

# 2017-2018

## Athletic/Activity Handbook



Jayhawk Junior High School  
Jayhawk-Linn High School

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**

This handbook is being presented to you because your son or daughter desires to participate in interscholastic athletics at Jayhawk Linn Jr/Sr High School. You have also expressed your willingness to permit him or her to compete. Your family's interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences that assist students in personal growth and development.

The Jayhawk School District is interested in the development of young men and women through athletics. We feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets 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.

Likewise, we believe that you have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations as a parent or guardian of an athlete. 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 Athletic Department to make rules governing interscholastic competition. These rules need broad based community support to be fully effective. This is achieved only through communication between the Athletic Department and the parents or guardians of our athletes. It is our hope to accomplish this objective through this athletic handbook for students, parents and coaches.

*Randy Leach*

High School Athletic Director

*Kirk Holt*

Junior High Athletic Director

## **AFFILIATION**

Jayhawk Linn Jr/Sr High School is a member of the Three Rivers League. KSHSAA has a membership that incorporates all public schools and many private institutions in Kansas. The Three Rivers League members include Jayhawk Linn, Altoona Midway, Chetopa, Crest, Marmaton Valley, Northeast Arma, Oswego, Pleasanton, St. Paul, and Uniontown. All of these organizations have set forth policies, guidelines and procedures for sporting play and activity organization. Jayhawk Linn strives to comply with these policies, guidelines and procedures at all levels. If you have questions that this handbook leaves unanswered, please contact KSHSAA at [www.kshsaa.org](http://www.kshsaa.org) or by calling them at (785) 273-5329.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP/CITIZENSHIP**

Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in the American schools. They provide an arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand and to value the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP and teamwork. They are an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach and model SPORTSMANSHIP, to build school pride, and to increase student/community involvement; this ultimately translates into improved academic performance. Activities are also an opportunity for the community to demonstrate its support for the participants and the school and to model the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP for our youth as respected representatives of society. ***Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action!***

The Kansas State High School Activities Association has put forth the following General Regulations that apply to grades 7-12

1. Be courteous to all participants, coaches, officials, staff and fans.
2. Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions.
3. Win with character and lose with dignity.
4. Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
5. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school.
6. Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities.

## **ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

All students in USD 346 Jayhawk Linn Jr/Sr High School may participate in extra curricular activities provided the student meets all of the eligibility requirements set forth by the Kansas State High School Activities Association and the USD 346 Board of Education.

### **Academics**

- Students must be enrolled in five or more subjects and have passed five or more subjects in the previous semester.
- Students must meet the eligibility criteria established by USD 346, which is as follows:

### **ELIGIBILITY POLICY**

Jayhawk-Linn has adopted an eligibility policy. Teachers will update grades no later than 3:30 every Thursday. The principal will run a list of failing students on Friday morning. Any student who is **failing two or more classes (semester grade)** when the list is ran will be ineligible to participate in or be in attendance at any competition, performance, dance, or trip, as part of any extracurricular activity for the following week – effective Sunday to Sunday.

Students who are placed on the ineligible list will be required to attend 15 minutes of instructional tutoring each day from said classroom teacher whose class they are failing before/after school or during Hawktime to try to improve their grade(s). Students will be required to attend this tutoring time daily before attending any athletic practices, rehearsals, etc. As soon as student is passing their failed class(es), teacher will release them from attending any further tutoring for the remainder of the ineligibility period. Students who have been released from instructional tutoring time will remain ineligible for the entire Sunday – Sunday time period.

Eligibility list will not be run the first two weeks of each semester.

- All Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) rules for eligibility apply.

## **Good Standing**

- Students who wish to participate in school activities must be classified as bona fide students in good standing. Students who are under penalty of suspension or whose character or conduct as determined by the administration, discredits the school or themselves, shall be classified as students not in good standing and thus shall be ineligible to participate in school activities for a period of time specified by the administration.
- USD 346 and Jayhawk Linn Jr/Sr High School recognize the importance of good attendance for academic success. Therefore regular attendance is promoted for student athletes and activity participants. Students must be in attendance for the last half of the day to be eligible for participation that night.

## **STUDENT ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS**

All athletes shall abide by a Code of Conduct that will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of law tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the school and will not be tolerated. Violations of this Code of Conduct will result in the following penalty:

### **PENALTY:**

- **FIRST VIOLATION** = The athlete, the head coach or sponsor, and the administration shall examine the violation and determine the length of the initial suspension, which shall be based upon the length of the remaining schedule and the seriousness of the offense. The suspension shall not be less than one competition date.
- **SECOND VIOLATION** = At whatever point in the student's competition season a second violation occurs, the student shall be removed from team or activity for the remainder of the season.
- **THIRD VIOLATION** = At any point in the student's school year if a third violation occurs, the student will be removed from participation in sports activities for the remainder of the school year.

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

***In the Classroom*** – Strong academics reinforce strong athletics. As an athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and

energy to your studies. In addition to maintaining strong academics, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and faculty at all times.

***On the Field/Court*** – In the area of athletic competition, a true athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics and understands that losing is part of the game. You should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

***School Discipline Referral*** – Any student referred to the office for a rules violation may be denied the privilege of participation in all athletic activities for a period determined by either the principal, athletic director or head coach.

***Conflicts in Extra-Curricular Activities*** – An individual student who attempts to participate in more than one extra-curricular activity will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations.

The Administration recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences through activities and will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts.

It shall remain the student's responsibility to notify coaches and sponsors of possible conflicts and in working with the coaches and sponsors to avoid such conflicts whenever possible

## **DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY**

The Board of Education of USD 346 and the administrators, teachers, and coaches of Jayhawk Linn recognize a responsibility to promote the health, welfare, and safety of students. As such, Jayhawk Linn recognizes that the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, restricted substances, or mood-altering chemicals by students poses a significant health risk by negatively affecting a student's behavior, learning, and total development. Students involved in any school activities on or off school property are strictly forbidden to use, consume, possess, sell or purchase alcoholic beverages, drugs, tobacco, controlled substances, or mood altering chemicals.

In order to be involved in or to participate in any extra-curricular activities, Jayhawk Linn Junior High and Senior High students shall be governed by the following:

***Student-Athletes and activity participants shall not use, consume, possess, sell, purchase, receive, or give away -regardless of quantity-***

*any alcoholic beverage, cereal malt beverage, or drug (this includes, without limitation, any restricted or controlled substance or mood-altering chemical). Likewise, students shall not use or consume tobacco products.*

Student possessing or using drugs or medications specifically prescribed for their own use by their doctor or dentist are not in violation of the preceding paragraph

**PENALTY:**

- **FIRST VIOLATION** = The athlete, the head coach or sponsor, and the administration shall examine the violation and determine the length of the initial suspension, which shall be based upon the length of the remaining schedule and the seriousness of the offense. The suspension shall not be less than one competition date.
- **SECOND VIOLATION** = At whatever point in the student's competition season a second violation occurs, the student shall be removed from team or activity for the remainder of the season.
- **THIRD VIOLATION** = At any point in the student's school year if a third violation occurs, the student will be removed from participation in sports activities for the remainder of the school year.

**PROCEDURE:** If there is actual evidence of a student in violation of the above-mentioned policy, the following shall occur after the Superintendent of Schools is notified so that proper procedures are reviewed before they are implemented. After investigation with the student, the administration – to include any one or more of the following: principal, assistant principal, and activities director – shall have the full and exclusive right and authority to invoke the penalties mentioned above, against that particular student, and the student and his or her parents, will be so advised immediately.

If the student is dissatisfied with the findings of the administration, the student shall have ten (10) days within which to file a written request for an appeal to the principal of the junior high/high school. In the event of such an appeal, the principal shall conduct a hearing and conference with the accused student, the parents and the head coach of the particular sport involved.

During the appeal process, the students will be suspended from further competition in the particular sport involved. The findings and determination by the principal of the high school shall be final and conclusive.

## LEVELS OF PLAY AND PLAYING PHILOSOPHY

- Junior High – At the Junior High level it is the belief of the Jayhawks Linn Coaching staff that each student athlete be given the chance to compete. However, due to the large number of athletes that participate at this level and the limited playing positions and limited game time, the teams may be split into an A, B, and C squad. The coaching staff will determine the individual athletes that make up these squads. The number of athletes on each squad will be determined based on the number of athletes out for the sport.
- Junior Varsity – At the Junior Varsity level it is the belief of the coaching staff to prepare the athletes for their move up to the varsity level. No athletes who are Seniors will participate at the Junior Varsity level unless there are limited numbers and participation is necessary to hold the event.
- Varsity – At the varsity level it is the belief of the coaching staff to put the players on the floor/playing field that give the team the best chance to be successful.

## CONFERENCES WITH COACHES

Communication between parents, athletes, and coaches is a necessary component to the team's success. This communication shall take several venues. Coaches and sponsors are encouraged to communicate team and individual expectations at the beginning of each season and to continually provide feedback to participants. Students are encouraged to openly communicate with coaches and sponsors concerning any and all aspects of their participation. Parents are encouraged to communicate with coaches as long as certain procedures are maintained. **If a parent wishes to communicate a concern or a grievance, he or she shall contact the coach or sponsor after 24-48 hours of said competition as to confirm an appointment.** Parents and guardians should not contact the administration until they have conferenced with the coach or sponsor. No conferences shall be conducted immediately following an event. Once an appointment has been made and the conference has been conducted, the parent may contact school administration if they feel that the situation has not been adequately rectified.

## TRANSPORTATION

USD 346 generally provides transportation to and from activities. In most cases, large teams or groups will travel via school bus. In those cases regarding smaller teams or groups smaller vehicles may be used. When smaller vehicles are used, the coaches and sponsors will normally be



responsible for driving. If a parent or guardian is asked to drive, his or her driver's license must be on file with the USD 346 District Office.

Student behavior on activity trips must meet the same expectations as regular school provided transportation and those students who violate transportation procedures and policies may be reprimanded in accordance with team policies as well as being prohibited from attending future activities.

Students who wish to ride home with an adult (when parent or guardian will not be in attendance at said event) parent/guardian must provide written notification to the head coach or activity sponsor before leaving the school for the activity. If parent/guardian will be in attendance at said event they must sign their son/daughter out. Students will not be allowed to check out with another student or friend unless the parent/guardian is present and signs out their son or daughter.

## **INSURANCE**

USD 346 carries only catastrophic accident insurance for students involved in activities sponsored by the Kansas State High School Activities Association. Parents can voluntarily purchase insurance for athletes through an independent insurance program. Parents are encouraged to consult their private insurance company regarding coverage at school.

## **HEAD INJURIES**

In accordance with the Kansas State High School Activities Association, USD 346 will follow the following head injury guidelines:

- a. A school athlete may not participate in any sport competition or practice session unless such athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian have signed, and returned to the school, a concussion and head injury information release form. A release form shall be signed and returned each school year that a student athlete participates in sport competitions or practice sessions.
- b. If a school athlete suffers, or is suspected of having suffered, a concussion or head injury during a sport competition or practice session, such school athlete immediately shall be removed from the sport competition or practice session.
- c. Any school athlete who has been removed from a sport competition or practice session shall not return to competition or practice until the athlete is evaluated by a health care provider and the health care

provider provides such athlete a written clearance to return to play or practice.

## **COACHES**

The coaches bear the greatest responsibility for the development of sportsmanship as they have the greatest influence on the attitudes and behaviors of a player, the student body and the community. Coaches must value sportsmanship and teach it through their words and through example. Therefore, coaches should implement the following appropriate behavior:

1. Encourage all aspects of safety before success.
2. Shall take an active role in the promotion of academics.
3. Shall establish team rules beyond the policies set forth in this handbook.
4. Teach the value of conforming to the rules.
5. Instill team discipline and sportsmanship with appropriate consequences for team members who display inappropriate behavior.
6. Instruct their players in the fundamentals of sportsmanship
7. Respect the officials' judgment and interpretation of the rules and also refrain from berating officials or players.
8. Demonstrate publicly the ideals of good sportsmanship.
9. Refrain from the use of profanity.

***Individual Coach's Rules*** – Each coach/sponsor is encouraged to set team rules in addition to the rules in the Activities Handbook. Rules and penalties for tardiness, absences, inappropriate practice/game dress and misconduct are examples of acceptable coach's/sponsor's guidelines. These rules should be given in writing to all participants, their parents, and the administration at the beginning of the year.

# USD 346 JAYHAWK LINN JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

## ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

### AS A STUDENT:

- I understand and agree that participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of the policies found within this handbook.
- I have read the handbook and thoroughly understand the expectations and the consequences that I will face if I do not meet the expectations.
- I understand and realize that there is a risk of injury in participating in athletic activities, and district/school liability insurance does not cover athletic events.
- I understand information regarding voluntary insurance plans is available in each of the schools and district office, as well as included in all enrollment packets.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN:

- I understand and agree that participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of the policies found within this handbook.
- I have read the handbook and thoroughly understand the expectations and the consequences that my son/daughter will face if they do not meet the expectations.
- I understand that my son/daughter are undertaking a risk of injury in participating in athletic activities, and that the district/school's liability insurance does not cover athletic events.
- I understand information regarding voluntary insurance plans is available in each of the schools and district office, as well as included in all enrollment packets.
- I understand that as a parent/guardian it is expected of me to display good sportsmanship at all times during events that JLHS/JLJHS are participating in.
- I also understand that if I fail to display good sportsmanship that I may be removed from said event, and that I could also be prohibited from attending future events/activities.
- I have read and fully understand the chain of command with regard to conferences with coaches/sponsors.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_