



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

1131 Frederick Road, North Vancouver, B.C. V7K 1J3 Tel: (604) 903-3300 FAX: (604) 903-3301

SECONDARY ATHLETICS

SEASONAL SPORTS / ATHLETIC EVENTS

Informed Consent

This is an important notice. Please have it translated.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

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The written, informed consent of parents is required for participation of students for all seasonal sport, athletic events and activities in North Vancouver School District No. 44. This legal requirement is the direct result of tragic occurrences on school field trips in several jurisdictions. The purpose of the Informed Consent document is to provide students and parents with information that is related specifically to one seasonal sport. The information contained herein applies to the entire season of the specific sport and/or athletic event and also extends to pre-season and post-season activities ie. Exhibition games, training camps, league playoffs, District/Zone playoffs, Regional and/or Provincial finals. The parent and student consenting signatures on this document indicate acknowledgement and acceptance of the information contained herein inclusive of risks and potential consequences.

The scheduling of any seasonal sport and/or athletic event involving a multiple-day and/or out-of-province excursion is governed under the provisions of School District *Policy 207: Field Trips* and parents will be informed separately and accordingly.

Within this package, you will find information relating to:

- Athletic/educational purpose(s)
- Notification of student/parent pre-season meeting required for: football, rugby, alpine skiing, snowboarding, gymnastics, diving, wrestling, and mountain biking.
- Detailed itinerary consisting of schedule, date(s), and times
- Transportation arrangements
- Description of supervisors: teachers, employees of the Board and other adult volunteers with emergency information
- Description of direct and indirect supervision
- Description of all activities, inherent risks and potential consequences
- Assessment of student skills and abilities as pertaining to the sport/athletic activity
- Behavioral expectations of students plus safety rules and regulations
- Contingency Plan: cell phone, first-aid provision(s), Incident Report Form(s) and completed medical forms
- Description of budget consisting of revenue (cost to student) and expenditures (cost of trip)
- Notice regarding cancellation and deposits
- Parental responsibility to arrange student accident or liability insurance
- Parental responsibility to determine whether the student may participate in the sport
- *Student Awareness of Responsibility and Risk Form* completed by student

ATHLETIC/EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE(S):

The objective of extra-curricular athletics is to foster a healthy appreciation of competition in the context of individual and team sports. Specifically, our program aims for the pursuit of excellence in the areas of commitment, competition, skill development, enjoyment, cooperation, and involvement by students.

By virtue of being out of the classroom, students on an athletic team learn to be ambassadors for their school, their community and even their country. They learn the realities of travel, the responsibilities and independence of self-governance, the communication skills and leadership skills necessary for teamwork, and the social skills necessary for a variety of circumstances.

***PRE- SEASON MEETING:**

If the nature of the sport and/or athletic event exposes students to a higher than normally acceptable level of risk, then a pre-season information meeting will be arranged for parents and students. The purpose of the pre-season meeting is to provide an opportunity for the dissemination of information and discussion, related to the inherent risks and potential consequences.

If there is a pre-season meeting for this sport, it will be noted on the *Argyle Athletics – Registration & Team Information form*.

*Optional for all sports with the exception of football, rugby, alpine skiing, snowboarding, gymnastics, diving, wrestling, and mountain biking.

ITINERARY:

If the full season schedule is not available, reference North Shore Athletics Web Site. @ www.esporstdesk.com. Search for NSSAA to find North Shore Athletic Home Page.

Field Code Changed

TRANSPORTATION:

Parent(s)/guardian(s) will arrange for transportation that best meets the needs of the sport/athletic event in question. Students are instructed to use the safest mode of transport available with the acknowledgment and approval of their parent(s)/guardian(s). The nature of each athletic event may determine the mode of transportation utilized.

- Students and parents are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements to all practices and/or competitions
- Methods of transportation may include walking, bike riding, private and/or public transportation etc.
- When traveling to and from athletic events, all parties are expected to observe the provisions of the motor vehicle code and safety codes as related to walking and/or bike riding
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) should be aware that their son/daughter may be transported by a volunteer driver

Volunteer drivers are expected to comply with the provisions of School District *Policy 607: Transportation of Student* by familiarizing themselves with the Policy and signing the *Transportation of Students by Parents and Volunteers* form available from the school. School District *Policy 607: Transportation of Students* is available for viewing a www.nvsd44.bc.ca/NV/Policies/607.asp?ID.

SUPERVISION:

The level of supervision is divided into direct and indirect. Direct supervision is the time students spend with a coach, sponsor(s) and/or chaperone(s), which is directly related to the event. Indirect supervision is the time students may spend as “unstructured time” outside of activities that are directly supervised. Under indirect supervision, the students may not necessarily be in the company of a coach, sponsor or chaperone. It is expected that students, while under indirect supervision, will act with common sense in accordance with school and school district behavior expectations. Coaches, sponsors and chaperones will determine the parameters of “unstructured time” and clearly articulate them to students. Students, when under indirect supervision, will be informed of how to reach a coach, sponsor or chaperone in the case of an emergency.

COACHES, SPONSORS(S) AND CHAPERONE(S):

Athletics - Secondary

Informed Consent – Secondary Athletics HR

See the *Argyle Athletics – Registration & Team Information form* for contact information.

NOTE: BC School Sports, the North Shore Secondary Schools Athletic Association and the North Vancouver School Board do not require an employee of the Board to be present at games and/or practices.

RISKS AND CONSEQUENCES:

There is a degree of risk in all daily activities. The risk is increased to varying degrees when students are away from the safety and supervision of the school setting. It is impossible to itemize every possible element of risk associated with an athletic event. Generally speaking, this event may include, but not be limited to the following inherent risks, and all risks associated with:

- Travel to and from the event venue
- Active participation in the sport and/or athletic event
- Spectating

All sports have a level of inherent risk and potential consequences, which may include, but is not limited to: bodily injury ranging from incidental to potentially fatal.

In addition, participation in sports and/or athletic events involves travel to and from the home school. Risks associated with travel, may include but are not limited to: mode of transportation, environmental conditions, distance, traffic conditions, etc.

Students have been briefed on the risks involved in playing this sport and on the appropriate precautions to be taken. Students are required to read and ensure they understand the *Student Awareness of Responsibility and Risk Form* in order to demonstrate full understanding of the expectations, risks, safety precautions and responsibilities associated with this sport before being permitted to participate.

Coaches, sponsors, chaperones, and students will do all they can to ensure a safe, common sense, and controlled experience to reduce inherent risk.

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ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Before students may participate in any planned athletic event, the student must assure the coach(es), sponsor(s) and chaperone(s) that he/she has the necessary common sense, required skills, and physical ability to participate in the athletic event.

In order to ensure that the participant has an appropriate level of competence and skill to actively participate in this athletic activity, he/she will be required to provide a self-assessment on the *Student Awareness of Responsibility and Risk Form*. It is important to note that students are solely responsible for being forthright and honest in declaring their level of skills and abilities in the “self-assessment” section entitled, “my level of skills and abilities” on the *Student Awareness of Responsibility and Risk Form*.

As well, the student may be required to demonstrate to school personnel or their delegate, that he/she has a level of competence and skill deemed appropriate for active participation in this athletic activity.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS, SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS:

While participating in high school sports and/or athletic events, it is important that students are aware that behavioral expectations are governed under the B.C. High School Sports Code of Conduct, the School Code of Conduct and the School District Code of Conduct. Furthermore, students represent their school and District at all times when traveling and participating in school sports and/or athletic events and as such are accountable for their behavior.

The overarching principle of all school related activities is to ensure the safety of the individual and group at all times. Students must always be concerned about their own safety and the safety of others at all times.

- All school rules and the student Code of Conduct are in effect.
- Participants must stay in the area where the sport or activity is scheduled.
- All participants must follow the Codes of Conduct as referenced above.
- Students are under the supervision, authority and direction of the volunteer adult(s) approved by the Principal or designate.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING:

At least one supervising adult will have access to a cell phone.

Coaches will have or have access to a basic needs first aid kit, completed medical forms for all team members, and a School District Incident Report Form. In addition, supervising school personnel are required to report and document any serious injury on the Incident Report Form noted above.

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NOTE: If an Incident Report Form has been completed due to injury, it is the head coaches' or sponsor's responsibility to file copies of: (1) the original *Incident Report Form*; (2) signed *Informed Consent Approval*; (3) *Student Awareness of Responsibility and Risk Form* and; (4) *Registration and Medical Form* in the Main Office. Office staff will keep these four documents on file.

POLICY REGARDING REFUNDS:

NOTE: If a seasonal sport budget requires the payment of a deposit and/or monies either in advance of the season or during the season and the athletic event(s) is cancelled either in part or in whole, or the schedule/itinerary becomes altered, neither the school nor the Board shall be liable for any refund either in part, or in whole.

TRAVEL/MEDICAL/ACCIDENT INSURANCE:

Unless notified otherwise, the sport and/or athletic event in which your child is participating has not arranged group insurance for Travel and/or Accident Insurance. Parents are responsible for the provision of individual student Accident Insurance for their child if desired.

It is strongly recommended that if your child is participating in school and/or community athletics, parents may obtain Individual student Accident Insurance from www.iapkidsplus.com.

Parents have the responsibility to arrange extra accident or liability insurance.

MEDICAL/EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Parents are required to fill in the separate *Medical/Emergency Contact Information Form*. The information provided on the *Medical/Emergency Contact Information Form* is critical for guiding appropriate medical responses as needed.

PARENT AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY:

Parents have the responsibility to determine whether the student may participate on the chosen team. They must give their informed consent by completing the online registration process and signing the *Argyle Athletics – Registration & Team Information* form.