# HERITAGE SCHOOL



# ATHLETICS MANUAL 2016-2017

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **PROGRAM PROFILE**

**Mascot:** Eagles

Colors: Forest Green and White

**Motto:** Hupomone (hoop-uh-mah-ne)

Leagues: Texas Association of Private and Parochial School - TAPPS (9-12);

Independent

Schools Athletic League – ISAL (6-8); South Texas Football Conference –

STFC (6-8)

**Varsity Classification:** TAPPS 1A

**Sports Offered:** Rhetoric – Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Track and Field, Tennis,

Cheerleading;

Logic – Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Track and Field, Tennis

## **State Champions**

Football – 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2014

Boys Track – 2005, 2007, 2008, 2012

Girls Track – 2012, 2013

Boys Tennis – 2014, 2015

Girls Tennis – 2014, 2015

Girls Doubles Tennis – 2012, 2013 2014, 2015

Boys Tennis – 2015, 2016

Girls Tennis – 2014, 2015

## State Runner-Up

Football – 2012, 2013

Boys Basketball – 2008

Boys Track – 2006, 2009, 2010, 2015

Girls Track – 2015

Boys Tennis – 2013

Girls Tennis – 2012

## State Semi-Finalist

Football -2006, 2010

Boys Basketball – 2005, 2006, 2009, 2013

#### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Athletic Program at Heritage School exists to guide the young people involved to a better understanding of their relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Many circumstances arise in preparation for and during athletic competition that offer opportunities for God's principles to be applied in the lives of the athletes. A goal of Heritage School is to seize these opportunities. Dedicated coaches help young people relate the victories and defeats, the hard work and teamwork to their daily walk with the Lord.

"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance, for you serve the Lord Jesus Christ." – **Colossians 3:23-24** 

This verse states the philosophy of athletics for Heritage School, in that everything that we do within the athletic department will be done unto our Lord Jesus Christ. Our staff, athletes, fans, and parents are to glorify the name of Jesus Christ by their words, attitudes, and actions, both on and off of the field or court. We must provide opportunities of Christian encouragement and discipline for our students through our athletic programs. All policies and procedures that are brought out by the athletic department are done so with the intent of teaching and instilling Christ-like qualities in the students for them to put into use in their daily lives.

## **RULES S AND GUIDELINES**

## **Team Level Philosophy**

We recognize the normal stages of a student's development and provide appropriate training opportunities in the athletic program. Just as with each academic subject, each sport in athletics has its grammar, logic, and rhetoric. We will strive to teach the grammar of the game first (fundamental skills and techniques, basic rules, etc.), building on what is learned toward the logic of the particular sport (offensive and defensive plays/sets, strategies, schemes, etc.).

Finally, student-athletes, typically at the varsity level, will be presented with opportunities to express themselves in creative decision-making at the rhetoric level of their game.

## Logic School Athletic Program (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades)

At this level we strive to further a love for the game, continue to develop fundamental skills, and help athletes begin to understand and execute strategies and schemes particular to each sport. All athletes who desire to be a part of a team will be given the opportunity; however, playing time is at the discretion of the coach. At the logic school level of competition, coaches are encouraged to give ample playing time to each athlete as opportunities present themselves. Equal playing time for each team member is not mandatory.

## Rhetoric School Athletic Program (9th-12th grades)

Once a student-athlete achieves this level, he/she strives for the best performance possible with a focus on excellence in execution. Players are put in positions to derive the most from their athletic talent, cultivate leadership skills, and understand their responsibility to the team. Each head coach will put the collective efforts of the team ahead of individual achievement and will take knowledge, ability to execute, attitude, conduct, and safety into consideration when it comes to playing time.

Athletes should not assume that they are guaranteed a spot on a varsity team simply because they participated on the same team in previous years. Creation and size of teams is determined by many factors including but not limited to the number of participants interested in a sport, facility availability, safety, and coaching resources. Whatever we do we want to do it well. Decisions will be made on a season-by-season, team-by-team basis with the goal being to provide a healthy experience for all parties involved.

## HERITAGE ATHLETICS CLASS INFORMATION

## **Consequences for Disruptive Behavior**

- 1. Is a student is disruptive in class:
  - For the first offense the student will be redirected to the group activity at hand.
- 2. If the disruption continues, student(s) involved will choose one of the following consequences:
  - 10 pushups or
  - 10 sit ups
  - Or one lap of running

Following which, the student(s) will return to group activity.

3. If the disruption repeats again on the same day the consequence doubles for each offense.

## **ABSENCES**

Students must report to Athletics class each day the class meets. If a student is not able to participate in Athletics class:

- The student must report to Athletics class and sign the Absence book.
- It is understood that matters arise where participation can be affected. If a repetitive pattern of non-participation develops, The Athletics teacher will require a doctor's note indicating why the student cannot participate.
- If the student does not report to Athletics with an excuse for not participating, the student is considered absent. "Just not feeling it" will not be accepted.

If a student is too ill to report to Athletics class or immobile, the student(s) must report to April Klepac and sign the Athletics class absence book at the front desk.

## **Absences Affecting Athletic Participation**

- Student athletes must arrive at school **no later than noon** the day of the practice or game in order to play.
- The only exception to this rule is an absence caused due to a school event (field trip, college visit, etc.).
- If a student athlete is absent due to a fever, it is recommended that athletic participation is suspended a minimum of 24 hours.

## Absence for Reasons Other Than Confinement or Disabling Illness of Self or Immediate Family

• If a student is absent from school for a period of more than ten consecutive school days for reasons other than a disabling illness or injury or disabling illness or injury of a an immediate family member, that student will be ineligible for the remainder of the semester or until the student has been in attendance for the same number of days the student was absent. The Head of School will have final authority to over-rule this policy depending upon individual circumstances.

The level of activity in athletics may be more strenuous for some students than that to which they are accustomed. Athletics will start off slow and when necessary there will be multiple options depending on the level of fitness. The goal is to help our students develop good lifelong exercise habits and help them reach their full potential. Students will be encouraged to set goals for the year and our goal will be to help students meet those goals.

If a student is struggling with the difficulty of an activity:

- Go to the Athletics Director (AD)/teacher and explain that the activity is too difficult.
- Students are encouraged to have the conversation with the AD first.
- Soreness from a workout is a very normal part of the building process.
- They are encouraged to have that same conversation with their parents.
- Parents are encouraged to contact the Athletic Director if concerns arise.
  - o If parents have specific concerns or limitations with regards to a child's health, please email the AD with your concerns as soon as possible.
    - For example, inform the AD if your student has asthma and uses an inhaler regularly. It is the responsibility of the student to bring that inhaler to athletics every day.
    - If a student repeatedly forgets to bring the inhaler to Athletics class as reason for not participating, the AD will have a discussion with the student and/or the parent.

The AD's goal is to establish a good communication with the athletes and foster an environment that allows each student to feel comfortable communicating through challenging situations. Before expressing concern to parents about a hard work-out, students should first come to the AD. Students need to feel comfortable talking to the AD and working through issues. The AD welcomes the participation and input of parents, but prefers that students work issues through the AD, personally, before parents get involved.

## **Weight Room Expectations**

Managing expectations regarding the weight room is important. Initially, students will work outside the weight room. A remodel of the weight room is being planned so that it can accommodate more students and opportunities for all ages. This year junior high and high school athletics are combined. It becomes a safety issue having such a big difference in needs with this range of students as well as limited space.

- Students in the current sport(s) will have priority in the weight room.
- The weight room is not a jungle gym.
- The "sit up push up or run activity" will be enforced if students are found lifting or horsing around with the weights when it is not the assigned activity.
- Students will be taught good form and will be supervised to prevent injury or accident.

It is very exciting to know that there will be improvements in the future which will benefit all our students with the expansion and renovation of the weight room.

## **Additional Important Information**

- Because many activities require stretching and working out activities on the ground, each student needs to bring a yoga mat or towel, daily.
- Students are also encouraged to bring a Nalgene or water bottle.
- The student's name should be on the yoga mat, towel and the water bottle.
- There will be a place to store these items in Lion's Den.

## **Uniform Return**

The uniform return policy will be distributed after school begins.

#### **Conflict**

If a student has a conflict within a sport the first line of communication should be between the student and the coach of that sport.

If resolution is not achieved, contact the AD. A meeting will be arranged to try to resolve the conflict.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Every Heritage student in grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> will be participating Physical Education (P.E.) as a required course. All students in grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> will need to provide a Physical Examination form and Medical History form the first week of school, clearing the student for participation in P.E.

Each Heritage student-athlete desiring to participate in Heritage Eagle Athletics must have the following completed and signed documents on file with the Athletic Director prior to practicing or participating in any sport.

_Physical Examination form & medical history form (clearing the athlete for participation)
_TAPPS Acknowledgement of Rules form (grades 9-12 only)
_Heritage Eagle Athletic Covenant/waiver/permission to treat
_Steroid Use Agreement

Athletes may not begin team practices without physical and medical history forms. All of the aforementioned documents can be found on the Heritage website, in hard copy form in the

Athletics Office, or by contacting the Athletic Director – Coach Tami Given @ Tami.Given@heritage-school.net or 830-997-6597

In addition to the above required documentation, a student-athlete must not have any outstanding athletic fee payments or unreturned uniform/equipment items. IMPORTANT – no student-athlete will be allowed to go to his/her next sport if either fees or uniforms have not been turned in.

## **Age/Grade Eligibility**

For participation in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7th or 8th grade sports, students must be enrolled full-time at Heritage.

For participation in TAPPS sports (grades 9-12) students must be less than 19 years old on September 1<sup>st</sup> and enrolled in at least 4 classes. Students have 4 years of eligibility between 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Eligibility begins in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The clock does not stop or go backwards.

## **Academic Requirements**

Our athletic program exists as an integral part of the whole education, never in place of or in competition with the academic curriculum. Since work habits and conduct relate to character development and are standards of the Word of God regardless of one's individual talents and abilities, these are the areas in which we place the greatest emphasis for eligibility. Academic achievement in the various subjects is also very important, and if a student is not achieving a passing grades a priority should be placed here. Please remember that eligibility is a status that the students establish for themselves. It is not assigned by the athletic director, teacher, or administrator. Therefore it cannot be reinstated by any of these individuals either. The student determines his or her eligibility status. The guidelines that determine eligibility are as follows:

- 1. The student must not have any academic grade below 70 at the end of the grading period.
- 2. The student must maintain the majority of work habits/conduct/character grades in the E, S, or I categories.
- 3. The student's academic eligibility is reviewed at the end of each quarter.
- 4. If a student-athlete receives a failing grade on their report card, they will be ineligible to participate in games for two weeks. They will be allowed to participate in practices at the discretion of their parents. At the end of two weeks, if the course they were previously failing is once again at 70 or above the athlete will have re-established their eligibility.
- 5. If at the end of the two week period the student is still failing the course in question, they will remain ineligible for another two weeks at which time their grade will be checked again. This process will continue in two week increments until the end of the quarter at which time report cards are once again distributed and the process begins again.

Note: Families will have different standards for the grades of their children. Some will have higher standards. We respectfully request that families of athletes allow their child to participate if they are eligible by Heritage standards. This allows everyone to be on an even playing field.

A student who misses school to participate in an athletic competition is responsible for keeping up with his or her schoolwork. Any work that is due during a period that the student will miss should be turned in before the class period. (See planned & unplanned absences in the *Parent-Student Handbook*.) Any tests that the student will miss should be taken ahead of time if possible. Otherwise, the student is responsible for working out an arrangement with the teacher ahead of time for making up the test. *Under no circumstances should a student fail to talk—at least a day ahead of time—with a teacher whose class he or she will miss*.

## **Participation**

Participating in athletics is a privilege and is contingent on the following:

## • Clearance from previous sport

Student-athletes must be cleared from their prior sport before they can begin competing in a new sport. This includes, but is not limited to, being current on athletic fees, uniform and/or equipment maintained in good condition and checked in, post-season forms completed, etc.

## • In good academic and moral standing

Student-athletes may not participate in games if they have failed to achieve the minimum academic requirement. Student-athletes who or are suspended from school may not participate in practices or games during their suspension.

## • Practice and game attendance

Absences from practices will hinder skill development and physical conditioning as well as jeopardize team unity. Time missed from team practices will adversely influence an athlete's performance and often his/her position with the team. When a personal or social event conflicts with a practice or game, we expect students to honor their commitment to the athletic program and their teammates. When a family event causes the student-athlete to be absent from a practice, the situation should be communicated to the coach at the earliest possible moment, preferably at the beginning of the season and not the same day of the conflict. (This does not include family emergencies, which are unpredictable and managed differently.) Coaches do

have the option to expect students to make up conditioning for any and all practices missed. This is make up work and not punishment. Just as we fall behind in class-work and make up that which is missed, the same principal applies in athletics.

## **TRYOUTS**

Tryouts allow coaches to place like-skilled players together which aids in each player's development. Coaches reserve the right to pull players up from lower level teams at any time. Important – a roster spot on any one team in a previous year does not guarantee the same spot on the same team in the current year.

## TIME COMMITMENTS

## **Logic School Sports (6th -8<sup>th</sup> grades)**

Five days a week commitment consisting of three practices and two games or four practices and one game. (EXCEPTION – tournaments are typically two to four games over one to three days.) Practices and/or games may be held on Saturdays depending on league scheduling. Practices and games will not be held on Sundays.

## Rhetoric School Sports (9th -12th grades)

Five to six days a week commitment. No games will be held on Sundays. We will do our best to avoid Wednesday games as well. Practices and/or games may be held on Saturdays and across some school holidays depending on the sport and season. No games will be played during semester or final exams. No practices or games of any kind will be held during five consecutive days including December 24-26, and during Good Friday through Easter Sunday. No practices or games will be held on Sunday.

## **MULTIPLE SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES**

We encourage athletes to be well rounded, participating in different activities both athletically and otherwise. Different sports challenge athletes in different ways, and the skills and techniques developed through the training methods used in one sport will often help the athlete in another sport.

## **Multiple Sport Participation**

Student-athletes may participate in *no more than two team sports at the same time*. Also, to participate in two sports simultaneously, they must have permission from parents as well as the head coaches of both sports. Positive and open communication between the student-athlete, his/her parents, and the two coaches involved are invaluable.

## **Multiple Activity Participation**

Student-athletes may participate in a non-athletic activity (i.e. drama, debate, etc.) and on an athletic team at the same time if leadership from both activities gives permission to do so. Leadership will work to provide solutions that benefit both activities in the spirit of cooperation and "team spirit". Leadership from both activities will work closely together to minimize conflict; however, they reserve the right to require, on rare occasion, sole commitment to their activity. Where there is dual commitment and schedule conflict, there must be a declared priority and agreements made between student, parents, and team or department leadership. The decision to participate in multiple sports or multiple activities should ultimately be decided by the parents and student in consultation with the leadership of those activities.

#### ATHLETIC UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE

Student-athletes are issued team uniforms and are expected to take good care of the uniforms. If a student-athlete is missing a uniform or uniform piece the coach of that team will assign the appropriate discipline. If a uniform is lost and cannot be found, another uniform will be issued (if available) once the lost uniform has been paid for in full. Damaged uniform pieces will need to be replaced at the expense of the student-athlete. The athlete will be notified of the cost to replace the uniform. Coaches will communicate team dress code when traveling to an away game.

Students are also required to be in uniform at practices. The required uniform will either be....

- 1. Designated uniform provided by Heritage for the sport in question.
- 2. The athletic period shirt and shorts that all Heritage student/athletes are required to purchase.

The wearing of correct uniforms will be enforced in the athletic period as well as after school practices and events.

## **Uniform Responsibility**

All uniforms and equipment that we have are viewed as gifts from God and we ask that those who are issued these items to view them the same way. Uniforms are one of our largest expenditures as an athletic department, so it is important that we try to maximize the life of these items. With that in mind, we ask that athletes and parents use the following guidelines when cleaning and caring for uniforms that they are issued:

- 1. Wash separately.
- 2. Wash in cold water.
- 3. Line dry Do NOT tumble dry!
- 4. Do not make alterations unless given permission by the Athletic Director.

## **Returning Uniforms and Equipment**

Athletes are expected to return all items issued in the same condition in which they were received. All clothing should be washed and folded to assist in the inventory process. Athletes that return items that are in a damaged beyond what can be expected from the normal wear-and-tear of the season may be charged the replacement cost for the uniform/equipment at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

#### **SCHEDULING**

The athletic department does its best to schedule games and practices well in advance of the season. Because we cannot control league changes or changes made by an opponent when we travel to their home court/field, changes to schedules will inevitably occur. Additionally, since many of our coaches are work on a part-time stipend basis, there will most likely be a few changes throughout the season due to their work and family commitments. We appreciate your patience as these things arise.

#### **TRAVEL**

All athletes must travel in designated vehicles to games. Most travel will consist of parent transportation, or occasionally taking the school's bus or a charter bus. After a game, an athlete may leave with his/her parents or another family as long as the coaches and the driver who brought the student-athlete are notified. It is a violation of school policy for a student to drive another student(s) to any school event.

## SEVERE/INCLEMENT WEATHER

Any changes to published schedules due to bad weather will be updated at our school office and on our website (<a href="www.heritage-school.net">www.heritage-school.net</a>) as soon as a definite decision can be made. If lightning is present during an outdoor event, all parties must be moved indoors. The event can be resumed only if 30 minutes has passed since the last visual evidence of lightning. For outdoor practices, heat and humidity are monitored.

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

All student-athletes are expected to be good stewards of all equipment, facilities and uniforms entrusted to them. Locker rooms, weight room, and training room are expected to be kept clean and orderly at all times. Student-athletes should use only assigned lockers to store their uniform, equipment, and personal items.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Sportsmanship embodies everything expected from the Heritage student-athlete, including character, integrity, work ethic, attitude, respect, humility, and honor. The ideal at Heritage is to strive to be the type of competitor against whom we would want to compete. We want our athletes to exhibit a Christ-like character even within the bounds of stringent competition.

During home contests, we serve as hosts to the visiting team, its students, and spectators. They are our guests, and they should be treated accordingly. At away contests, we are expected to act as invited guests. We will treat the home school's personnel and facilities with care and respect. As participants and spectators, we want to cheer for our team, not against the opponent, being modest and gracious in both victory and defeat. Officials will be treated with respect, and we will accept absolutely and without quarrel the final decision of any official.

Any member of the Heritage community who is a participant or spectator at an event, who uses profanity, engages in inappropriate behaviors such as fighting or similar misconduct will be dismissed from the event and is subject to disciplinary action by the school.

Without a doubt, parents are the most influential models for young athletes. From a parent's conduct to the place sports plays in the family order of life priorities, parents make the biggest impact on a young person's athletic experience. Not only are parents influential, they are critical to the success of our athletic programs. The athletic department needs parents to come alongside all sports' teams to serve in one or more of a variety of volunteer positions throughout the year. Operations managers, travel coordinators, drivers, overnight chaperones, statisticians, videographers, concessions, admissions, field/gym preparation or close-down are just a few of the opportunities that provide much needed help and good community time between parents. Serving the athletic department also sets a good example for our student-athletes. The guidelines that follow are an attempt to provide a foundation for our joint effort to guide your sons and daughters through the challenging yet wonderful experience of Heritage School sports.

#### PRESENCE AT GAMES

It is important to student-athletes that, if possible, parents attend games, both home and away. Parents' attendance tells the child that the parents care and that they want to share in the joys and frustrations which are a part of competition. It also gives parents an opportunity to develop a bond with their child and other parents, and to observe the progress their child achieves throughout the season.

Unless specifically requested by the coach to be on the sideline or bench, family and/or fans are requested to remain in the stands, encouraging and cheering on the team.

## PARENT COACHING

We respectfully request that parents who are not on the Heritage coaching staff avoid coaching their children from the bleachers or sideline. This causes great confusion for an athlete as they know both parties are expecting them to obey. This does not negate your opportunity to enjoy sports in the backyard with your son or daughter. However, we do ask that as you are enjoying family time, please help enforce the same fundamentals being taught by the coach.

## PART TIME COACHING

If any entity is interested in serving as a volunteer coach, he/she should communicate directly with the Athletic Director about the needs and possibilities of serving before assuming any coaching responsibility for a team under the banner of Heritage Eagle Athletics.

#### PRESENCE AT TRYOUTS

Tryouts, which are also considered valuable instructional and evaluation time, are closed to all non-team or program personnel, unless previously approved by the Head Coach. Invited guests

are expected to refrain from disrupting tryout sessions and from interacting with players and/or coaches.

#### PRESENCE AT PRACTICES

There is no policy in regard to parental presence at practices. This is left to the discretion of the coach. However, if practice is deemed open by the coach, parents are expected to watch from the bleachers. We respectfully ask that parents or other present entities not affiliated with Heritage Eagle Athletics refrain from instructing athletes, and confronting/questioning coaches at practices.

**Note:** All parents of athletes will be expected to help serve the athletic department at some point during their child's season. This service will be coordinated through the Booster Club and their leaders.

## **COACH AS LEADER**

Each coach is prayerfully and thoughtfully considered, recruited, interviewed, and approved by the Athletic Director and/or Head of School and therefore has the authority over our children in each given sport. Parents and student-athletes must trust that coaches try to make the best decisions for the team as well as the individuals that make up the team. Coaches are with the team on a daily basis in practice and in competition, evaluating character and performance, and therefore will make judgment decisions based on what they believe is in the best interest of the team. Playing time, players' positions, events, and strategy should be left to the discretion of the coach. Parents are more than welcome to ask a coach why they have their child in a certain position, event, etc. However, once the coach answers the question the issue should no longer be pushed. Parents should help their child understand that being a team member means maturely accepting the coach's decisions even when he or she does not agree with them.

It is also important to remember that neither coaches nor parents are infallible evaluators of talent, nor are either perfect play-callers. A team does not function well with non-coaches trying to coach. Parents should not place a child in the very difficult position of having to decide who they are going to listen to, their coach or their parent. Yielding to authority is a biblical lesson that our children will learn for years to come. The coach's classroom is the court or field, usually with undefined walls, which makes it easy for parents to naturally move close to the action. Parents should be interested, supportive observers from a distance. The coach needs room to be able to instruct and the player to perform without distraction from the stands. Distraction only yields poor results. Cheer them on, yes! Coach or yell at them, no!

Direct communication between the coach and players is very important, and is usually the best way for any questions to be answered or conflicts to be worked through. Inevitably, there will be times when a meeting between a parent and coach is warranted. Please call or e-mail the coach to arrange a convenient time for a phone conversation or meeting. Try to exercise the 24-hour rule – wait 24 hours before placing that call or sending that email. Too often our emotions get the best of us. And remember, before, during, or after practices or games is never an appropriate time to approach a coach. Coaches will be happy to meet with you, but it may be a few days before a convenient time can be arranged. Please try to arrange an appointment during hours that are convenient for a coach and let them know ahead of time what you would like to discuss.

A meeting with the coach is an opportunity to exchange information and respectfully discuss any concerns or questions that you may have. Hopefully the meeting will promote better understanding and communication, but the meeting should not be viewed as an opportunity to convince the coach that your child should be playing more, playing a different position, or that the coach should be employing a different strategy. After the meeting, just as before the meeting, your support of the team and the coach is expected.

If there is a significant issue that you believe requires additional discussion, then the Athletic Director, coach, and parents can meet together to resolve the issue.

If issues cannot be resolved after meeting with the Athletic Director, then a meeting involving the Head of Upper School, along with the Athletic Director, coach, and parents should take place. Any remaining unresolved or escalated issues should be taken to the Head of School as a last resort.

## **COMMUNICATION - EXTERNAL**

All press releases must be approved by the Athletic Director or his/her appointed contact person within the athletic department (calling in box scores to the local newspaper is not considered a press release and should be the responsibility of the Head Coach or his/her appointed contact person). Please do not damage the relationship our school has with media outlets by harassing them for lack of press coverage of our athletic events.

Parents should never contact opposing schools, officials, or the TAPPS office to voice complaints over athletic contests, opposing players, coaches or fans, or officials. All concerns and/or opinions should be communicated directly with the Heritage Athletic Director.

## **ATHLETIC FEES**

Athletic fees are billed to each individual family's account. The fee schedule may change according to the current school year. Athletic fees assist in funding the general needs of the athletic department.

#### **TAPPS**

Heritage participates in the Texas Association of Private and Parochial (TAPPS) for grades 9-12 in the sports of football, volleyball, basketball, track, and tennis. TAPPS is one of the largest state associations of private schools in the nation with over 250 member schools that compete in five classifications. The purpose of TAPPS is to organize, stimulate, encourage and promote the academic, athletic, and fine arts programs in an effort to foster a spirit of fair play, good fellowship, true sportsmanship and wholesome competition for the 38,000 boys and girls in its member schools.

Parents may film or videotape any game in which their son/daughter participates, but the film/videotape may not be viewed by the athlete or coaches until the game is over. Parents may not film or videotape any contest in which their son/daughter is not participating.

No member of the Heritage community should engage in the inducement of non-Heritage students for the sole purpose of athletic participation. Inducement includes but is not limited to providing or arranging the payment of tuition, lodging, transportation, payments of cash or promise of a college scholarship.

#### PROGRAM ADDITION

Heritage Eagle Athletics supports and allows a variety of school sponsored athletic activities in varying degrees as long as each is aligned with the purpose and mission of the program. Because there are numerous ways to satisfy the purpose and mission of the school, the leadership of the school seeks to align the whole collection of activities in accordance to the current and expected future resources that God has provided at Heritage. Resources in this context include but are not limited to items such as number of students interested, overall number of students enrolled, leadership, teachers, parents, time, money, facilities, and leagues.

A new team sport is established when there is reasonable evidence that a program can be fielded consistently over a number of years without negatively impacting other athletic programs currently functioning under the banner of Heritage Eagle Athletics.

Additional sports will be offered as the interest and size of the school increase. In addition, the school will expand the number of teams within each sport as the interest and population increases.

Families should understand that all program addition questions and efforts must be run through the Athletic Director.

#### **BOOSTER CLUB**

The Booster Club is an organization within the athletic department made up primarily of parents that provide additional help and support in the running of the overall athletic program. The

Booster Club meets on a regular basis and is organized by elected officers who work closely with the Athletic Director to help cover the many needs of the athletic department. Anyone wishing to join and serve on the Booster Club can contact the school for more information.

## **BRANDING**

Any and all team or fan apparel, or publications bearing the Heritage School/Heritage Eagle Athletic name or logos should be approved by the Heritage School athletic director and contain only Heritage approved logos, brands, etc.

## CALL, TEXT, AND APPOINTMENT TIMES

It is important to recognize appropriate and inappropriate times to make phone calls. Most of our coaches are husbands, wives, moms, and dads as well. Each of us realizes that there is no off-season in the activity of parenting. Please call or text coaches during daytime hours and refrain from calling and texting during evening hours (unless otherwise directed by the coach in question) so that they may enjoy the time spent with their families. Also, if a parent desires to set an appointment with a coach to discuss an issue, please do not expect the coach to do this in the evening hours or right after practice (unless otherwise directed by the coach in question).

## **CONCLUSION**

It is our hope that this manual has addressed and answered many if not all of your questions regarding our athletic department. If at any point you have any other questions that are still not answered or are unclear, then please feel free to contact us for a meeting.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us. We look forward to the privilege and responsibility of serving you and your family.



## ATHLETICS POLICIES ACKNOWLEGEMENT, WAIVER, & PERMISSION TO TREAT FORM

## (PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO THE ATHLETIC OFFICE)

I/we have received, read, and understand the *Heritage Eagle Athletic Policies* for the 2016-2017 school year, and I/we agree to abide by its rules and guidelines.

By signing this form I agree to allow my child to be treated by a physician if he or she is injured and I am not available to give verbal permission.

PRINT NAME (Student-Athlete)	Grade				
SIGNATURE (Student-Athlete)	Date				
Parent Name	Date				
Parent Signature	Date				
FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY					
Athletic Policies Acknowledgement Page	Yes No				
Medical History & Physical Examination form (cleared for participation) Yes No					
TAPPS Acknowledgement of Rules on file			Yes No		
Steroid use form			Yes No		
Approved by		Date			