

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Mission Statement:

The mission of Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc (aka Eagle Sports) is commitment to a long-term provision of an atmosphere that promotes the development of positive character traits, the encouragement of physical abilities, and the teaching of fundamental athletic skills, which promotes a lifetime of healthy habits.

Purpose Statement:

Eagle Sports was started with the goal of providing a competitive athletic program for the home-educating families of greater Augusta, Georgia. We know that physical education and team sports will provide a wide variety of valuable teaching opportunities to help us prepare our children for the future.

Home - educating families who have signed the appropriate forms at registration acknowledging their compliance with the eligibility requirements, code of conduct, and Eagle Sports' philosophy and expectations, and who have paid the Eagle Sports registration fee of \$25 for the academic year, are eligible to participate in an Eagle Sports program.

Eligibility Requirements:

This program is offered to male and female students. All students must be home schooled or have received a private-school exemption from the Eagle Sports Board of Directors (aka The Board) to play on a specific athletic team. Private-school students may qualify for an exemption if their school does not offer a particular sports team.

Age Requirements: In order to play on an Eagle Sports team, the student athlete must be age 11 by September 1st of the current academic year or remain the age of 19 or under by May 1st of the current academic year. Players will generally play on the youngest team for which they are eligible. Each student athlete will be placed on a specific team that is based on their age and talent level. At times, depending upon the roster and the player's age, we may not be able to fill an age team with enough players. A player may be asked to "play up" an age bracket, if feasible for everyone involved. Also, a player may be invited to "play up" by the coach. Only coaches can offer such an invitation, and the invitation will be mutually agreed to by all the coaches involved with the student athlete. It is up to the player's parents to determining if this is in the best interest of their child. Coaches will extend the invitation to the parents before the player.

Team General Age Breakdown**:

1. Middle School – ages 11-14 years old
2. Junior Varsity – ages 13-16 years old
3. Varsity – ages 13-19 years old

**Tournaments may vary in age requirements. Head coaches will determine which student athletes may compete in specific tournaments.

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. Policies

Medical Release Form Requirements: In order to play on an Eagles Sports' team, the student athlete must provide a medical release form from a health care professional. Exceptions will be dealt with on a case by case basis. If you desire an exception, please contact a team Committee member.

Medical Insurance Requirements: Each student athlete must have primary medical insurance in case of injury. Secondary insurance is incorporated into the registration fees which cover excess medical and liability for participation in Eagle Sports programs. Eagle Sports secondary insurance carrier is Terry L. Green & Associates, a division of Esports Insurance. Exceptions will be dealt with on a case by case basis. If you desire an exception, please contact a team Committee member.

Eagle Sports' Code of Conduct:

Eagle Sports promotes a wholesome family atmosphere for players and their families. Respect for coaches, referees, parents, teammates, and competitors is required. Parents and coaches should be the role models. This code of conduct is to be followed at all times by players, parents, and coaches. **Vulgar or abusive language, unsportsmanship like conduct, or fighting will not be tolerated.** Vandalism or destruction of equipment or property at game or practice sites will not be tolerated. The coaches, specific team Committee members and/or the Board members have the authority to place offending persons on disciplinary suspension.

It is Eagle Sports desire to build quality competitive teams. We believe competition serves to measure ability, hard work, determination, focus, training and teamwork; each of which we will strive to improve. Competition is a life tool. It can be used for good or harmful purposes. We will strive to harness competition for good.

Parents Code of Conduct:

1. I recognize that by allowing my child to play on an Eagle Sports team, I will be actively involved in the following ways:
 - I understand that regular participation at practice is MANDATORY. I understand that failure to attend normal scheduled practices may result in loss of playing time and possibly will incur reasonable discipline at the discretion of the coach. I will help my child get to practices and games ON TIME (meaning that when practices and/or games are scheduled to start, the player is dressed in the appropriate attire and ready to begin.)
 - I will encourage my child to abide by the code of conduct..
 - I understand that participation in Eagle Sports is an enormous undertaking and it will require the full dedication of not only the players but the parents. Thus, I understand that I must serve in volunteer capacities throughout the year, including but not limited to: fundraising, e-mail/contact coordinator, line judges, score keeper, concessions, gate keeper at games, special events coordinator, first aid, website coordinator, etc...
2. I understand and will abide by the Eagle Sports appeal process when I have a concern or grievance:
 - If I have an issue with an individual, I will go to that person seeking resolution at the appropriate time.
 - If I am not able to resolve the issue, I will speak with the individual and another team Committee member together.
 - If I am still not able to resolve the issue, I will speak with the individual, Committee member and a Board Member.
 - If we are still not able to resolve the issue, I understand the Director of the Board has the sole discretion as to whether the matter should be taken to the entire Board.

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. Policies

- **I will never corner a coach unannounced with my concern.** Instead, I will call the coach beforehand and set up a time that works for everyone. Under no circumstances, will I approach a coach with my concern during a game or practice, before a game or practice, and especially after losing a game.
3. I realize that I represent Eagle Sports just as distinctly as the players on a team. Therefore, I have an obligation to be a true sportsman as well as to encourage the practice of good sportsmanship. I understand that good sportsmanship involves applauding good team play, individual skill, and outstanding examples of sportsmanship and fair play exhibited by either team.
 4. I will respect the judgment of coaches and officials during games and realize that their decisions are based on fast moving game conditions as they observe them from their vantage point.

Athlete's Code of Conduct:

1. By joining my Eagle Sports team, I agree to uphold the following program rules:
 - I will listen to the instruction of my coaches.
 - I will attend all practices and games, and will arrive ON TIME. (See section on Absences and Punctuality.)
 - I will always notify my coach if I must miss a practice or a game.
 - I will show self-control by not participating in the use of profane language, alcohol, tobacco or drugs.
 - I will be courteous to visiting teams, officials and other adults.
 - I will respect the facilities of the host team and facilities in which I practice and compete in games.
 - I will follow the rules established by my team.
 - I will encourage my teammates and speak highly of them when talking to others.
 - I will be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat.
 - I will properly maintain any gear/uniforms issued to me during the season and return the items at the conclusion of the season.
 - I will abide by the following dress code:
 - I will not wear jewelry during practices or games,
 - I will maintain a clean-cut appearance during the season.

Coaches' Code of Conduct:

All coaches working within Eagle Sports organization are appointed and/or hired by the Board with the recommendation of the teams' Committee. Coaches must consent to a background check and agree to follow the rules of the organization. It is understood that their failure to do so is grounds for immediate release. Coaches are selected for their knowledge of their sport, their ability to relate to student athletes, and for their character and integrity. Eagle Sports understand that our players look up to these coaches as role models.

Eagles Sports Philosophy and Expectations:

All of us at Eagle Sports want this experience to be fun for all participants, but it is important to understand that "entertainment" is NOT our first objective. Instead, our primary objective is to teach our players the sport in which they are participating and to do this in an atmosphere that promotes the

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. Policies

development of Christian ideals and values. Furthermore, Eagle Sports believe that although extra-curricular programs are beneficial, academics should still come first. Thus, all must understand that students should prioritize their school day and keep a good attitude while finishing all required work. This being said, parents should find ways and times for children to do work and meet deadlines so that missing practices and/or games are not used as punishment mechanisms since such approaches hurt the entire team. Parents are encouraged to discuss their child's particular situation with the coach.

Playing Time:

Eagle Sports consists of competitive teams ranging from middle school to varsity high school sports. When players make the choice to play at a competitive level, they are leaving the traditional recreational approach of "everybody plays the same" and are moving towards a more "I'll rely on my ability and skill to earn playing time" concept. This said, Eagle Sports has a strong desire and responsibility to provide playing time to those who have earned it. The general rule will be that at the middle school level, all participants will be given some playing time, but as the competition level increases, the amount of playing time is determined by the athletes' abilities, competitive desire, team needs, and game situations. Players are encouraged to speak to the coach if they have questions regarding how they can increase their playing time.

Official Season:

Eagle Sports will publish the official season dates for each sport. These dates will be consistent with other quality home school programs across the country and will take into consideration the overlap of other Eagle Sports programs. A coach will not require a student athlete to participate in a new sport while they are involved with a sport that is in season.

Out of season clinics/conditioning programs:

Eagle Sports does encourage its players to develop the athletic skills required for their sport over the summer and off season. Thus, coaches may offer an off season activity that would be a positive activity for the players. However, participation in all out of season Eagles' clinics/conditioning programs are VOLUNTARY and the decision to participate resides with the parents and players.-

Discipline:

Discipline is a necessary part of any athletic training. It builds character and creates team unity. Giving 100% should be the goal of each player and coach. Specific disciplinary actions will be decided upon by the coach for a specific situation. At no time should a coach ever place a hand on an athlete for disciplinary reasons. We remind our team members, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Jesus Christ you are serving." Col. 3:23-24

Self-discipline is another necessary part of athletic training. Players on Eagle Sports teams are expected to be in good physical condition during the athletic season. Therefore, it is important that they maintain a fitness regimen throughout the year. The coaches will provide the players with directions regarding exercises that will help increase endurance, stamina, flexibility, and strength. Due to the limitation of practice facilities, players should be willing and prepared to exercise and train on their own.

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. Policies

Absences and Punctuality:

Regular participation at practice is MANDATORY. Failure to attend normal scheduled practices may result in loss of playing time and possibly incur reasonable discipline at the discretion of the coach. **Excuses for an absence include family emergencies or severe sickness such as fever or vomiting. In these instances, a parent or player should contact one of the coaches as soon as possible in order to make them aware of the situation.**

Uniform:

Each player will be issued a uniform by Eagle Sports. This equipment is owned by the teams, and not the individual players. Student athletes will receive the appropriate uniform for the sport upon fees being paid. A uniform agreement is to be signed by each player's parent/guardian, agreeing to return any and all equipment issued to their child by the team.

Natural wear and tear of equipment is expected, however, abuse or loss of equipment furnished by Eagle Sports, will not be tolerated. If this occurs, a fee will be assessed to repair or replace the equipment.

Team uniforms are to be worn neatly and as designed. The coach will determine the uniform requirements for practices and games, and all players must follow these guidelines. Eagle Sports reserves the right to define inappropriate attire worn by players during practices and while attending games.

Fundraising:

All Eagle Sports teams are under Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc., a non-profit organization. We have found that fundraising helps offset the extensive costs of the athletic teams. Specific fundraisers will be available each year for all players/families participation. Sponsorship forms are also available for businesses and/or family members who wish to make a tax deductible donation. Many volunteers are needed to make fundraisers successful for the team. If you have fundraising ideas, please see a committee member.

Communication:

The primary means of communicating information to Eagle Sports players and families is email and our website at www.eaglesportsathletics.com. The website calendar has the most current information on practice times and dates, scheduled games, as well announcements about other Eagle Sport activities and opportunities. Failure to check Eagle's website and own email is not an excuse for missing an announcement. (Any changes in email or phone number need to be immediately communicated to the coach and team committee member.) **PLAYERS AND FAMILIES SHOULD BE IN THE HABIT OF CHECKING THE WEB SITE AND EMAIL ON A DAILY BASIS.**

Program Participation Fees:

The participation fee will be published by each team Committee. This fee includes:

1. Administrative fees
2. Secondary insurance
3. Use of game uniforms
4. Cost of Court/Field rental
5. Officials
6. Compensation for coaches, if applicable

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. Policies

Additional costs may be incurred throughout the season beyond the initial registration fee and sport specific fee. These costs typically include, but are not limited to:

1. Transportation costs to and from practice/games
2. Meals before and after games
3. Additional personal equipment (optional)
4. Concession stand donations

Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc. Policies

I have completely read all the Policies and Information laid out by Eagle Sports of Greater Augusta, Inc., and I agree to abide by all the stated policies, requirements, expectations, and codes of conduct.

By registering my child and signing below, I hereby give my consent for my child to participate in Eagle Sports practices, games, and events and will indemnify and hold harmless Eagle Sports, any Eagle's coach, team member and their parents, volunteer, or Board member, and all facilities used for practices and games and extra activities against in and all claims including claims, suit or action for personal injury or otherwise.

Student: Printed Name

Date

Student: Signature. I have read this document.

Parent or Guardian: Printed Name

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature. I have read this document.

I have checked signatures. Staff initials _____