To enable the athletic program of the Frontier Community Schools to function for the greatest good to all concerned, the following objectives should be kept in mind:

- A. To contribute to the general school program.
- B. 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. The laboratory should provide adequate and natural opportunities for:
 1. Physical, mental, emotional, and moral growth and development.
 2. Acquisition and development of special skills in activities of each student's choice.
 3. Team play with the development of such commitments as loyalty, cooperation, fair play and other desirable social traits.
 4. Directed leadership and supervision that stress self-discipline, self-motivation, excellence, and the ideals of good sportsmanship that make for winning and losing graciously.
 5. A focus of interests on activity programs for student body, faculty, and community that will generate a feeling of unity.
 6. Achievement of initial goals as set by the school in general and the student as an individual.
 7. Provisions for worthy use of leisure time in later life either as a participant or spectator.
- C. To strive always for playing excellence that will produce winning teams within the bounds of good sportsmanship and mental health of the student athlete.
- D. To provide opportunity for a student to experience success in an activity he or she selects.
- E. To provide sufficient activities to have an outlet for a wide variety of student interest and abilities.
- F. To provide activities which offer the greatest benefits for the greatest number of students.
- G. To create a desire to succeed and excel.
- H. To develop high ideals of fairness and respect in all human relationships.
- I. To practice self-discipline and emotional maturity in learning to make decisions under pressure.
- J. To be socially competent and operate within a set of rules, thus gaining respect for the rights of others.
- K. To develop proper work habits that will lead to outstanding scholastic achievement.

Administrative Organization of the Frontier Athletic Program

A.

Chain of Command

- 1. Board of Education:** The Board of Education, responsible to the people, is the ruling agency for the Frontier Community School System. It is responsible for interpreting the needs of the community and requirements to the professional organization. Additional responsibilities include:
 - a. developing policies in accordance with state educational needs and wishes of the people;
 - b. approving means by which professional staff may make these policies effective; and
 - c. evaluating the interscholastic athletic program in terms of its value to the community.
- 2. Superintendent of Schools:** The Superintendent is responsible to administer the schools according to adopting policies of the Board of Education, rules and regulations of the State Department of Education, and in accordance with state school codes. The Superintendent shall represent the school system, as its chief executive officer and its foremost professional educator in its dealings with other school systems, social institutions and businesses.
- 3. Jr. – Sr. High School Principal:** The Principal is the official representative of the school and is directly responsible for the general attitude of the student body and the conduct of the athletic affairs by the Athletic Director and the coach. It is his/her duty to establish a definite school athletic policy and to have an understanding of that policy. By delegation and by established precedent, the school Principal is the official school representative in matters dealing with the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA). The Principal is solely responsible for any official action taken by his/her school.
- 4. Athletic Director:** The Athletic Director is directly responsible to the Principal. The primary responsibility of the Athletic Director is the administration and supervision of the interscholastic athletic program in the Frontier Community School System. The Athletic Director's duties will be those described in his/her job description and any others as designated. He/she will provide the leadership necessary for the day-to-day operation of the athletic department.
- 5. Head Coaches:** All Head Coaches shall be responsible to the Athletic Director for the total operation of their respective sports programs. Head Coaches shall act as official representatives of the school as they carry out there interscholastic athletic responsibilities. Head Coaches will be responsible for the normal duties required of interscholastic competition, those described in the coach's job description, and/or any duties delegated by the Athletic Director.

B.

Definition of the Administrative Chain

1. Superintendent of Schools:

- a. Is ultimately responsible for all phases of the public school program.
- b. Delegates his/her power of administration of the interscholastic athletic program through the High School Principal to the Athletic Director.

2. Jr. – Sr. High School Principal:

- a. Is responsible for all activities affecting students in his/her building.
- b. Is closely involved with the operation of the athletic program.

3. Athletic Director:

- a. Directs the operation of the athletic program.
 1. Is responsible for all schedules.
 2. Is responsible for transportation.
 3. Is responsible for all schedule changes.
- b. Supervises all coaches.
- c. Evaluates the athletic program and the athletic staff.
- d. Participates in budget preparation for the athletic program.

4. Coaches:

- a. Represents the school in interscholastic activities.
- b. Conduct their work within the framework of the goals of the school system, the policies and procedures of the department of athletics, and the regulations of the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA).
- c. Strictly enforce eligibility rules.
- d. Determine team selections.
- e. Consider athletics as a part of the total educational program, encouraging athletes to work to their maximum ability in academics as well as sports.
- f. Exhibit proper and exemplary behavior at all times.
- g. Implement the Code of Conduct for student athletes.
- h. Are entirely responsible for the guidance of students in their charge.

5. Line of Authority:

- a. Superintendent of Schools
- b. Jr. - Sr. High School Principal
- c. Athletic Director
- d. Head Coach
- e. Assistant Coach
- f. Jr. High Coach

C.

The Athletic Council:

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of the athletic council is to integrate all interscholastic athletics of the Jr. – Sr. High School with the total educational program of the school system.
2. **Function:** The athletic council will establish athletic policy for the entire interscholastic athletic program of the school system, subject to the approval of the Board of Education. The athletic board will exist as an open forum for the discussion of the athletic concerns of the coaching staff and student athletes.
3. **Prohibited Functions:** The Athletic Council shall not function in any way that will interfere with the duties and responsibilities of the local superintendent or the Jr. – Sr. High School Principal or the Board of Education. The athletic council will not review any personnel for employment, re-employment, transfer of duties or termination of employment.