



Cañada College • College of San Mateo • Skyline College

Student-Athlete Participation Agreement

INTRODUCTION

The intercollegiate athletic program at the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD) enhances the personal growth and education of students through their participation in a comprehensive program. A student-athlete will be a responsible citizen, who achieves academically and performs athletically. The District's athletic program actively promotes equity and diversity, and provides community enrichment.

To this end, the SMCCCD has adopted a standard of ethical conduct and behavioral expectations for all athletes at Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College. These standards and expectations are in addition to but complementary of the SMCCCD colleges' Student Code of Conduct and the decorum standards established by the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA).

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

It is a privilege and not a right to be a student-athlete at the colleges of the San Mateo County Community College District. On campus, in the community, and on the internet/online, every student-athlete is expected to conduct himself or herself in a manner that exhibits honor and respect for themselves, their team, their college and the surrounding community for the duration of his or her time as a SMCCCD student-athlete.

- 1. Academics.** It is the responsibility of each student athlete to maintain good academic standing. Each athlete must meet the eligibility requirements established by the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA). This includes maintaining fulltime enrollment during each semester an athlete's sport is in season. Student-athletes are expected to attend class regularly and punctually, and to fulfill academic performance requirements. Failure to meet such obligations may affect eligibility to participate in District sports.
- 2. Compliance.** As a student-athlete at SMCCCD, participants must comply with all federal, state and local laws as well as College regulations regarding academics and general conduct, including those outlined in each SMCCCD college's Student Code of Conduct. Students penalized for violating the law may face further sanctions by College authorities if actions also violate District policy or the Student Code of Conduct. In addition, the respective colleges' athletics departments and respective coaches reserve the right to implement additional sanctions relating to athletic participation.
- 3. Representing the College(s).** A student-athlete is an ambassador of his or her respective college, and is seen in the public eye more often than the average student. Student-athletes are reminded that it is a privilege – not a right – to be a college athlete, but it is also his or her responsibility to represent their college with honor, class and dignity. At all times, student-athletes are required to conduct themselves in a manner respectful of themselves, their team, their college(s), the District, game officials, opponents, and property. Student-athletes are to refrain from disrespectful conduct such as unsporting conduct; profane, abusive, demeaning, harassing, threatening, or obscene expression; or deliberate damage to equipment or other property. Disrespectful conduct will not be tolerated.
- 4. Use of College Property.** Each athlete is expected to use college property or equipment in the manner for which it is intended. Any intentional destruction of college property or other property while representing SMCCCD colleges will not be tolerated. Violators will be subject to the college's Student Code of Conduct and may be held responsible for damages and/or replacement costs.

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5. **Alcohol and Drug Use.** Student-athletes are to refrain from consuming or possessing alcoholic beverages or using or possessing drugs while representing the college/during team activities.
6. **Online/Internet Activities (including social media).** An athlete's behavior in their personal life can reflect well or poorly on themselves and their teams/college. Student-athletes should make wise decisions about personal behavior. Student-athletes are cautioned to exercise good judgement when engaging on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr, etc. This includes not posting (1) offensive or inappropriate pictures, (2) offensive or inappropriate comments, and/or (3) posting any information that would be a violation of this Agreement, the college's Student Code of Conduct, and all other applicable state, federal, and local laws and regulations. REMEMBER: Once something is posted to social media, it is almost impossible to make it go away.
7. **Violence.** SMCCCD is committed to creating and maintaining a community in which its members are free from all forms of harassment, exploitation, intimidation, and violence. Student-athletes are prohibited from engaging in violent acts including assault on a person or property, hate crimes, hazing, stalking, sexual violence, or any other conduct prohibited by District policy or law.
8. **Sexual Assault.** SMCCCD will not tolerate sexual harassment, intimidation, stalking, rape, domestic violence, or other related violations. Any athlete found in violation of this standard may be subject to immediate athletic-related sanctions and/or discipline by the College, as outlined in District policies related to harassment, assault and abuse.
9. **Conduct.** Student-athletes are held accountable to a high standard of ethical conduct in all activities affecting the athletics program, whether as a participant or as a spectator. "Unsporting" conduct will be reviewed by the Director of Athletics and may result in athletic-related sanctions.
10. **Team Obligations.** Student-athletes must complete training requirements; arrive promptly for team practices, meetings, and departure for away games and other team events; comply with team rules set by coaches; attend team functions; and otherwise fulfill their responsibilities as team members.

TIMELY NOTIFICATION

Student-athletes arrested for, or charged with, violating the law must immediately inform their team's head coach of their arrest/charge. Upon consultation with the coach, the college's Athletic Director shall determine the appropriate course of action, consulting the Vice President of Student Services as necessary. Based on available information, the Athletic Director (or his or her designee) may, at any time prior to a finding or plea of guilt to a criminal charge, impose additional sanctions relating to a student-athlete's ability to participate in a sport.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS AND SANCTIONS

The Department of Athletics disciplinary process is complementary to the College's Student Code of Conduct and relates exclusively to a student-athlete's participation in the athletics program. If a student-athlete violates the College's Student Code of Conduct, he or she will be referred to the College student judicial processes.

Sanctions levied by the Athletics Department for violating this Participation Agreement may occur over and above those levied by the College. Sanctions will vary depending on the type and circumstances of the violation. A student-athlete who is subject to sanctions imposed for violating this Agreement may appeal the sanctions issued by their head coach or college athletic director to the college president. Appeals to the college president must be received – in writing – within three (3) business days of the date the sanction is imposed. The decision of the college president is final and not appealable.

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STUDENT-ATHLETE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

I acknowledge and agree that I am required to know, understand, and follow the standards and expectations contained in the San Mateo County Community College District Student-Athlete Participation Agreement, and summarized below. In addition, I understand and agree that I am responsible for knowing, understanding, and following the rules, policies, and procedures contained in the Student Code of Conduct of my college(s), and my sports team(s) policies.

1. Academics – I am to attend class regularly and maintain good academic standing.
2. Compliance – I am to abide by all federal, state, local laws and District and College policies, including the Student Code of Conduct.
3. Representing the College(s) – I am an ambassador and will represent myself and the college appropriately in the classroom, on/in the athletic facilities, and in the community. I will be respectful of my team, my college(s), the District, game officials, opponents, and property.
4. Use of College Property – I will use all property or equipment in the manner for which it is intended.
5. Alcohol and Drug Use – I will not use or possess alcohol or drugs while representing the college or participating in team activities.
6. Online/Internet Activities (*including social media*) – I will exercise good judgement online and when using social media.
7. Violence – I understand that acts of assault on a person, hate crimes, hazing, stalking, sexual violence, or any conduct prohibited by District policy or law are strictly prohibited.
8. Sexual Assault – I understand that sexual harassment, intimidation, stalking, rape, domestic violence, or other related violations will not be tolerated.
9. Conduct – I understand that as a student-athlete, I am held accountable to a high standard of ethical conduct in all activities affecting the athletics program; further, I understand that “Unsporting” conduct is not acceptable.
10. Team Obligations – As a student-athlete, I must meet all team obligations.

I understand the possible individual and team sanctions that could be imposed due to a violation of any of the standards listed above. If I have further questions regarding this Student-Athlete Participation Agreement, the College’s Student Code of Conduct, or other rules or laws, I will ask my coach or the Director of Athletics.

Name: _____ G#: _____
(PRINT) (PRINT)

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(SIGN) (PRINT)

Parent/Guardian Signature (if athlete is under age 18): _____
(SIGN)

College: _____ Sport: _____
(PRINT) (PRINT)

Coach Signature: _____ AD Signature: _____
(SIGN) (SIGN)

Initial: _____