

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

“HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS”



**INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS
HANDBOOK**

FOR

STUDENT-ATHLETES

Grades 7-12

AND

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Revised 5/24/06

This handbook belongs to: _____

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome	Page 3
Board of Education Goal Philosophy NYSPHSAA, Inc. Code of Ethics	Page 4
Philosophy by Sport Level	Page 5
Seventh & Eighth Grade Classifications	Page 6
Selection Classification	Page 7
Eligibility Risk Factor in Sports	Page 8
Athletic Rules and Regulations	Page 9 - 20
Sportsmanship Policy Parent/Guardian/Spectator Code of Behavior/Ethics No Smoking Policy Student-Athlete Code of Behavior	Page 9
Coach's Code of Behavior/Ethics Disqualification Policy	Page 10
Athletic Training Rules	Page 11-12
Academic Eligibility for Athletes	Page 13-14
Physical Education Requirement Attendance Policy, Suspensions/Detentions Practices & Contests, Leaving a Team	Page 15
Quitting The Team Dismissal From a Team Transportation Changing Sports, Hazing-Initiation Conflicts, Equipment	Page 16
Chain of Communication Family Vacations Outside Participation Squad Selection, Course Load Web Site Information	Page 17
Athletic Award System	Page 18
Sports Boosters Club NCAA Information	Page 19
Interscholastic Athletic Offerings	Page 20
Athletic Forms	Pages 21-26

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Interscholastic Athletics Handbook

Dear Parents/Guardians and Student-Athletes:

Welcome to the Camden Blue Devils Interscholastic Athletic Program. This handbook has been prepared as a reference for our student-athletes and their parents/guardians in an effort to define responsibilities and expectations as they pertain to the rules and regulations, as well as the guidelines for participation in our interscholastic athletic programs. In addition to the information presented here, individual coaches may hand out information specific to their sports program.

Upon entering secondary school, students are exposed to many new opportunities and challenges. An important part of the educational experience at this level is the extra-curricular programs available to all students, in particular, the interscholastic athletic program. Nationwide, studies have shown that students involved in extra-curricular programs such as interscholastic sports, achieve better grades, manage their time more effectively, have fewer discipline problems and stay in school.

I am very pleased that you have shown an interest in this phase of our school program. It is my belief that participation in athletics is a privilege and honor that provides an opportunity for developing life-long skills not always available in the academic classroom. Our goal is to provide a “first class” experience that promotes team and individual growth in a safe and healthy environment. When a student chooses to participate in our athletic program, he/she has committed him/herself to certain responsibilities and obligations. This handbook will acquaint you with some of the specific rules that are necessary for a well-organized program of interscholastic athletics.

The Camden Interscholastic Athletic Program is governed by the regulations of the New York State Commissioner of Education’s basic code for extra-class athletic activities. We follow the Project Save Legislation regulations for compliance with Interscholastic Athletics. In addition, Camden is a member of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), Section III and competes in the Tri-Valley League.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Camden Blue Devils Athletic Program. I look forward to working with you to ensure that you take advantage of the tremendous opportunities athletics can provide.

Sincerely,

Aaron Carey
Administrator of Health, Physical Education and Interscholastic Athletics
(315) 245-0605

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) GOAL:

All students will be treated fairly, without prejudice, and be given an equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of school (Goal # 5).

PHILOSOPHY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Camden Central School District believes that Interscholastic Athletics is an integral part of the total educational process. Our programs will allow equal opportunities for participation that will foster a sense of pride, family and tradition.

Through the leadership of the Board of Education, Administration and Coaches we will all maintain the highest standards of competence, character, civility and citizenship. We will work collaboratively to develop positive attitudes in the highest competitive level.

***It is also important to note, that at no time will our program place the educational academic curriculum secondary in emphasis to interscholastic athletics.**

NYSPHSAA, Inc. CODE OF ETHICS

IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL CONCERNED WITH HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
2. To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
5. To establish a happy relationship between visitors and host.
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials.
7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
8. To encourage leadership, use of initiative and good judgment by players on the team.
9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social and emotional well being of the individual players.
10. To remember that an athletic contest is only a game- not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, fan or community.

PHILOSOPHY BY SPORT LEVEL

MODIFIED (GRADE 7 & 8)

This program is available to all students in the 7th and 8th grades between the ages of 12 to 15. A student reaching age 16 during a sport season may complete that season and must play freshman, junior varsity or varsity the next sport season. Sport activities offered are determined by existence of leagues, student interest, and relationship to the high school program and board approval. At this level the focus is on learning athletic skills and game rules, fundamentals of team play, socio-emotional growth, physiologically appropriate demands on the adolescent body and healthy competition. This program is designed to offer students the opportunity to engage in a more highly organized competitive experience than what is found in youth programs, but not as involved as those found in varsity or junior varsity interscholastic competition. Each sport will adhere to the specific guidelines established by the league, section, and state. An attempt will be made to give all team members meaningful contest participation over the course of a season.

JUNIOR VARSITY (JV) & FRESHMAN

This program is intended for those who display the potential of continued development into productive varsity level performers. Team membership varies according to the structure of each sport, but sophomores and freshmen occupy the majority of the roster positions. In certain situations, juniors who are expected to make contributions at the varsity level will be considered for JV participation. Eighth graders who have satisfied all selection classification requirements may also be included. At this level increased emphasis is placed upon elements and strategies of team play, physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills and socio-emotional development. The JV program works towards achieving a balance between continued team and player development and striving for victory. The outcome of the contest becomes a consideration at this level. An attempt will be made to play all participants, however, equal playing time is never guaranteed nor is it required. With the goal of becoming a varsity athlete clearly in sight, a high level of dedication and commitment is expected at the junior varsity and freshman level.

VARSIITY

The varsity level of interscholastic athletic competition is the culmination of the high school athletic program. Normally, seniors and juniors make up the majority of the roster; however, gifted sophomores and sometimes freshmen may be included. It is also possible for an 8th grader, who has met the selection classification requirements to be included on a varsity roster. Team play, sportsmanship, individual physical ability, motivation and mental attitude are very important aspects of competition at this level. While contest participation over the course of the season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time is never guaranteed. It is vital that each team member has a role and knows its importance. Preparing to win and striving for victory in each contest are worthy goals of a varsity level team. The varsity coach is the leader of his/her sport program and is responsible for communication and system development among each level.

7th & 8th Grade Classifications

Effective fall 2003, the Board of Education adopted a new policy that affects athletes. This new policy has a component that pertain to Selective Classification. The new component of this policy are as follows:

1. **Seventh and Eighth Grade** students may be considered for placement on a Freshman, JV, or Varsity Team through the New York State Selective Classification program. Candidates are limited to students who meet the following criteria:
 - A) Have demonstrated through prior competition that they are **exceptionally skilled** in the sport requested and can perform **consistently** at an advanced level.
 - B) Possess the appropriate physical development as determined by a Physician.
 - C) Have sufficient social and emotional maturity as determined by the appropriate parties.
 - D) Are in good academic standing.
 - E) Pass all phases of the NYS selective classification – screening test. Prior to the season, this will be a one-time trial.
 - F) Accomplish all the necessary qualification tasks prior to the appropriate deadlines.

SELECTIVE CLASSIFICATION

The Selective Classification Program was designed for more mature and exceptionally skilled students to advance to an upper level. If the student-athlete does not meet the criteria for selective classification, he/she will remain at their appropriate level. The program is not to be used to fill positions on teams, provide additional experience, or to reward a student. It is aimed at a few select students who can benefit from such placement because of their level of readiness.

The procedure for Selective Classification Testing Process will be as follows:

Step 1 – A recommendation by the coach of the sport is made to the Athletic Administrator to begin the Selective Classification screening process.

Step 2 – The Athletic Administrator must receive written permission from the parents of the athlete to initiate the screening process. The Athletic Administrator will meet with the coaching staff to discuss the maturity and abilities of the athlete. The Athletic Administrator may also request to observe the athlete in a practice setting to assess the abilities of the athlete.

Step 3 – If it is determined that the athlete has exceptional ability, then the Athletic Administrator will recommend to the Superintendent that the athlete see a Physician and begin the Selective Classification screening process.

Step 4 – Upon a level appropriate maturation rating from a Physician, the athlete will be scheduled to participate in the Selective Classification physical fitness testing. A physical educator who is not the coach of the team for which the student is being evaluated will schedule the test. Prior to the season, a one-time trial is given.

Step 5 – With Administrative approval, the athlete will be scheduled for a maturation screening with a Physician.

Please keep in mind the following when considering Selective Classification:

- Selective Classification is designed for the **exceptionally skilled athlete**. The process of moving up an exceptionally skilled athlete will be the exception rather than the norm.
- The welfare of all our athletes must be taken into consideration including the athletes that are displaced as a result of Selective Classification athletes that are moved up in a particular sport.
- Priority for team selection will be given to the age appropriate athletes for that level.

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
GUIDELINES FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

ELIGIBILITY

Each athlete will participate under the eligibility requirements, rules, and regulations set forth by the New York State Commissioner of Education and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, as well as the Camden Central School District Board of Education. Each student-athlete and his/her parent/guardian will be required to sign and submit to the Athletic Administrator an Athletic Participation Authorization Form. A student-athlete will not be permitted to participate until this requirement is completed.

NYS PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION - ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

A student shall be eligible for interschool competition in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 until his/her nineteenth birthday. If the age of nineteen years is reached on or after July 1, the student may continue to participate during that school year in all sports. A pupil shall be eligible for senior high athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons of such sport commencing with the pupil's entry into the ninth grade and prior to graduation, except otherwise provided in the sub clause in the NYS PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

1. **WARNING: Participation in athletics does involve some risks. Physical injury can occur in any type of sports activity. By volunteering to participate in a school sponsored athletic activity, a student and his/her parents/guardians acknowledge the potential risk for physical injury or death to occur.**
2. Sports physicals are scheduled at various times during the school year. Every student-athlete must pass a physical exam and **be approved by a physician** prior to practice or participation in any interscholastic sport. The student is responsible for reporting for the physical examination at the scheduled time.
3. The athlete is to report all injuries, no matter how minor, to the coach. The coach will complete an accident report to be filed with the school nurse.
4. If a student-athlete has a physician-attended injury or is absent from attendance in school or at practice sessions due to illness for five or more consecutive days, he/she must have the approval of the school physician or a medical release from the attending physician before participating in practice, scrimmage or a game. **This release must be filed with our school nurse.** If a student-athlete goes to an emergency room for care, he/she must obtain a written release statement from the attending physician before leaving the hospital.
5. **Medical expenses resulting from any athletic injury must first be submitted to the parents'/guardians' insurance carrier. Any remaining balance may then be submitted to the school district's insurance carrier by processing a claim form that can be obtained from the school medical office. The school district's insurance provides only supplemental coverage according to a schedule of benefits.**
6. A health history update is required prior to participation in each sports season.
7. An athletic trainer may be available for student-athletes.

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDE

The Camden Central School District Interscholastic Athletic Program is committed to promoting the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play at all sports activities. Good sportsmanship is defined as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The concept of “sportsmanship” must be taught, modeled, expected and reinforced in the classroom and in all competitive activities. Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action.

We are further committed to the belief that schools participating in interscholastic athletic activities should be held responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches, staff members and spectators. Conduct which is detrimental to the educational value of athletic activities could result in appropriate disciplinary action by the school.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/SPECTATOR CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian/spectator to:

1. Keep cheering positive. No profanity or degrading language/gestures.
2. Avoid actions which offend visiting teams or individual players.
3. Show appreciation of good play by both teams.
4. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Treat all visiting teams and spectators as guests and show respect.
6. Accept the judgment of coaches and officials.
7. Encourage all spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
8. When attending school functions, spectators are expected to adhere to the same guidelines as outlined under training rules for student-athletes (page 11).
9. **NO SMOKING POLICY:** To comply with Federal and State law and to acknowledge the health hazards associated with smoking, particularly in an environment where children are present, the Camden Board of Education prohibits the use of tobacco products, including but not limited to smoking and chewing tobacco in all school facilities, on all school grounds, and in any school vehicle used to transport children or school personnel.

STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF BEHAVIOR

It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to:

1. Demonstrate self-control and respect for others at all times, be they officials, spectators or other athletes.
2. Remember that participation in athletics is a privilege that is not to be abused by unsportsmanlike conduct.
3. Deal with opponents with respect. Shake hands after the competition and congratulate them on their performance.
4. Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials.
5. Remember that improper behavior while in uniform, in your school or in our community, reflects poorly upon yourself, your family, your school and your community.
6. Understand and abide by the rules and regulations of the game.
7. Remember that the use, abuse and resulting negative influence of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, and performance-enhancing supplements is detrimental to the game and its participants.
8. Accept victory with grace; accept defeat with dignity and class.

For the privilege of participating in athletics, all student-athletes must realize that more is expected of them than of other students in our school.

COACHES' CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS

It is the responsibility of the coach to:

1. Promote good sportsmanship by setting a positive example while coaching.
2. Respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials.
3. Approach competition as a healthy and constructive exercise, not as a life and death struggle that requires victory at any price.
4. Refrain from the use of crude or abusive language with players, opponents, officials or spectators.
5. Instruct the players in the elements of good sportsmanship, and remove players from competition who demonstrate unsportsmanlike behavior.
6. Avoid behavior that will incite players, opponents or spectators.
7. Avoid and eliminate negative comments to radio, TV and newspaper reporters.

SECTION III & CAMDEN DISQUALIFICATION POLICY

Sportsmanship is an integral and vital ingredient of any interscholastic athletic program. The National Federation of High School Athletics, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Section III and the Oneida County Athletic Associations have targeted the area of sportsmanship for a major emphasis. Section III and Camden Central Schools have instituted the following policy to ensure the development of and the understanding of the importance of proper sportsmanship and fair play.

Any Camden student-athlete, coach or spectator who is ejected/disqualified from a contest will be automatically suspended for the remainder of that game and a minimum of one additional contest. The game(s) is to be the next regularly scheduled contest(s) and may be carried over to the next season. Ejection/disqualification incident reports must be submitted to the Athletic Administrator, the Section III office and the League Sportsmanship Chairperson. A conference between the player or coach and the Athletic Administrator will take place before the student-athlete or coach is eligible to return.

TRAINING RULES

It is very important that the student-athlete and the parents/guardians understand, agree to, abide by and reinforce the essential policies in regard to athletic training rules. These regulations have been established for the benefit of those who participate as players, students and representatives of our school and community.

It is the overwhelming opinion of health educators and teachers/coaches that athletes perform best when they follow responsible training rules, which include abstinence from tobacco, alcohol and any mood modifying substances producing harmful effects on the human body. Additionally, significant findings along with publicity surrounding deaths and arrests of professional, college, and high school athletes, have most certainly pointed out the undesirability of using chemicals (tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs such as marijuana, cocaine and steroids. The use of caffeine pills, diet pills, and performance enhancing supplements –e.g. creatine/and any other controlled substance are not allowed in school. Our athletic program and staff, as well as the National Federation of State High School Associations, wholeheartedly endorse these findings. Unfortunately, education and reasoning alone are not always sufficient to deter the use or experimentation of these chemicals and controlled substances. The Camden Athletic Department will require all of its participants to agree to and abide by the student-athlete training code. In order to participate, the authorization form at the back of this packet must be signed by both the student-athlete and the parents/guardians and submitted to the Athletic Administrator.

Please Note: Attendance at any gathering where alcohol or drugs are being illegally used, even if you are not using them, will be interpreted as your approval and support of such activity, which could result in being placed on a training rule violation (see next page).

It is the Camden Central School District and the Athletic Department's policy to prevent and prohibit the possession of and/or use of any amounts of alcoholic beverage, tobacco products, or unauthorized use of drugs (controlled chemicals or substances) by all student-athletes during the school year.

This training rule policy (BOE approved policy) will be in effect in school and out of school for the entire sport season of participation (from the first legal practice of the season until the final contest of the season). Student-athletes are encouraged to abide by training rules both in and out of season for the entire year.

****Please Note – The Code of Conduct found in the Camden High School student-parent handbook is in effect all year and any suspensions resulting from this policy will take precedence over Athletic Department policy.**

VIOLATION REPORTS

Reports of alleged student-athlete violations of the above mentioned training rule policy must be witnessed and submitted in writing to the school administration and/or Athletic Administrator as soon as possible. Violation reports will be accepted from any coaching staff member, faculty/staff member and/or a reliable adult.

Suspensions begin from the date that a determination of guilt is made. The student-athlete's school year is defined as all of the days beginning with the first day of practice in the fall season and inclusive of all days through the official end of the school year (graduation). Student-athletes whose suspension carries over into a subsequent sports season may try out (at the discretion of the new coach and the Athletic Administrator) for the next season, but must still serve the remainder of their suspension until their suspension period is complete.

- A. **Any suspension will carry-over to the next sport season, even if it goes into the next school year. Summer weeks do not count in the suspension. The student-athlete will be allowed to try-out/practice, at the discretion of the new coach and Athletic Administrator, but will serve the remainder of the suspension.**

PROCEDURE FOLLOWING REPORT OF A TRAINING RULE VIOLATION

Upon report and after investigation of an alleged violation, the Athletic Administrator shall provide verbal notice, followed by written notice, to the student-athlete, his/her parents/guardians and the respective coach regarding the necessary disciplinary action to be administered and followed by the student-athlete. If the student-athlete violates any of the terms of his/her suspension, the Athletic Administrator will take further disciplinary action. If requested, a conference will be held between the student-athlete, his/her parents/guardians, the coach and the Athletic Administrator. These offenses will be carried over throughout the student-athletes high school career.

1ST Offense- 6 week suspension* from any athletic participation. If the student-athlete agrees to attend counseling with a certified counselor designated by the school, the student-athlete may participate in athletics after a 3-week suspension. The parents/guardian will pay for the cost of the counseling.

The student-athlete will continue the counseling until the counselor feels the student-athlete no longer needs the sessions. The certified counselor must then give the Athletic Administrator written clearance. The student-athlete must be in attendance at all practices during the suspension, but may not participate but needs to attend all of their teams scrimmages/contests. If a student-athlete chooses not to attend all practices, he/she will be considered to have quit the team and will not be eligible for any athletic awards, letters and the banquet for that sport season. (Which refers to the paragraph of quitting the team, page 16.)

2nd Offense- 20 week suspension* from any athletic participation. If the student-athlete agrees to attend counseling with a certified counselor designated by the school, the student-athlete may participate in athletics after a 10-week suspension. The student-athlete will continue counseling until the counselor feels the student-athlete no longer needs the sessions. If this suspension carries over into a new season, the student-athlete may try out at the discretion of the new coach and the Athletic Administrator, but may not participate or attend any scrimmages/contests until the suspension is completed.

3rd Offense- 30 week suspension* from any athletic participation. If the student-athlete agrees to attend counseling with a counselor designated by the school, the student-athlete may participate in athletics after a 20-week suspension. The student-athletes will continue counseling until the counselor feels the student-athlete no longer needs the sessions.

The substance abuse counseling experience must be specific to the nature of the violation. In order for an illegal drug violation to be reduced the individual in question must test negative to an approved drug test. The drugs test must be paid for by the individual, parents or guardians.

CITIZENSHIP

As athletes, our students have the privilege of representing the school and the community in a special way. With this privilege comes a responsibility to conduct oneself at a higher level, both in and out of school. Citizenship violations by an in-season student-athlete, while in school, will result in penalties as defined by the student planner handbook, as well as the possibility of an Athletic Hearing. If the student-athlete engages in a behavior or actions outside of school, which legally would constitute a misdemeanor or felony, then he/she will be referred to the Athletic Hearing Committee. The Athletic Hearing Committee will consist of: the Athletic Administrator, the involved athlete's coach, and an Administrator. The Athletic Hearing Committee will act on these offenses, based on the severity of the offense.

The penalty imposed are described below:

Teams playing ten league games or less, in a season, will serve the consequences below. Teams having more than ten league games will serve double. Post season contest are not included in total number of contest.

1st Offense- will result in team suspension for next Two scheduled contests.

- student/athlete must still attend their team practices.

2nd Offense- will result in team suspension for next Four scheduled contests.

- student/athlete may practice at the discretion of the coach.

3rd Offense- will result in team suspension from current season ending.

- no practices and no games.

-i.e. plagiarism, fight, vandalism not all inclusive.

Any 2nd citizenship offense violation during the same season will result in a 3rd offense season ending suspension. Athletic Committee reserves the right to impose more.

Any violations during an athletes' ineligibility will jeopardize participation in future interscholastic athletics as decided by the Athletic Committee. In addition, student athletes could be placed on the Camden High School discipline infraction code chart in the school planner.

Citizenship will start clean each year for all athletes.

RIGHT OF DUE PROCESS

All appeals regarding a student-athlete violation must be made in writing to the Athletic Administrator within three school days after the violation decision has been rendered. The Athletic Counsel Hearing Committee (as defined above) will conduct a private hearing, allowing attendance only by those directly involved in the case. A majority vote of the committee will render a decision within 3 school days of the hearing. The Athletic Administrator will send a written notice of the committee's decision to the student-athlete and his/her parents/guardians. Any final appeal may be taken to the superintendent.

*Please note – individual coaches may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective sport. It is the responsibility of the coach to clearly inform team members, parents/guardians, and the Athletic Administrator of these rules. The Athletic Administrator shall review and support the coach's additional rules. The coach will administer penalties for violation of these established team rules.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS – HIGH SCHOOL

The Board of Education encourages participation in interscholastic athletics, but also affirms that attaining acceptable academic standards is a student's primary responsibility. The policy states that academic achievement will be given consideration in determining interscholastic athletic participation eligibility.

1. At the beginning of each sport season, the coach/advisor shall formally counsel student participants on the academic expectations required for participation in interscholastic athletics.
2. At the beginning of each sport season, all staff members will receive from the Athletic Administrator a list of students participating in the interscholastic athletic program for that season. Student-athletes will have their academic performance evaluated by staff members on a bi-weekly basis. **All staff members shall submit to the athletic office the names of all student-athletes in their classes who are failing to maintain a minimum average of 65%, every other Wednesday (by 3:00p.m.), unless otherwise designated.** A standardized form will be provided by the Athletic Administrator and be used by all staff members when submitting class failures.
3. If a student is taking two courses or less, no failing grades are allowed. B.O.C. E. S. counts as one class.

Step 1. A student-athlete who is failing **two or more** classes will be placed on an Interscholastic Athletic Ineligibility List.

- A. The Athletic Administrator or his/her designee will notify the coach of a student-athlete who appears on the Ineligibility List during a sport season each Friday, unless otherwise designated. The coach will then notify the student-athlete, in person, on Friday.
- B. The **first time**, a student-athlete appears on the Ineligibility List (during a sport season), he/she will be placed on **probation** and will have two weeks to get his/her name removed from the Ineligibility List or suspension will follow. Probation will be from Monday-to-Monday, unless otherwise designated. **Only one probationary period will be granted a student-athlete per sport season.**
- C. While on probation, the student-athlete will be allowed to participate in all practices and contests.

Step 2. A student-athlete who continues to appear on the **Interscholastic Athletic Ineligibility List** after a probationary period has been granted will begin serving a **2-week suspension period** (from Monday-to-Monday), unless otherwise designated.

- A. The Athletic Administrator or his/her designee will notify the coach of a student-athlete required to serve the 2-week suspension period each Friday, unless otherwise designated. The coach will inform the student-athlete, in person, on Friday. Ineligibility will begin on Monday, unless otherwise designated.
- B. While serving the 2-week suspension, the student-athlete may continue to attend and participate in practice but **will not be eligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic contest or travel to any away contests during the 2-week suspension period.** Failure to attend practice – will be considered a quit.
- C. The parent/guardian of the student-athlete will be notified of the suspension via phone call and/or a written notice from the Athletic Administrator.
- D. At the end of the 2-week suspension period the student-athlete will regain eligibility provided his/her name **does not continue to appear on the Interscholastic Athletic Ineligibility List.**

- Step 3. A student-athlete who continues to appear on the **Interscholastic Athletic Ineligibility List** after the 2-week suspension period will be given a **final 2-week suspension period** from the Monday-to-Monday, upon notification by the Athletic Administrator, unless otherwise designated.
- The Athletic Administrator or his/her designee will notify the coach of a student-athlete required to serve the final 2-week suspension period in person each Friday, unless otherwise designated. The coach will inform the student-athlete, in person, on Friday. Ineligibility begins on Monday, unless otherwise designated.
 - While serving the 2-week suspension, the student-athlete **will not be allowed to attend or participate in any practice or any contest during the 2-week final suspension period.**
 - The parent/guardian of the student-athlete will be notified of the suspension via phone call and/or a written notice from the Athletic Administrator.
 - At the end of the 2-week final suspension period, the student-athlete will regain eligibility provided **his/her name does not continue to appear on the Athletic Ineligibility List.**
- Step 4. A student-athlete who continues to appear on the **Interscholastic Athletic Ineligibility List** after the final 2-week suspension period **will be dismissed** from his/her respective athletic team for the remainder of the season, due to academic needs.
- A student-athlete being dismissed for academic needs by the Athletic Administrator or his/her designee will notify their respective athletic team in person each Friday, unless otherwise designated.
 - The parent/guardian and coach of the student-athlete will be notified of the dismissal via phone call and/or a written notice from the Athletic Administrator.
 - The student-athlete will be removed from the team roster and will be ineligible for any athletic awards for the respective sport season.
- . A student-athlete will regain eligibility to participate in the interscholastic athletics at the beginning of each new sport season.

Academic Eligibility for Interscholastic Athletics Ineligibility List Procedures

Step 1	1 st Time on List	2 Week Probation Period	Continue Practice and Contests
Step 2	2 nd Time on List	2 Week Suspension Period	Continue Practice and No Contests
Step 3	3 rd Time on List	2 Week Final Suspension Period	No Practice and No Contests
Step 4	4 th Time on List	Dismissal from Team	Removal from roster

All CMS student-athletes will adhere to the above mentioned Academic Eligibility Program.

- A CMS student-athlete who appears on **Step 1** or **Step 2** will be counseled by his/ her coach and directed to speak with the teachers of the classes that he/ she is failing and seek academic assistance after school.
- A CMS student-athlete who appears on **Step 3** will be counseled and advised to attend Extended School Day (ESD) during the 2 week suspension for extra time to devote to homework and independent assignments.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Athletics is an outgrowth of the Physical Education Program. Those students demonstrating outstanding skills, attitude and effort are those encouraged to participate in athletics. The wide range of activities in physical education gives the students an excellent background in physical fitness, lifelong sports and team sports. Because of the importance of physical education, all athletes will be required to participate in physical education throughout the year. Athletes who are illegally absent from or do not participate in physical education classes may not be permitted to attend practices or games on the day of the absence. **The NYSPHSAA regulations state that a student must be enrolled in physical education to participate in athletics.**

ATTENDANCE

A student-athlete shall be in attendance in their regular classes in order to practice or participate in an athletic contest unless excused for a legal reason. A **legal absence** is defined as: Personal illness, serious illness or death in the family, impassable roads due to weather conditions, religious observance, quarantine, court appearances, attendance at health clinics, approved cooperative work programs, approved college visits, military obligation, disciplinary detention of an incarcerated youth, or any other reason approved by the Commissioner. All instances of excused absence require a written parent/guardian excuse. Be sure the excuse is for a valid and acceptable reason. **It is expected that all student-athletes will be in school at 7:49 am.** Any student tardy or absent (partial day) **must** sign in with the attendance clerk. The parent must **call or write** a note to the attendance clerk (245-0022). The student-athlete must be in school by **9:00**, with the **written note or call** from the parent. If a student-athlete has an appointment and must leave early, but is returning for a practice or contest, an **authorized signature** must be obtained from the Doctor, Dentist, Nurse, Receptionist, Probation Officer, College Visitation Supervisor, and Counselor, etc. **not the parent.** If the athlete returns before the end of the school day, the authorized note must be presented to the attendance office. Otherwise, the authorized note must be presented to the coach or Athletic Administrator, prior to participation in a practice or game. Failure to provide an authorized signature may affect eligibility as determined by the coach or Athletic Administrator. If there is an illegal absence, it will result in no participation in that days practice, scrimmage, or contest. Communication with your coach and the attendance office is imperative. Under extenuating circumstances, contact the Athletic Administrator, attendance clerk, or coach. **Attendance on the day before, the day of, and the day after contests is required, including Saturday contests.** Habitual absences, illegal absences, and tardiness will affect eligibility as determined by the coach or Athletic Administrator.

SUSPENSIONS/DETENTIONS

A student-athlete who is suspended from school or assigned extended-school day (ESD) by school authorities shall incur a suspension from his/her team for that day for which the individual is on suspension. If the athlete attends a contest or practice on a day of a suspension, disciplinary consequences will result. A step 3 or more discipline consequence that results in social probation means the student-athlete can participate in their sport, but cannot attend any other school - sponsored functions. Habitual teacher or administrative detentions will affect eligibility as determined by the coach or Athletic Administrator.

PRACTICES AND CONTESTS

Each athlete is required to attend all practices and/or contests unless excused by the coach. An athlete who is injured or ill but still able to attend school is also required to attend practice even though he/she will not be actively participating. Any student-athlete failing to abide by this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may range from a warning, to suspension, to dismissal from the team. Remember, once you have been placed on a team roster, you are making a commitment to that team for the full season.

LEAVING A TEAM

Any student-athlete who considers leaving a team is encouraged to first talk with the respective coach and communicates his/her concerns and/or reasons for leaving the team. Any student-athlete, who leaves a team, may not be eligible for the next sport season he/she signed up for. If this occurs in the spring, ineligibility could be carried over to the next school year.

QUITTING THE TEAM

A player may withdraw from an interscholastic team under the following circumstances:

1. On those teams for which cuts are required, the athlete may withdraw or leave the team prior to the final cut date.
2. On those teams where no cuts are required, an athlete may withdraw from the team prior to the team's third contest without consequence.
3. If a student-athlete quits a team, he/she cannot attend that sport (at any level) for the remainder of the season.

After these dates, the names of any players withdrawing or quitting the team will be communicated in writing to the Athletic Administrator. The Athletic Administrator will inform the student/athlete and parent/guardian in writing that the athlete has quit an athletic team and may not participate in the following sports season. If this occurs in the spring, ineligibility will be carried over to the next school year.

DISMISSAL FROM A TEAM

Any student-athlete that is dismissed from a team will incur the same consequences as quitting a team, at the discretion of the Athletic Administrator.

TRANSPORTATION

All student-athletes and team personnel will ride to and from all athletic contests on transportation approved and provided by the school district. A student-athlete may ride home with his/her parents/guardians with the approval of the coach and the parent/guardian signing the travel release form provided by the coach. At all away games, the parent(s) must sign their son/daughter out with his/her coach. **Permission for a student-athlete to leave with any other individual will not be given.** In special cases, parents/guardians may request to provide transportation to a contest for their child only.

CHANGING SPORTS

It is important that the student-athlete try out for the right sport, particularly at the Varsity and JV levels. A student-athlete may not change from one sport to another once a team has been selected. If he/she has been cut from one team, it is legitimate to try out for another sport. The athlete must understand that practices are sport specific and may not count from one sport to another. There is one exception for sports that continue on to post-season play. The guidelines are stated in the NYS PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK

HAZING-INITIATION CEREMONY

Camden interscholastic athletic coaches will not permit their team members to stage (formal or informal) any type of "initiation ceremony" or hazing for making their team at any level. "Hazing" includes any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally causes embarrassment to a student, endangers the student's mental or physical health, or involves the forced consumption of food or other matter, alcohol or drugs by a student for the purpose of initiation or association with an organization or team.

CONFLICTS

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many activities will undoubtedly be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in school activities and, to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflict. The athletes and parents/guardians must realize that many times schedules cannot be changed because of league or section regulations or facility usage. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities, including employment, where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the coaches involved immediately when a conflict arises, not the day of the conflict.

EQUIPMENT

All athletic equipment must be returned at the end of the season to the coach. **A student-athlete will not be eligible to participate in another sport until all equipment and uniforms are returned.** In addition, the student-athlete will be financially responsible for any unreturned equipment and uniforms. Seniors will not get diplomas until all obligations have been met.

CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

From time to time during the course of an athletic career in our school, parents/guardians and student-athletes may have questions or concerns that need to be addressed. The team coach is the best source of information. The student-athlete should address concerns directly with his/her team coach. If, after speaking with the coach one is not satisfied, the next step would be for the parent/guardian to speak to the coach and then, if necessary, the varsity coach. The final step if one is still not satisfied would be for the parent/guardian and/or student-athlete to communicate with the Athletic Administrator. Please be advised that anonymous concerns will not be addressed.

FAMILY VACATIONS

When parents/guardians and student-athletes choose to take their family vacation during sport seasons, it must be understood that the time missed by the student-athlete can affect team chemistry and personal conditioning. Student-athletes who miss practices or competition for any reason may have their position or playing time adjusted at the coach's discretion. Coaches shall make every effort to inform parents/guardians and student-athletes of the season's schedule as far in advance as possible.

OUTSIDE PARTICIPATION

The NYSPHSAA allows outside participation (AAU, Travel, Club, etc.). Camden athletes must understand that commitment to the school team comes first, and outside participation should not be detrimental to an individual or to a Camden team. There will be many circumstances where a student should not participate in an outside activity due to the possible effect on the team. Always check with your coach and/or the Athletic Administrator.

SQUAD SELECTION

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students participate in the athletic program as possible, we encourage coaches to keep as many athletes as they can without disrupting the integrity of their sport. The final decision on squad size will be left up to the varsity coach. There will be a minimum of 3 practice days prior to first cuts.

COURSE LOAD

A student-athlete must be a Bona Fide student. The minimum course load for a Bona Fide student is: 3 classes + Physical Education or Tech Vocational Ed (BOCES) + Physical Education.

Web Site Information:

Go to: viewmyschedule.com - for information on Athletic Schedules, Schedule changes, and Contest Results.

Go to: camdenschools.org – for school information.

ATHLETIC AWARD SYSTEM

Each coach will establish the criteria for earning a Varsity Letter in his/her sport. This award is not given for participation and attendance alone. Student-athletes unable to complete a season due to injury, illness or other such circumstances, may earn a letter if the coach feels it is justified. Athletes must finish the season to be eligible for an award. The following awards are provided by the Athletic Department:

VARSITY TEAM MEMBER:

First Year - Varsity Letter, Insignia, and Certificate
Second Year - Bar & Certificate
Third Year & Beyond (non – senior) - Bar and Certificate
Third Year & Beyond (senior) – Devil’s Patch and Certificate

In the event that an athlete did not participate in athletics during his/her freshman year, that athlete may still be entitled to their Numbers of their Year of Graduation

- * Each athlete will be awarded one (1) Varsity Letter “C”.
If an individual previously earned a varsity letter, only an Insignia and Certificate will be awarded for the first time in that sport.
- * Captain’s Pin and Manager’s Pin will be awarded when earned.
- * MVP – Most Valuable Player and MIP – Most Improved Player trophies will be awarded to Varsity team members as picked by the coaches or team members.

JV TEAM MEMBERS:

First Year - JV Letter & Certificate

- * Each athlete may earn only one (1) JV Letter. If a JV Letter was previously earned by an athlete, then only a JV certificate is earned.
- * Any freshman participating on a JV team earns a JV Letter, Certificate, & Numbers of their Year of graduation.

Any Varsity or JV team member that does not letter may be given a Certificate of Participation.

FRESHMAN TEAM MEMBERS:

First Year - Numbers of their year of graduation and Certificate of Participation.

- * Once an athlete has earned their numbers, only a Certificate of Participation is awarded.

JR. HIGH TEAMS:

First Year – Patch and Certificate of Participation

- * Once a patch has been earned, only a Certificate of Participation is awarded.

****Many other athletic awards are provided by the Specific Team Booster Clubs at each sport season banquet.***

SPORTS BOOSTER CLUB

Several Athletic Teams currently have their own Boosters Club. The purpose of a Sports Booster Club is to promote, sponsor, and carry out projects to aid and assist the individual sport programs and to show recognition to participants in that sport.

NCAA INFORMATION

If a student-athlete is planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wants to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division I or Division II level, he/she must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Applications may be obtained in the high school guidance office. For more information, contact the Athletic Administrator or call the NCAA hotline: 1-800-638-3731 or visit their website @ www.ncaa.org.

The best time for a student athlete to register with the clearinghouse is following his/her junior year of high school.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

Fall

Football	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Football Cheerleading	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Soccer	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Girls Soccer	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Field Hockey	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Boys Cross Country	Varsity, Modified
Girls Cross Country	Varsity, Modified
Girls Tennis	Varsity, Junior Varsity

Winter

Boys Basketball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman, Modified (2 Teams)
Girls Basketball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified (2 Teams)
Basketball Cheerleading	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Volleyball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified (2 Teams)
Wrestling	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Boys Bowling	Varsity
Girls Bowling	Varsity
Boys Nordic Skiing	Varsity
Girls Nordic Skiing	Varsity

Spring

Baseball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified (2 Teams)
Softball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified (2 Teams)
Boys Track	Varsity, Modified
Girls Track	Varsity, Modified
Boys Golf	Varsity
Girls Golf	Varsity
Boys Tennis	Varsity

* Two Teams for modified, pending numbers justify.

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
ATHLETIC HEALTH HISTORY

This form must be completed by the student/athlete's parent or guardian and returned to the Health Office BEFORE physical exam is completed.

NAME: _____

SEX: _____ GRADE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: ____/____/____

Please list any sport(s) in which you DO NOT wish your child to participate.

Has your child ever had: (Please check appropriate response)

	Yes	No
A relative die suddenly or unexpectedly before age 50	_____	_____
Anemia	_____	_____
Asthma / wheezing / coughing during or after exercise	_____	_____
Arthritis	_____	_____
Back Injury	_____	_____
Bee Sting Allergy	_____	_____
Bladder / Kidney problem or injury	_____	_____
Capped teeth / orthodontic appliances	_____	_____
Chest Pain / Chest Injuries	_____	_____
Contact Lenses / Eyeglasses	_____	_____
Convulsions / Seizures	_____	_____
Diabetes	_____	_____
Elevated Blood Pressure	_____	_____
Eye Problems	_____	_____
Family history of skin cancer or melanoma	_____	_____
Head Injury / Concussion	_____	_____
Headaches	_____	_____
Heat related illness / Heat stroke	_____	_____
Heart Murmur	_____	_____
Heart Problem	_____	_____
Hernia	_____	_____
Injury to Spleen	_____	_____
Joint Sprain / Ligament Tear / Muscle Pull	_____	_____
Mononucleosis	_____	_____
Neck Injury	_____	_____
Nosebleeds (Frequent or severe)	_____	_____
Rheumatic Fever	_____	_____
Skin Condition	_____	_____
Stomach Ulcer	_____	_____
Thyroid Problems	_____	_____

If the answer to any of the above is YES, please explain below:

ILLNESS/INJURY

DATE

DOCTOR WHO TREATED IT

--Continued on Reverse Side--

Has your child ever experienced any of the following after exercise:

	Yes	No	If so, please explain
Passing Out.....	_____	_____	_____
Palpitations.....	_____	_____	_____
Ceased Exercise due to dizziness.....	_____	_____	_____
A feeling that he/she may faint.....	_____	_____	_____

Does your child have any of the following? If YES, specify below list.

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Allergies.....	_____	_____	One Kidney.....	_____	_____
One Eye.....	_____	_____	One Lung.....	_____	_____
One Ovary.....	_____	_____	Loss of vision in one or both eyes.....	_____	_____
One Testicle.....	_____	_____	Severe hearing loss one/both ears.....	_____	_____

Please Explain: _____

Has your child ever had any operations involving:

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
Abdomen.....	_____	_____	Arms.....	_____	_____	Back.....	_____	_____
Chest/Heart...	_____	_____	Ears.....	_____	_____	Eyes.....	_____	_____
Head.....	_____	_____	Legs.....	_____	_____	Nose/Throat.....	_____	_____

If the answer is YES to any of the above, fill in below:

OPERATION: _____
DATE: _____
DOCTOR: _____
HOSPITAL: _____

Has your child been ill for five consecutive days? Yes _____ No _____
If so, explain _____

Has your child had an illness or injury that required him/her to go to the emergency room or a physician for treatment?
Yes _____ No _____
If so, explain _____

Has your child had an injury or illness requiring medical care in the past year? Yes _____ No _____
If so, explain _____

Does your child have a chronic illness or under the care of a physician on a regular basis? Yes _____ No _____
If so, explain _____

Is your child taking any medication at this time? Yes _____ No _____
If so, please specify medication, dosage and when to be taken.

Has your child ever had a fracture, worn a cast, dislocated a bone, or had a joint injury? Yes _____ No _____
If so, explain _____

I am the parent or legal guardian of this student and attest to the accuracy of the above information.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Return this form to the Nurse's office

I want my child to have a physical at school: YES _____ NO _____

Student's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Grade													
Questionnaire													
Vision													
Audio													
BP													
Height													
Weight													
Tetanus													
	Nor.	Abn.	NE										
Head/Neuro Scars													
Cranial													
Other													
Eyes Glasses													
Hemorrhage													
Pupils													
Disc.Appearance													
Ear & Drum Appear.													
Discharge													
Nose													
Mouth/throat													
Dentures/Braces													
Absent Teeth													
Caries													
Masses													
Ulceration													
Neck Thyroid													
Lymphadop													
Lungs/Breathounds													
Rales													
Heart Rhythm													
Murmur													
Other Sounds													
Femoral													
Abdomen Masses													
Hepatosplenomeg													
Hernia													
Genitalia Hernia													
Masses													
Discharge													
Orthopedic Neck													
Shoulders													
Elbows													
Wrists/thumb													
Ankles													
Knees													
Back													
Date													
Signature													
Comments													
Other													

*Back of form must be signed

This certifies _____ is physically qualified to participate in the above categories of interscholastic sports during the school year _____.

Class of Sport Contact Limited Contact Strenuous Noncontact Nonstrenuous Noncontact

--	--	--	--

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|---------------|---------|
| Football | Basketball | Track &Field | Bowling |
| Field Hockey | Baseball | Cross Country | Archery |
| Wrestling | X-C Skiing | Tennis | Golf |

Physician's Signature

Date

*Return this form to the Nurse's office

First Aid Information Form

Every student on each team (including managers, statisticians, etc.) must complete the First Aid Information Form each season. These forms should be kept in the team's First Aid Kit.

By signing below, you indicate that you have read the Interscholastic Athletic Handbook for student-athletes and parents/guardians. You are aware of the risk factor in sports and the guidelines for athletic participation in the athletic program in the Camden Central School District. Also, you agree to conduct yourself in accordance with them.

ATHLETES' EMERGENCY FORM

Date: _____

Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent's Cell Phone: _____

Athlete's Cell Phone: _____

Father/Guardian: _____

Business Phone: _____

Mother/Guardian: _____

Business Phone: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Relative to contact if Parent/Guardian cannot be reached.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield No.: _____

Other Insurance: _____

Allergies to Drugs: _____

Tetanus Immunization: _____

Any Medical Problems: _____

In case I cannot be reached, I authorize the school official in charge to obtain the services of the nearest ambulance, emergency squad, licensed physician or hospital emergency room facility.

I, also, authorize the Athletic Trainer, a trained first aid person or licensed physician to provide immediate and necessary care.

Sport: _____

**This form needs to be completed and signed every sport season.
High School students return this form to the Nurse's office
Middle School students return this form to Mrs. Wilson**

Student-Athlete Signature

Signature of parent or Legal Guardian

CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
INTERVAL HEALTH HISTORY FOR SPORTS PARTICIPATION

Student _____ Age _____

Date of Birth _____ Sex _____ Grade _____

Sport _____

NOTE: A "Yes" response to any of the questions below does not mean an automatic disqualification from the athletic activity. However it may require approval by the school physician before the student can report to practice or tryouts. This form will need to be completed during the winter and spring season.

HISTORY SINCE LAST SPORTS PHYSICAL

Please answer each question by circling Yes or No. If the answer to any of the following questions is "Yes", please **DATE** and **EXPLAIN MORE FULLY**.

1. Any injuries requiring medical attention? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
2. Any illness lasting more than 5 days? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
3. Taking any medicine or under a physician's care? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
4. Any feeling of dizziness or undue fatigue or history of fainting after exercise or exertion? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
5. Change in wearing of glasses or contact lenses? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
6. Any surgical operations or fractures? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
7. Treatment in a hospital or emergency room? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
8. Development of any allergies? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____
9. Any chronic illness? Yes No
Date _____ Explain _____

Return this form to the Nurse's Office.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

