

Surry Elementary School Extracurricular Policy and Expectations

The Surry School supports a variety of extracurricular programs for students to extend their interest beyond the regular academic program. We believe the opportunity for students to take part in selected extracurricular activities is a necessary and important part of a thorough and complete educational program. The purpose of these programs is to develop well rounded individuals with a growing sense of self-esteem, responsibility, commitment, and the ability to balance extracurricular participation with regular curriculum requirements.

We believe students should have the opportunity to participate at a level that allows them to have fun, that is appropriate to their skill and development, and that recognizes that healthy competition is part of life. Students are individuals with unique needs, strengths and weaknesses. Our intent fosters community pride and a positive attitude through the development of such qualities as respect, cooperation, mutual support and self-motivation.

We believe adults are responsible for modeling appropriate behavior for our students. Our aim is to use positive reinforcement and the teaching of skills to enhance student knowledge and physical and emotional well-being in an organized and safe environment. The goal and desire to win is balanced with teaching such important values as teamwork, sportsmanship, fair play, and participation for as many as possible with activity guidelines and available resources.

**Students and families should understand that like all extracurricular programs, participation in athletics is a privilege earned by abiding by the policies and expectations outlined in this policy.

I. Goals of the SES Athletic Program

- To develop individual and team responsibility
- To reinforce sportsmanship: personal integrity and a sense of fair play
- To encourage student-athletes to achieve and improve
- To teach basic physical skills
- To foster socialization, self-esteem, self-perception and psychological well-being
- To keep student athletes engaged in sports and establish the basis for a healthy lifestyle and lifelong commitment to physical activity

II. Interscholastic Sports

We currently offer the following interscholastic sports: Baseball, Softball, Girls and Boys Basketball, Cross Country, and Soccer.

III. Scheduling

The AD and coaches will schedule practices to make best use of the school facilities and fields.

IV. Safety

The Surry Elementary School Committee recognizes that extracurricular activities may create certain safety risks; therefore, the following procedures have been adopted.

A. Coaches will be provided with a list of students who have physical conditions that may create an emergency situation prior to the season (i.e. allergies, asthma, epilepsy, etc.) Coaches will also be provided necessary medical supplies to respond to minor injuries and must take them to each practice and game. Coaches are encouraged to take first aid or other training that will help them cope with emergencies that arise. Coaches will complete a training on how to handle blood and body fluid spills. Concussion management training may also be required. Additional training may be required at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

B. Coaches may not play student-athletes who have been injured until a medical doctor and/or parents have approved his/her return in writing.

C. See [concussion policy](#) for additional safety guidelines.

V. Policies, Rules, and Expectations

As well as the policies and rules that apply to all SES students, there are policies, rules, and expectations that pertain specifically to students who are participating in an interscholastic sport, as follows:

A. Uniforms

Team uniforms checked out by the student athlete are his or her responsibility. Athletes are expected to keep all uniforms clean and in good condition. It is the athlete's responsibility to pay for lost or carelessly damaged uniforms. If the uniform is not returned within 30 days after the season is over, a bill will be sent home. No uniform for the next sports season will be issued until this bill is paid.

B. Practice

Student-athletes are expected to attend all practices. The AD and coaches will schedule practices to make best use of the school facilities and fields. Students with late practices must go home and return no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of practice, unless other arrangements have been made directly with the AD/Principal.

Students waiting at the school for a game, practice or other afterschool activity, do not leave school for any reason. They report to a designated classroom or space where they are supervised by an adult.

Practices are for players only. Similar to our classrooms, our practices aren't open to stay and watch. If you have a concern and want to schedule a time to observe, please speak with the coach.

A student-athlete will not be penalized for an excused absence or extracurricular conflict, given proper communication. If a student has two unexcused absences, playing time may be reduced.

For three unexcused absences may result in missing the next game. Four unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the team.

C. Absence from School/Practices

Students absent from school due to illness for all or part of a day, may not participate in the next game or practice without a written explanation from a parent or physician and the support of the Principal/AD.

Students who are chronically tardy or absent may not be able to participate in practices or games on days that they do not arrive at school by the start of the school day, without prior approval by the Principal/AD.

Excused absences include:

- Student illness
- Has a health care appointment that can only be made at that time.
- Has a family emergency
- Has a personal or educational absence that was planned and pre-approved by the school
- Is observing a recognized religious holiday when observance is required during school hours

D. Travel

Students are expected to ride the bus with the team to away games. A bus will be available to transport students back to the school after the game. Parents/guardians should notify the Coach if the student is going home with them after the game. If a student is going to ride home after an away game with someone other than their parents/guardians, the school needs a written note granting permission (not a last minute phone call) prior to departing the school for the sporting event. Athletes must remain with their team and under the supervision of the coach when attending away games. SES bus rules and expectations should be followed. Coaches are expected to supervise their athletes until parents pick them up.

E. Behavior

Students are expected to be role models at all times. This means both in school, during extracurricular activities, and in the community. If a student does not maintain our PBIS behavior expectations consistently in and out of school, that student may be suspended or removed from that team. Students removed from the classroom for behavior may be unable to participate in practices or games scheduled for that day. Playing time may also be affected by behavior. These decisions are at the discretion of the Principal/AD.

F. Eligibility Requirements

Student-athletes must have the following in order to participate in extracurricular activities:

- Parent/guardian permission
- All participants in an extracurricular activity must have health insurance. Any student who participates in extracurricular activities without insurance or during a lapse in coverage does so

at their own risk. If there is any change in insurance coverage during the school year, please notify the school as soon as possible.

- **Physical examination:** Students who wish to participate in middle school athletics at Surry Elementary School are required to have a physical examination annually. Physical exams must be submitted prior to participation. A student athlete will not be allowed to participate in practice or in competition without the required physical exam and medical approval. The cost of the physical is the responsibility of the parents.

- **Academic standing:** An athlete must meet academic and behavior eligibility requirements outlined below:

1. In order to participate in sports or other extracurricular activities, a student must partially meet, meet, or exceed every standard under work habits and citizenship. Work habits and citizenship include work completion, respect, responsibility, and observation of classroom expectations. Eligibility will be evaluated by the middle school team and AD bi-weekly.

2. Parents will be notified by phone or in writing when a student loses eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities.

3. When health or other extenuating circumstances interfere with a student's ability to complete required work, a student may be given an "incomplete" grade. In such cases, an incomplete grade will not affect a student's eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities.

- **Mandatory pre-season meeting:** An athlete and parent/guardian must attend the mandatory preseason meeting in order to participate in a sport. Those not able to attend must set up alternate meeting times with the AD.

- Athletes are expected to adhere to all coach-established expectations.

In addition to all written eligibility rules, or for situations not covered by policy, the athletic director and administration reserve the right to determine eligibility.

VI. Athlete Placement

The Coach, AD and Principal will agree on how the teams will be filled based on the number of interested players, general age and ability of athletes. We will strive to find a team that best meets the needs of each of our student-athletes.

VII. Playing Time

All A-team players can expect playing time in all regular season games and adequate playing time over the course of the season. Playing time may be allocated based on skill, effort, attendance, and performance during practices and games.

All B-team players can expect approximately equal playing time over the course of the season.

The AD will work to schedule games with teams at varying ability levels to enable coaches to meet the playing time needs of all students.

VIII. Parent-Coach Communications

You should expect your child's coach to keep you informed about:

- The time and place of games
- The expectations for athletes on the team, and your child in particular
- Participation requirements: fees, equipment
- Any injury your child suffers while participating
- Any discipline your child receives

You are encouraged to talk to your child's coach about:

- Your child's skills improvement and development
- Concerns about your child's behavior

Coaches expect you as parents to:

- Attend the preseason sports meeting
- Notify the coach of schedule conflicts well in advance
- Support the program
- Ensure your child attends practices on time
- Ensure your child is picked up from practices and games on time
- Support your child in being well prepared for games and practices
- Return uniforms and equipment promptly at the end of the season

If you have concerns about a coach, please follow these steps:

- Address concerns with the coach first, as applicable
- Speak directly to the AD, the AD may then arrange a meeting with the coach to resolve issues
- The AD will work with you and the coach to find a resolution
- Involve the Principal, as needed

IX: Sportsmanship

SES believes good sportsmanship is an integral component of education-based interscholastic athletic competition. In order for good sportsmanship to prevail, coaches, student-athletes, and fans must display respect, fairness, honesty, and responsibility before, during and after all athletic contests.

For our student-athletes:

- Cheer positively for the players – This can be your teammates and others
- Be respectful to everyone – Players, coaches, officials, game staff, and other fans
- Watch your language on and off the court or field
- Win with grace and lose with dignity
- Do your best - Play hard, don't give up and give it your all

We encourage fans to enthusiastically support their team, recognize outstanding performance of opponents, and always exhibit good sportsmanship in their words and actions. You are a role model for all of our student-athletes and their younger fans.

- Cheer positively for the players
- Be respectful to everyone – Players, coaches, officials, game staff, and other fans
- Watch your language – There is no tolerance for abusive, hostile, or offensive remarks
- Refrain from using alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, and vaping. Please remember, you are on school grounds.
- Stay in designated spectator areas - No wandering through the school to other areas beyond the field/court and bathroom facilities.

It is expected that all attendees behave in a sportsmanlike manner during an extracurricular event. Those who don't may be asked to leave that event by the Athletic Director or other school staff member. Admission to subsequent school events may also be denied.

Adopted by Surry School board: 9/2/2025