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# **MILE HIGH ACADEMY ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT HANDBOOK**

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**"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 20:11**



MILE HIGH  
ACADEMY

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Mile High Academy has a long legacy of excellence in creating well-rounded students. It is through our sports programs that we teach our students perseverance, discipline, collaboration, and transcendence from valuing personal gain to prioritizing a team goal. These valuable experiences give athletes a leg up, as they can be applied to student's personal life and academia.

I am honored to take part in shaping the young athletes of our school. I deeply value our sports programs because I have experienced firsthand the joy and benefits of pursuing athletics. From the young age of six years old, I began to fall in love with sports. I grew up primarily playing baseball and basketball but soon became skilled in a variety of sports throughout my high school and college career. I remember the excitement I had for practices each day and the anticipation that filled me for each game day and hope to emulate that enthusiasm in our student-athletes. Creating opportunities for our students to reach their highest potential during their sports careers here at MHA is my main objective.

Above all, I am excited to create an atmosphere that promotes Christlike behavior. I pride myself on being an advocate for good sportsmanship no matter the circumstances and believe competing respectfully creates a better experience for all. It is my hope that by the end of the year, our students will have grown in their relationships with their teammates and most importantly, with Christ. Welcome to the Mile High Academy Athletics family.

Sincerely,

Michael Camacho  
Athletic Director  
[mcamacho@milehighacademy.org](mailto:mcamacho@milehighacademy.org)  
c: 909.705.2537

1733 Dad Clark Drive  
Highlands Ranch,  
Colorado 80126

P: 303.744.1069  
F: 303.744.1060  
[milehighacademy.org](http://milehighacademy.org)

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The following statements are taken from the Mile High Academy Handbook, and are at the foundation of our Athletic Department:

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mile High Academy Athletic Department exists to challenge students to become men and women of strength, courage, dignity, and above all, to reflect the character of our savior, Jesus Christ. We seek to do this not only on the field of play but to have those values transcend into every part of a student-athlete's life.

## **DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY**

The MHA program promotes Christian sportsmanship by teaching young people to respect teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, and fans; demonstrate fair play; promote a sense of school pride; and lead by example on and off the field or court. All students are encouraged to develop skills in recreational and athletic activities that will enable them to maintain good health throughout their lives.

## **RISKS OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION**

Despite protective equipment and the supervision and sound instruction of coaches, there are some risks associated with participation in athletics. Injuries sometimes do occur. In extremely rare cases, serious, life-altering injuries, and death result. All athletes and parents need to understand this possibility. Mile High Academy attempts to ensure a safe environment for athletes.

## **PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

MHA is a partner school with CHSAA and the 5280 League. MHA will follow the guidelines of those two entities to determine the eligibility of student-athletes.

- Student-Athletes must have a 2.5 GPA and no Fs each week
- Have a Sport Physical on file completed within the last 365 days
- Meet CHSAA's transfer requirements
- Have paid all varsity fees
- Have attended school on the day of any given contest (a sick day is also a sick day from varsity events)

Note: Eligibility will be checked every week. Students questioning their grades must be cleared by the teacher/AD before being taken off the ineligible list. Students placed on the ineligible list for the first time within a season are expected to attend practices but cannot dress for games or travel with the team to away games. Students placed on the ineligible list twice or more during a season may have an administrative view.



## **ATHLETIC FEES**

There will be a fee per sport, per athlete. The fee will be determined by the expense needed to run the sport. Student fees must be paid before the first contest of each season, and failure to do so may result in a player forfeiting a spot on the team. Fees will be paid by your FACTS account. If paying the fee presents a challenge, please come see me. We want your student(s) to play.

These are the fees for the upcoming season:

- Varsity Soccer \$320
- Varsity Volleyball \$320
- Varsity Basketball \$350
- JV Basketball \$200
- Varsity Girls Soccer \$200
- Varsity Baseball \$250
- Middle school sports \$100

## **EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYERS**

- Be on time and ready to play for each practice and game
- Always be "in" the game
- Know your role on the team
- Use appropriate language, gestures, and actions
- Represent yourself, the school, and your family with pride
- Respect referees and their decisions
- Hustle
- Know and follow the rules
- Maintain Eligibility

## **EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS**

- Cheer for MHA athletes
- Respect the coaches and their decisions
- 24-hour rule
- Treat opponents and officials as guests in our home
- Feel free to visit practices
- Make fee payments when due

## **FAN BEHAVIOR/EJECTIONS**

CHSAA has created a card system to promote sportsmanship and proper behavior among fans at games. A yellow card will be issued by the athletic director or administrator on duty if there is an offense deemed inappropriate. A second yellow or a red card will be issued for persistent or severe infractions and will result in a dismissal from the event, and possible suspension from attending future MHA



athletic events. Parents or students/players may not approach an official to discuss any issues before, during, or after a game or match or for any reason. Please keep the following principles in mind at our games:

- Officials and visiting fans are guests and should be treated as such.
- MHA fans should never taunt, trash talk, or interact negatively with opposing players or coaches.
- When we visit other schools, please remember we are guests in their houses. Be a polite and respectful guest.
- Cheer for our players but please don't cheer against opponents.
- Together as fans, coaches, and players, we represent our community, shared values, and our commitment to Christianity.
- As players, Know Whom You Play For, and as fans, Know Whom We Cheer For.

## **DISCIPLINE**

All policies for student behavior adopted by Mile High Academy apply to athletic events. If a student falls short of the expectations of either the MHA Student or Athletic Handbook, the athlete may be placed under review by the Athletic Department or Administration. MHA administration may suspend or dismiss a player. A player is not allowed to participate in team activities while under review. Parents will be notified when a student is put under review. Any participation fees paid would not be refunded in the event a player is suspended or dismissed.

## **TEAM TRAVEL**

Teams will be transported to away contests by either MHA buses, small vehicles, or approved, private, bonded carriers. CHSAA rules require that players use school-provided transportation to all away games. Athletes are expected to travel to these contests with their team on these forms of transportation.

If students would like to travel home from away games with parents, an athlete, and parent must fill out a CHSAA document that releases the school from the responsibility of transportation.

## **VARSITY TOURNAMENTS**

Students in varsity sports are required to go to the tournament of the sport in which they are participating. If the student is ineligible, the student will not be allowed to go to the tournament. The fees will be forfeited.

Students in a tournament are required to attend the mandatory study hall(s) and worship while in the tournament. Students must also take any extra time to work on any homework.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION CREDIT**

Students will attain PE credit for sports that are played at the high school level. They will receive 5 credits for a sport that has a full Varsity CHSAA schedule, and 2.5 for sports that have a Junior Varsity or sub full level CHSAA level schedule. The following are considered when grading sports at MHA:



- An athlete must attend practices and games as reasonably expected.
- An attitude grade will be given by the coach and will be judged on the representation of MHA and our CHERISH values while participating.

If a student disagrees with their sports grade, the athlete may petition the administration for credit.

## OTHER

- The Athletic Director will send out a reminder each Friday about upcoming events. This email will be entitled The Mustang Stampede. To ensure you get this email, please make sure your correct email is in Ren Web.
- Schedule changes will be announced through email, the school website, and/or the Mustang Stampede.
- Varsity basketball teams will take part in the annual Ball Arena games. The date of that game is TBD.

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By signing below, you are agreeing to uphold and standby everything listed in the Athletic Handbook and the Student Handbook. Please cut and return the signed part of the handbook and turn it in to the office or to Coach Camacho.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree by signature below to uphold and standby everything listed in this handbook.

Athlete's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_