

## **Scurry-Rosser Athletic Assumptions**

**Assumption:** The supposition that something is true.

It is important for you to understand that we are making four assumptions. You must understand this importance because the program is developed with these assumptions paramount in our minds.

1. We assume that you want to be the best Student-Athlete you can be. This is important because when our coaches look at you they see what you could be and will push you to achieve your maximum potential. You will never be allowed to settle for less than your best. Problems are caused only when this assumption is false.
2. We assume you expect to play on a championship team. Our practices, off-season workouts, and overall programs are designed to produce a champion. To be a champion is not easy; therefore, it is very important that before you decide to be a WILDCAT you understand we assume very strongly that you want to be a part of a championship team.
3. We assume you expect to graduate from high school. Administrators, faculty, and coaches are all working with the above assumption. If you are not in agreement with this, there will constantly be problems.
4. We assume you want to be a better person. We have very high expectations of our players off the field. We will work with you to help you become a better person. Once a WILDCAT, you are a WILDCAT 24 hours a day, 7days a week for the rest of your life. We will help you become better off the field, as well as on.



# **Philosophy of Athletics**

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Athletics is a vital component in the overall educational process. Student-athletes that are a part of an organized, effective athletic program will obtain positive educational benefits from athletics such as: responsibility, self-discipline, sportsmanship, teamwork, integrity, work ethic, development of character, and the benefits of personal sacrifice.

Setting high expectations is the first step in being successful. It is our responsibility to then give each student-athlete the tools to be successful in reaching those high expectations.

There are three factors that our coaches believe to be the driving force behind any successful athletic program—pride, loyalty, and tradition. It is our mission to instill these key factors into the Scurry-Rosser Athletic Program to turn it into a successful athletic program.

## **THE MISSION OF AN ATHLETIC PROGRAM**

It is the overall goal of this administration and athletic staff to provide wholesome, well-balanced growth and development activities for the children of the community. Athletics are extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities are school-sponsored activities that are not directly related to instruction of the essential elements, but that may have indirect relation to some areas of the curriculum. They offer worthwhile and significant contributions to a student's personal, physical, and moral development. Participation in extracurricular activities is a PRIVILEGE and not a right, and students must meet specific requirements in order to participate. I believe that the concept of working hard for a desired goal is basic in our society. This means that the reward of competition should go to those who work hard, obey rules of conduct and training, and who earn the right to compete through dedication to the activity. Talent should be a factor, but talent without dedication, hard work, and character is wasted talent that should not be rewarded by competition. All students are capable of becoming good athletes, and all of the staff will provide an opportunity for each to succeed in his/her sport. It is also my responsibility to guide and direct student athletes into activities into which they may become successful. For some, athletics may not be that activity.

As an Athletic Program we will establish a sense of Pride, Loyalty, and Tradition in our athletes that will set our program apart from any other program and organization in Scurry-Rosser ISD.

### **PRIDE**

We will set ourselves apart from the ordinary and set the standard. Players will be proud to wear a Wildcat uniform. They will be proud of their work ethic, proud of their teammates, and proud of what they are accomplishing every day. Pride will not only reside with the players, but will also belong to the student body, the teachers, the school, and the community. The Scurry-Rosser Athletic Program will become that "something" for all in the community to rally behind and support with pride.

### **TRADITION**

Tradition is developed through hard work and sacrifice, and is established after pride and loyalty is obtained. Striving to educate our athletes that what they do now will be part of who they become is a tremendous responsibility for all coaches. If student-athletes set high goals and expectations and work hard to achieve them, they will leave a lasting legacy for those behind them to follow.

## THE PLAN FOR SUCCESS

In order to establish pride, tradition, and loyalty within the Scurry-Rosser Athletic Program, we will focus on the following components that are necessary for success:

1. Player Expectations and Accountability
2. Player Development
3. Feeder Programs
4. Total Athlete

### 1. PLAYER EXPECTATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Being fair and consistent to the student-athlete is an important and necessary step in holding student-athletes accountable. By following the expectations listed below, each student-athlete will learn to succeed both on and off the field.

#### **Player Expectations:**

1. Be a person of character. (Character is doing the right thing when no one else is looking)
2. Give your best effort towards receiving a quality education.
3. Abide by all team and school rules.
4. Treat your teachers, coaches, support staff, teammates, and the public with respect.
5. Accept responsibility for your actions.
6. Hustle.
7. Know your assignments.
8. Be on time and attend all team functions.
9. Be mentally and physically tough so you can handle the rigors of the program.

**Players give you exactly what you expect of them.** If you expect them to be a good player for you, they will be. It is up to the coaching staff to coach all players to their potential by any means necessary. We will have to roll up our sleeves and teach them how we want them to play and how we want them to act.

### 2. PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

There are four points that all players can improve on as they progress throughout the program. It does not matter if an athlete is the best athlete on the field or the worst. These are never ending things that can be worked on by the coaches and players to ensure success:

1. Attitude: We will never quit or be out-hustled in any game. A positive, hardworking attitude is required and must be developed in order to be successful.
2. Conditioning: We will be in better condition than any team we play. I can guarantee that, because we can control how hard we work. Games are won in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter by the team that is in the best shape.

3. Technique: We will be technically sound by always focusing on the fundamentals of our position. This is the difference between a mediocre team and a great team.
4. Knowledge: We will be tactically proficient by understanding the whole picture of what is trying to be accomplished not only by our team, but the other team as well. We will watch film of our opponents and be prepared for anything that they throw at us.

Scurry-Rosser will be a physical, relentless team that will be known as the hardest working team in the district. *You play as you practice*. Practices will be the hardest part of the week's preparation and each player will be fundamentally sound in techniques and skills.

### **3. YOUTH FEEDER PROGRAMS**

For any program to be successful it must develop its philosophy early in the development of its players. Strong youth programs are the essential building blocks for a strong high school program. With successful middle school teams feeding into Scurry-Rosser High School, the potential pool of talent should become strong and consistent.

There is no doubt that the high school student-athletes are very visible role models for these younger student-athletes. It is important to involve the student-athletes in these camps whenever possible. We want these younger student-athletes to experience what it is like to be a part of our athletic family. By inviting potential Wildcat Athletes to our games and practices, as well as rewarding their efforts as ball boys for the game and recruit of the week programs, these student-athletes will see how fun it is to be a part of our program. They will know that Scurry-Rosser High School cares for them and they will be excited to be a part of it one day.

### **4. THE TOTAL ATHLETE**

We encourage our student-athletes to participate in a variety of sports throughout the year. Any kind of competition is good for athletes and cross-sport participation will only strengthen the overall athletic program. Every athlete must be allowed to participate in any sport or activity they desire.



# **Athletic Policies**

1. General Information:

- a. The Scurry-Rosser Athletic Department rules apply to interscholastic sports for boys and girls, interscholastic cheerleaders, and all interscholastic personnel including managers, trainers, and statisticians.
- b. The Scurry-Rosser Athletic Department desires to have the parents of our athletes not only know the regulations governing their son or daughter's participation, but also approve of the regulations. To make this phase of education more meaningful, each parent will be asked to sign the athletic handbook form, along with the son or daughter, and indicate an understanding and willingness of the student-athlete to abide by the rules and regulations of the school athletic policies.
- c. No boy or girl will be allowed to participate in any athletic contest until the form has been signed and returned to the athletic office. Signature of the student and one or both parents must be included.

2. Missing Practice

- a. An athlete should and must consult with their coach prior to missing practice. An unexcused absence may result in suspension of a student athlete from the next game. Athletes are expected to be at all games and practices. If a student athlete is sick, or has a family emergency, the athlete must, upon returning to school, bring a doctor's note or a parental note explaining the circumstances. The student will be expected to make up practice; this is not a form of punishment. If a student misses practice twice in a game week, then he/she may sit out that game.
- b. Homework is not an excuse for missing practices. Student Athletes are expected to manage their time wisely to complete their schoolwork and their athletic events/practices.
- c. If you are unable to contact your coach before missing practice, you can call the Athletic Director's phone at (972) 452- 8823 ext. 1109.

3. Quitting Sports

- a. Quitting is an unacceptable habit. On occasion, however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a valid reason.
- b. Each student-athlete will be given a 2-week tryout period, which allows each student-athlete to try the sport out and see if it is something they are interested in. If before the 2-week period expires, the athlete decides to quit, there will not be any form of punishment for their decision.
- c. If a student-athlete decides to quit a sport, they will not be allowed to participate in another sport until the sport they were participating in officially ends, and they will then be suspended for 2 weeks prior to participating in an athletic contest for their new sport. The official season WILL include any playoff games or events.
- d. If a student-athlete quits from Two Sports in an academic year, they will be suspended from Athletics for one calendar year.
- e. In the event that a student-athlete quits a sport the following action need to be followed.
  - i. Consult with the immediate Coach and Head Coach of that sport.
  - ii. The Head Coach will consult with Athletic Director
  - iii. The Head Coach and Athletic Director will set up a meeting with the Parent and Athlete to make the final decision and course of action.
  - iv. The Athlete will be required to turn in all equipment before another activity is started.



#### 4. Facilities

- a. Athletes are expected to take care of the facilities that are provided by the Scurry-Rosser School District. Athletes will be held financially responsible for any damage or vandalism to the property.
- b. Athletes are expected to keep trash, uniforms, equipment, etc., picked up in the locker room.
- c. Athletes are expected to properly hang up all uniforms in their locker.
- d. Do not remove or switch locks from your assigned lockers.
- e. Wash your athletic clothing on a daily basis.
- f. Athletes are responsible for cleaning out their lockers at the end of the season. Items that are left in the locker may be discarded at the athlete's loss.

#### 5. Locker Room

- a. Horse-playing and throwing towels, equipment, and other objects are not allowed in the locker room.
- b. Hazing is not allowed and will not be tolerated.
- c. All showers must be turned off. The last person to leave the shower area is expected to make sure this is done.
- d. No one other than coaches and assigned players are allowed to enter the locker room area at anytime.
- e. All spikes or cleated shoes must be put on and taken off outside of the athletic facilities. No metal or hard-plastic spiked cleats are ever allowed in any part of the school building.
- f. All spikes or cleats will be cleaned off in a grassy area. They will not be cleaned on the outside walls of the schools or on a concreted area.

#### 6. Uniforms and Equipment

- a. School equipment checked out by the student-athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it in good condition. Loss of any equipment is the athlete's financial obligation.
- b. Do not switch equipment or uniforms. If something does not fit or needs repaired, see your coach immediately.
- c. Turn in your game uniforms to a coach or a manager after a game. Do not wash game uniforms yourself. (Baseball/Softball are the Exception)
- d. All Athletes must abide by the dress code established by coaches when traveling to and from athletic competitions.
- e. Game jerseys, warm-ups, or team shirts are allowed to be worn to school on game day only, or on Friday if the game is on a Saturday. School-issued uniforms may only be worn for athletic-related purposes.

#### 7. Traveling

- a. All athletes must travel to and from out-of-town athletic contests in transportation provided by the Scurry-Rosser Athletic Department. If a Sub-Varsity parent chooses to take their son/daughter from the contest they may do so, but they must sign their son/daughter out with the coach of that team. All Varsity Athletes will return with the team.
- b. Only members of the team, trainers, administrators, cheerleaders, or coaches are allowed to travel on the bus.
- c. Athletes will remain with their team and under the supervision of the coach when attending away contests.

- d. All regular school bus rules will be followed.
- e. Athletes that miss the bus will not be allowed to participate in the contest unless there are extenuating circumstances approved by the coach with the Athletic Director making the final decision.

8. Conflicts with other Extracurricular Activities

- a. An individual student who attempts to participate in several extracurricular activities could create conflicts of obligations and interests. The Scurry-Rosser Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of activities, and to this end will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts.
- b. Students have a responsibility to do everything possible to avoid these conflicts as well. Faculty, sponsors, and coaches should be notified immediately when a conflict arises. When this conflict arises, the sponsor/coach will attempt to work out a solution in the best interest of both parties. If a solution cannot be found, the principal and athletic director will make the decision based on the following:
  - i. The relative importance of each event to the student
  - ii. The importance of each event to the school
  - iii. The relative contribution the student can make.
  - iv. How long each event has been scheduled
  - v. Talk with the parents.
- c. Once a decision has been made and the student has committed to the decision, he/she will not be penalized in any way by either the sponsor/coach. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligation of a school activity, he/she should withdraw from that activity.

9. Grooming and Dress Policy

- a. A member of an athletic team is expected to be well-groomed. Appearance, expression, and actions always influence other people's opinions of athletes, the team, and the school. Members of a team have made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of athletes in this community.
- b. Hairstyles are to be maintained in a neat and clean manner so as to present a positive image for both the team and the school
- c. Jewelry is not to be worn during practice or games.
- d. An athlete shall dress presentably at all times, including but not limited to trips, games, assemblies, or banquets. This includes when the athlete is at any school event (home or away) or on campus regardless of whether the student is a spectator or participant. Scurry-Rosser students are expected to dress in accordance to the guidelines outlined in the Scurry-Rosser Student Handbook.
- e. Only uniforms issued by the Athletic Department are allowed to be worn during contests.
- f. Athletes will not be permitted to participate until deviations of the above rules are satisfactorily corrected.
- g. Tattoos of any kind must be covered at athletic contests. Athletes in the program who get a tattoo may be removed from the team or athletic program if it cannot be covered during an athletic contest.

#### 10. Eligibility

- a. No Pass, No Play; as regulated by law will be followed.
- b. If a student who receives a grade lower than 70 at the end of a six weeks period becomes ineligible to play in any games for the next three weeks. If, at the next three-week period, that student is passing all subjects with a grade of 70 or above, they will become eligible to play in games.
- c. If a student receives a grade lower than 70 at the end of a six weeks period becomes ineligible to play in any games for the next three weeks. If, at the next three-week period, that student is not passing all subjects with a grade of 70 or above, they will still be ineligible to play.
- d. If a student receives a grade lower than 70 at the end of three grading periods, that student will be removed from the athletic program until the beginning of the next school year.

#### 11. Policy on Fighting in Interscholastic Sports:

- a. Fighting in any sport shall consist of: an invitation to fight; following an opposing player during a disturbance and making any menacing or taunting gesture or sound; punching or slugging, whether contact is made or not; wrestling or tackling an opponent as part of an altercation. In addition, leaving the player box or player bench area to approach an altercation shall be construed as participation in the altercation. Furthermore, any athlete, coach, or team personnel ejected by a contest official from any contest for harassment, fighting, or flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.
- b. Violation of these rules brings an automatic suspension for the remainder of that contest plus suspension from the next scheduled contest.
- c. Should the violation occur during the final contest of the season, there will be a suspension from the next contest that the athlete, coach, or team personnel member is eligible during a season in which he/she participates and successfully completes.
- d. A more severe penalty can be imposed for a violation if, in the judgment of school officials, such action will be in the best interest of the team and of the school.
- e. A second violation by the same individual during the same season/school year could result in the automatic removal of the student-athlete from the Athletic program.

#### 12. Coaches Rule

- a. Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Athletic Director for their respective sports. The rules pertaining to that particular sport must be explained, in writing, by the coach at the start of the season. The coach shall administer penalties for violation of team rules.

#### 13. Theft

- a. Taking things that do not belong to you, especially from your teammates will not be tolerated. A player caught will be dismissed from the Athletic Program immediately.
- b. We ask that you do not bring valuables or large sums of money to the dressing room.
- c. Each Athlete will be provided a lock for their locker. Lock you lockers at all times.

- d. If you feel safer with your valuables, you may ask the coach to lock those up in their office.

14. Playing Time

- a. Playing time is NOT guaranteed on the Varsity teams.
- b. On the Sub-Varsity level, we want every athlete to play in all competitions. The amount of playing time is up to the coaches' discretion and factors will include ability, attitude, and attendance.

15. Injury

- a. Student-Athletes should immediately report their injuries to the coach or trainer. If any injury is left untreated, minor injuries can become major ones that keep students from playing.
- b. If an athlete is injured and unable to practice, he/she will still be required to attend practice in a non-participatory manner.
- c. Once a physician treats an athlete, the athlete must obtain the doctor's permission to return to activity.
- d. Parents are liable for any medical costs associated with injuries.

16. Questions or Comments:

- a. If any parent or student has a comment about a coach or his/her procedures, he/she must first discuss the matter with the coach. If that matter is not resolved, he/she may then meet with the proper Athletic Director and coach of that sport.



**Discipline**

1. Scurry-Rosser athletes will abide by all the school rules and will be given a disciplinary form of exercise for minor infractions such as breaking:
  - a. Instant Obedience
  - b. Respect to Others
  - c. Respect for Property
  
2. Coaches may have athletes perform disciplinary forms of exercise for any of the following minor infractions. This may include but is not limited to:
  - a. Not wearing the correct uniform.
  - b. Being tardy to practice or athletic period.
  - c. Breaking a coaches rule.
  - d. Breaking school rules.
  - e. Demonstrating a lack of effort or hustle.
  - f. Displaying a negative attitude.
  - g. Any other conduct the coach deems inappropriate in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the Scurry-Rosser Student Handbook or Athletic Handbook.
  
3. Scurry-Rosser ISD reserves the right to enforce temporary or permanent removal from the Athletic Program. This includes but is not limited to a designated number of game suspensions. Removal from a team will be made by the coach and Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will confer with the coach before any removal action is taken. Causes for removal from a team may include, but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal use or possession of drugs not prescribed for the individual by a physician.
  - b. Continued violations of the athletic policy.
  - c. Repeated violations of team policies.
  - d. Personal misconduct that involves police or court action either during or outside school hours and sessions of the sport season.
  - e. Verbal or physical attack upon an opponent, contest official, teacher, fan, coach, or any other person.
  - f. Continued acts of unsportsmanlike conduct.
  - g. Any other conduct the coach deems inappropriate in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the Scurry-Rosser Student Handbook or Athletic Handbook.
  
4. Appeal Process- The Scurry-Rosser Athletic Department desires to fairly administer this discipline by providing an opportunity for appeal. The appeal process is:
  - a. The student must fill out an appeal application obtained from the Athletic Director and return within 5 days of removal.
  - b. Upon receipt of the appeal application, the discipline committee and athletic director will review the student's file and determine if he/she may return to the team. If the committee and the athletic director allow the

return to the team, they will also outline the proper discipline measures to allow the Athlete to return to athletic contests.

- c. There will be no appeal process for the removal of an athlete on the condition of a verbal or physical attack on an opponent, contest official, teacher, fan, coach, or any other person.
- d. The discipline committee retains the final decision regarding participation in practice or athletic contests.

A circular logo with a light green background and a grey border. The letters 'S' and 'R' are written in a large, white, serif font, overlapping each other in the center of the circle.

# **Requirements for Participation**



1. **Insurance Waiver and Emergency Information Form:** Each athlete's parents shall complete this form that authorizes Scurry-Rosser ISD to find treatment for an athlete in case of emergencies. The parent also agrees not to hold Scurry-Rosser or any of its employees liable.
2. **Physical Examination:** A physical is required. The physical must be completed by a physician and submitted to the coach prior to participation. The form will be kept on file in the athletic office.
3. **Pre-Participation of Physical Examination:** This is to be completed by a parent or guardian and filed in the student's athletic file. This information will help the doctor who gives the physical.
4. **Drug Testing Consent Form:** This gives Scurry-Rosser ISD consent to give random drug tests to any Scurry-Rosser athlete.
5. **UIL Eligibility Questionnaire Form & Previous Athletic Participation Form: (If Necessary)**
6. **UIL Acknowledgement of Rules Form**
7. **UIL Parent and Student Agreement/Acknowledgement Form on Anabolic Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing.**
8. **Parental Acknowledgement of Athletic Policies:** Each parent or guardian and athlete shall read all of the enclosed materials and certify that they understand the athletic rules and policies. This signed document will be filed in the High School Athletic Directors office.

**My signature is representation that I have read and understand the regulations and guidelines for participation in the athletic program of the Scurry-Rosser Independent School District.**

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Student Athlete

Date

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Parent/Guardian

Date