

# CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Extracurricular & Athletic Department Guidelines

“HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS”



## Extracurricular Handbook

FOR Grades 5-12  
AND  
PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Revised 8/8/19

This handbook belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

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# 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).

### Vision

Camden School District strives to be the heart of our communities where students come first.

### Mission

The Camden Central Schools, in partnership with parents and community, will actively engage each student in the learning process. Each student will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and character necessary for successful living. Our educational program will be based on the wisdom of the past, the realities of the present and the expectations of the future.

### PHILOSOPHY

The Camden Central School District believes that Interscholastic Athletics and Extracurricular Activities are an integral part of the educational process. Our programs will allow equal opportunities for participation that will foster a sense of pride, family and tradition. The district supports Athletic and Extracurricular activities, which provide a unique experience where students can develop good character, self-discipline, teamwork, goal setting and social skills.

Through the leadership of the Board of Education, Administration, Advisors and Coaches we will all maintain the highest standards of competence, character, civility and citizenship. We will work collaboratively to develop positive attitudes at 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 and or extracurricular activities.**

**CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# **Extracurricular Guidelines**

**“HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS”**



## **HANDBOOK**

FOR

Grades 7-12

AND

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Revised 8/8/19

## **EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT**

All students will be treated fairly, without prejudice, and be given an equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of school. Participating in extracurricular activities and clubs is a privilege that comes with the expectation that students will be more visible in the general community. Students who participate in extracurricular activities play a vital role in creating the image others perceive of the individual, family, and school. The extracurricular code defines the expectations for student citizenship, academic eligibility, and attendance.

**For the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities, all students must realize that more is expected of them than of other students in our school.**

### **CITIZENSHIP VIOLATIONS**

When a student’s behavior referral is processed and the student receives a consequence of ESD, ISS or OSS and the student is a member of an extracurricular activity or club, they will be suspended from their activity as outlined below:

<u><b>Consequence</b></u>	<u><b>1st Offense</b></u>	<u><b>2nd Offense</b></u>	<u><b>3rd Offense</b></u>
<b>ESD</b>	0 – 1 Week Suspension from club/activity	1 – 2 Week Suspension from club/ activity	Removal from club/activity
<b>ISS</b>	1 – 2 Week Suspension from club/activity	2 – 3 Week Suspension from club/activity	Removal from club/activity
<b>OSS</b>	2 – 3 Week Suspension from club/activity	Removal from club/activity	XXXXXXXX

- Please note individual advisors may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective activity or club that are consistent with this policy. It is the responsibility of the advisor to clearly communicate to students, parents/guardians, and administration of these rules. The administration shall review and support the advisor's additional rules. The advisor will administer penalties for violation of these established activity/club rules.
- Offenses elevating to the level of or greater than a 1 - 2 Week Suspension from club/activity may result in meeting with a mental health professional through the counseling office for the purpose of skill building.

CMS Reduction Clause- Students at the Middle School level are learning appropriate behavior, therefore; after their first and/or second offense, a student may receive a reduction of penalty at the discretion of the building administration, as long as he/she agrees to meet with a mental health professional from the school for skill building in the area of the offense.

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

The Board of Education encourages participation in extracurricular activities, 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 participation eligibility.

1. At the beginning of each year, the advisor shall formally counsel student participants on the academic expectations required for participation in extracurricular activities.
2. All advisors shall turn in their club/activity roster to the main office at the start of the year or activity. All roster changes must be reported to the main office.
3. At the beginning of each year, the main office will distribute a list of students participating in extracurricular activities and Academic Eligibility deadlines to staff members. Students will have their academic performance evaluated by staff members on a bi-weekly basis (sent out on Wednesdays-due back by Friday). **All staff members shall submit to the main office the names of all students in their classes who are failing to maintain a minimum average of 65%, every other Friday (by 3:00 p.m.), unless otherwise designated.** A standardized form will be provided and be used by all staff members when submitting class failures.
4. 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 who is failing **two or more** classes will be placed on an Extracurricular Ineligibility List.

- A. An Administrator or his/her designee will notify the advisor of a student who appears on the Ineligibility List each Friday, unless otherwise designated. The advisor will then notify the student, in person, on Friday.
- B. The **first time**, a student appears on the Ineligibility List, 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. A student must pass all but 1 class to be removed from the ineligibility list. Probation will be from Monday-to-Monday, unless otherwise designated. **Student will carry an Academic Eligibility Class Grade Card with them during these two weeks and have it signed by each teacher, either pass/fail. Student is expected to utilize study hall, 10<sup>th</sup> period, and possibly lunch for extra help from his/her teacher if available.**
- C. While on probation, the student will be allowed to participate in all practices, performances, and contests.

**Step 2.** A student who continues to appear on the **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. An Administrator or his/her designee will notify the advisor of a student required to serve the 2-week suspension period each Friday, unless otherwise designated. The advisor will inform the student, in person, on Friday. Ineligibility will begin on Monday, unless otherwise designated.
- B. While serving the 2-week suspension, the student may continue to attend and participate but **will not be eligible to participate in any performances, contests, or travel during the 2-week suspension period.** If the student fails to attend practice, performances, or home contests the student will no longer be able to participate in the activity. Advisors will attempt to communicate with the student prior to removing them from the activity.
- C. The parent/guardian of the student-athlete will be notified of the suspension via phone call and/or a written notice from an Administrator.

- D. At the end of the 2-week suspension period the student will regain eligibility provided his/her name **does not continue to appear on the Ineligibility List, and will turn in the Academic Eligibility Class Grade Card if off the list or continue with the card if still ineligible. The student is expected to utilize study hall, 10<sup>th</sup> period, and possibly lunch for extra help from his/her teacher if available.**

**Step 3.** A student who continues to appear on the **Ineligibility List** after the final 2-week suspension period **will be dismissed** from his/her respective extracurricular activity for the remainder of the semester, due to academic needs.

- A. A student being dismissed for academic needs by the Administrator or his/her designee will notify their respective club/activity advisor in person each Friday, unless otherwise designated.
- B. The parent/guardian and advisor of the student will be notified of the dismissal via phone call and/or a written notice from an Administrator.
- C. The student will be removed from the extracurricular roster and will be ineligible for any associated awards for the respective semester.

A student will regain eligibility to participate in the extracurricular activities at the beginning of each new semester.

**Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Ineligibility List Procedures**

Step 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Time on List	2 Week Probation Period	Continue Practice, Performances, and Contests
Step 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Time on List	2 Week Suspension Period	Continue Practice, No Performances or Contests
Step 3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Time on List	Dismissal from Team	Removal from roster

**ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS**

**Attendance on the day before, the day of, and the day after performances and contests is expected, including weekend events.** Habitual absences, illegal absences, and tardiness will affect eligibility as determined by the Advisor or Administrator.

A student shall be in attendance in their regular classes in order to practice or participate in performance or contest unless excused for a legal reason. **Legal absences** are defined by the New York State Commissioner of Education. All instances of an excused absence requires a written parent/guardian excuse. **It is expected that all CHS students will be in school at 7:49 am. And all CMS students will be in school by 7:45am.** If a student signs in to school after **9:00**, or must leave early, 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 student 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 Advisor or Administrator prior to participation in a practice, performance or contest. Failure to provide an authorized signature may affect eligibility as determined by the Advisor or Administrator. If there is an illegal absence, it will result in no participation in that days practice, performance, or contest. Communication with your Advisor and the attendance office is imperative. Under extenuating circumstances, contact the Administrator, Attendance Clerk, or Advisor.

## Clubs

<b>Middle School Clubs*</b>	<b>High School Clubs*</b>
<p><b>WEB</b>  <b>Marching Band</b>  <b>Etudes</b>  <b>Journalism Club</b>  <b>7/8 Student Council</b>  <b>Drama Club</b>  <b>Honor Society</b>  <b>5/6 Student council</b>  <b>Science Olympiad</b>  <b>Ski Club</b>  <b>Musical</b>  <b>Art Club</b>  <b>Guys Read</b>  <b>Girls Read</b>  <b>5th Grade Robotics</b>  <b>6th Grade Robotics</b>  <b>Opus</b>  <b>Stage Band</b>  <b>Kids for Saving Earth</b>  <b>Yearbook</b>  <b>Blue Devils Kitchen</b>  <b>Friends of Rachel</b>  <b>ABC Quilts</b></p>	<p><b>Accounting</b>  <b>AFS</b>  <b>Amnesty International Club</b>  <b>Blurred Vision</b>  <b>Blue Devil Credit Union</b>  <b>Book Club</b>  <b>Business Dept. Honor</b>  <b>Society</b>  <b>Camden Corner Store</b>  <b>Class Officers</b>  <b>Drama Club</b>  <b>Foreign Language Club</b>  <b>Link Crew</b>  <b>Mathletics</b>  <b>Musical</b>  <b>Newspaper</b>  <b>National Honor Society</b>  <b>SADD</b>  <b>Science Club</b>  <b>Science Olympiad</b>  <b>Social Studies Club</b>  <b>Student Council</b>  <b>Varsity Club</b>  <b>Yearbook</b>  <b>Writer's Club</b></p>
<p><b>* All Other Clubs</b></p>	

## Club Rules & Regulations

Please note individual advisors may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective activity or club. It is the responsibility of the advisor to clearly communicate to students, parents/guardians, and administration of these rules. The administration shall review and support the advisor's additional rules. The advisor will administer penalties for violation of the established activity/club rules.

### **CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY**

#### **SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDE**

The Camden Central School District is committed to promoting the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play at all 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 activities should be held responsible for the conduct of their participants, advisors, staff members and spectators. Conduct which is detrimental to the educational value of 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 schools or individual participants.
3. Show appreciation of good play by all participants.
4. Learn the rules and expectations of the activity in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Treat all visiting participants and spectators as guests and show respect.
6. Accept the judgment of advisors, staff, coaches and judges/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 the code of conduct.
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, **vaping** and chewing tobacco in all school facilities, on all school grounds, and in any school vehicle used to transport children or school personnel.
10. Any spectator who is ejected and or disqualified from an event will be automatically suspended for the remainder of that event and a minimum of one additional event. Additional suspensions may be imposed based on the severity of the infraction.

#### **PARTICIPANT CODE OF BEHAVIOR**

It is the responsibility of the student-participant to:

1. Demonstrate self-control and respect for others at all times, toward judges, spectators and other participants.
2. Remember that participation in extracurricular activities are a privilege that is not to be abused by unsportsmanlike conduct.
3. Deal with opponents with respect. Shake hands after the event 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 activity.
7. Remember that the use, abuse and resulting negative influence of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, and performance-enhancing supplements are detrimental to the game and its participants. Any use will result in a violation.
8. Accept victory with grace; accept defeat with dignity and class.

**For the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities, all student-participants must realize that more is expected of them than of other students in our school.**

## **ELECTRONIC AND SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS**

It is the responsibility of the student-participants, parents, and advisors to:

1. Promote good sportsmanship by setting a positive example while posting and commenting.
2. Refrain from posting and commenting crude or abusive language regarding participants, opponents, officials, or spectators.
3. Avoid posting and commenting that will incite other participants, opponents, or spectators.

## **QUITTING A CLUB/ACTIVITY**

A student may withdraw from a club/activity, but must note the following may occur:

1. The student may be asked not to return for the remainder of the school year.
2. The advisor has the opportunity for an exit interview to determine the reason for quitting.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

All student-participants and club personnel will ride to and from all events on transportation approved and provided by the school district. A student-participant may ride home with his/her parents/guardians with the approval of the club advisor and the parent/guardian signing the travel release form provided by the advisor. At all away events, the parent(s) must sign their son/daughter out with his/her advisor or designated school personnel. **Permission for someone other than the parent/guardian to sign the student-participant out from off-site events, must get approval prior to the contest from the principal.** In special cases, parents/guardians may request to provide transportation to an event for their child only.

## **HAZING-INITIATION CEREMONY**

Camden advisors will not permit their club members to stage (formal or informal) any type of “initiation ceremony” or hazing as defined by the NYSPHSAA for making their club at any level.

## **CONFLICTS**

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many activities will undoubtedly have a conflict of obligations. The Camden Central School District 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 participants and parents/guardians must realize that on many occasions 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/advisors involved immediately when a conflict arises, not the day of the conflict.

## **CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION**

From time to time during the course of the year, parents/guardians and participants may have questions or concerns that need to be addressed.

Step 1: The participant should address concerns directly with his/her team advisor.

If, after speaking with the advisor one is not satisfied, then you may try step 2.

Step 2: The parent/guardian should schedule a time to speak to the advisor.

Step 3: The final step if one is still not satisfied, would be for the parent/guardian and/or participant to communicate with the administrator who is in direct supervision of the advisor.

**Please be advised that anonymous concerns will not be addressed.**

## **COURSE LOAD**

A participant 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: [camdenschools.org](http://camdenschools.org)

**CAMDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# **Athletic Department Guidelines**

**“HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS”**



## **INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS HANDBOOK**

FOR  
STUDENT-ATHLETES  
Grades 7-12  
AND  
PARENTS/GUARDIANS  
Revised 8/8/19

## 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.

I am very pleased that you have shown an interest in this segment of our school program. 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 an 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 himself/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 Fiorini  
Administrator of Health, Physical Education and Interscholastic Athletics  
(315) 245-0605

**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.**



**NYSPHSAA, Inc.**  
**CODE OF ETHICS**

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE NY STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Association serves as a central organization through which member schools in the state may cooperate to:

- **Encourage** as many pupils as possible to participate in athletic games.
- **Promote** sportsmanship like conduct in all athletic contests.
- **Maintain** essential minimum standards of eligibility.
- **Provide** means to settle disputed athletic contests amicably and authoritatively.
- **Conduct** appropriate athletic meets and tournaments.
- **Cooperate** with the State Education Department in fostering educationally sound athletics programs.
- **Adapt** rules governing sports contests to the particular conditions for school competition.
- **Continually** seek data to support rules changes leading to greater safety for school athletes.

**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 the player, coach, school, fan or community.

## PHILOSOPHY BY SPORT LEVEL

### **MODIFIED (GRADE 7 & 8) and/or MODIFIED A (GRADES 7, 8 & 9)**

This program is available to all students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades between the ages of 12 to 15. A student reaching age 16 during a sport season may complete that season and must play 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 have received 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)**

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. Seventh and 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 during contests, 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 level.

### **VARSITY**

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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 ongoing communication and system development at each level.

## **SELECTIVE CLASSIFICATION ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS (APP)**

The Selective Classification Program was designed as a mechanism to allow 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate safely at an appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age or grade. Students do not mature at the same rate and there can be a tremendous range of developmental differences between students of the same age. 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 can be found in Board of Education Policy # 5080 and within the Selective Classification Administrative Regulation.**

1. Seventh and Eighth grade students may be considered for placement on, JV, or Varsity teams through the February 2015 New York State Selective Classification Program Document.
  
2. Any student being considered must meet the following criteria on a yearly basis:
  - 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 the school physician.
  - C) Have sufficient social and emotional maturity as determined by BERS (Behavioral and Emotional Rating Scale) and the appropriate parties.
  - D) Are in good academic standing.
  - E) Pass all phases on the NYS selective classification-screening test.
  - F) Accomplish all necessary qualification tasks on the procedure checklist prior to the appropriate deadlines.

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.

\* For the complete guidelines on the Athletic Placement Process, go to [www.section3.org](http://www.section3.org) (Resources - Advanced Placement Process (APP))

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.

**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 an injury tended to by a physician 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 nurse. The school district's insurance provides only supplemental coverage according to a schedule of benefits.**
6. All Sports Registration is done on line; follow the steps on the Camden Athletic web page.
7. A health history update is required prior to participation in each sports season, **(form is on line)**
8. The Board of Education Policy has adopted a Concussion Management Protocol Policy #5038 in dealing with head injuries.
9. An athletic trainer may be available for student-athletes.

\*\* The Athletic Health History form should be completed prior to the school physical examination

**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, vaping and chewing tobacco in all school facilities, on all school grounds, and in any school vehicle used to transport children or school personnel.
10. Any spectator who is ejected and or disqualified from a contest will be automatically suspended for the remainder of that game and a minimum of one additional contest. Additional suspensions may be imposed based on the severity of the infraction.

**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 are detrimental to the game and its participants. Any use will result in a training rule violation (page 20-21).
8. Accept victory with grace; accept defeat with dignity and class.

### **ELECTRONIC AND SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS**

It is the responsibility of the athletes, parents, and coaches to:

1. Promote good sportsmanship by setting a positive example while posting and commenting.
2. Refrain from posting and commenting crude or abusive language regarding players, opponents, officials, or spectators.
3. Avoid posting and commenting that will incite players, opponents, or spectators.

### **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.
8. As a coach, remember that you are a role model and represent Camden Central School at all times, even when you are not coaching.

### **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 Tri-Valley League have targeted the area of sportsmanship with great 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 and or 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. Continual offenses may result in additional game suspensions.

## **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.

Athletes perform best when they follow responsible training rules, which include abstinence from:

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Any mood modifying substances producing harmful effects on the human body.
- Illegal drugs such as marijuana, cocaine and steroids.
- OTC Supplements –e.g. electronic cigarettes “vapes”, caffeine pills, diet pills, creatine, and any other controlled substance or substance used for an intoxicating or enhancing effect along with anything else not allowed in school.
- Performance enhancing supplements

Athletic consequences will be imposed if a student athlete is in the presence of, possession of, use of, sale of, and under the influence of any of the above items.

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).

**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.

1. **Any suspensions will carry-over to the next sport season, even if it goes into the next school year. 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.

### **1<sup>ST</sup> Offense-**

<b>Training Rule Violation</b>		
<b>Max. # of Season Contests</b>	<b>Number of Suspended Contest (33%)</b>	<b>Number of Suspended Contest with Counseling (25%)</b>
8	3	2
14	5	4
16	5	4
20	7	5

The suspension can be reduced to 25% if the student-athlete agrees to attend counseling with a school mental health professional. Contact must be made with the mental health professional within 3 days of notification of suspension by the student-athlete. Parents/Guardians have the option of seeking counseling outside of school. The Parent/Guardian will be responsible for making the payment. Please note that this could delay the student-athlete from participating in contests within the 25% time frame. (See above chart for Training rule violation) Parent will be asked to sign a permission form and will be notified of dates the student will meet with the school mental health professional. Student must be engaged in sessions with the mental health professional, participating in all that is presented to them. Upon completion of the initial meetings set up with the mental health professional and student-athlete, student-athlete will then meet with the Athletic Director and mental health professional to discuss what they have learned from this experience. At this time, a decision will be made for the student-athlete to begin participating in contests again. The mental health professional may continue the counseling until they feel the student-athlete no longer needs the sessions, but this would not impact the student-athlete from participating in contests at the reduced 25%. If the family is utilizing an outside resource, the licensed counselor must give the Athletic Administrator written documentation of participation with counseling. The student-athlete must be in attendance at all practices during the suspension, may not participate but needs to attend all of their teams scrimmages/contests. If a student-athlete chooses not to attend all practices, the coach/advisor will contact the athlete and/or the parents; 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. (Refer to the paragraph of quitting the team, page 16.)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense-** Will result in removal from the team for the remainder of the season, and the student-athlete will not be allowed to compete in the first half of the scheduled contests of their next sport season. The student-athlete may try out at the discretion of the new coach and the Athletic Administrator, and must attend all scrimmages/contests until the suspension is completed. The student-athlete must attend counseling as mentioned above in 1st offense. Contact must be made within 3 days of notification of suspension by the student-athlete. Parents/Guardians have the option of seeking counseling outside of school at the responsibility of payment on the parent/guardian. (See above chart for Training rule violation) Parent will be asked to sign permission and will be notified of dates that student will initially be meeting with the school mental health professional. Student-athlete must be engaged in sessions with the mental health professional, participating in all that is presented to them. Upon completion of the initial meetings set up with the mental health professional and student-athlete, student-athlete will then meet with Athletic Director and mental health professional to discuss what they have learned from this experience. At this time, a decision will be made for the student-athlete to begin participating in contests again. The student-athlete will continue the counseling until the mental health professional feels the student-athlete no longer needs the sessions. If the family is utilizing an outside resource, the licensed counselor must give the Athletic Administrator written documentation of participation with counseling.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense-** The student-athlete may not be allowed to represent the Camden Central School Athletics, A lengthy suspension maybe imposed, including several seasons up to and including the for the remainder of their high school career.

## **CITIZENSHIP**

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 penalty imposed are described below:

Post season is not included in total number of contest.

<b>Citizenship Violation</b>			
<b>Type of Consequence Issued</b>	<b>Number of Suspended Contest</b>		
	<b>1st Offense</b>	<b>2nd Offense</b>	<b>3rd Offense</b>
<b>ESD</b>	<b>(10-15%)</b>	<b>(15%-20%)</b>	<b>Removal</b>
<b>ISS</b>	<b>(15-20%)</b>	<b>(20-33%)</b>	<b>Removal</b>
<b>OSS</b>	<b>(20-33%)</b>	<b>Removal</b>	

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. Habitual infractions may affect eligibility as determined by the coach or Athletic Administrator.

Citizenship will start clean each year for all athletes.

## **SUSPENSIONS/DETENTIONS**

A student-athlete who is suspended in or out of school 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.

## **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, as well as the dates that Academic Eligibility are due. Student-athletes will have their academic performance evaluated by staff members on a bi-weekly basis (sent out on Wednesdays-due back by Friday). **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 Friday (by 3:00 p.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.

1. 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.
2. 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. **Student-athletes on probation will carry an Academic Eligibility Class Grade Card with them during this two weeks and have it signed by each teacher, either pass/fail.**
3. 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.

1. 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.
2. 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 during the 2-week suspension period. If the student athlete fails to attend practice it will be considered that they quit.**
3. 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.
4. 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, and will turn in the Academic Eligibility Class Grade Card if off the list or continue with the card if still ineligible.**

**Step 3.** 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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 <sup>st</sup> Time on List	2 Week Probation Period	Continue Practice and Contests
Step 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Time on List	2 Week Suspension Period	Continue Practice and No Contests
Step 3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Time on List	Dismissal from Team	Removal from roster

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT**

Athletics is an outgrowth of the Physical Education Program. 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**

**Attendance on the day before, the day of, and the day after contests is expected, including Saturday contests.** Habitual absences, illegal absences, and tardiness will affect eligibility as determined by the coach or Athletic Administrator.

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. **Legal absences** are defined by the commissioner of education. All instances of excused absence require a written parent/guardian excuse. **It is expected that all student-athletes will be in school at 7:49 am.** If a student-athlete signs in to school after **9:00**, or must leave early, 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.

#### **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.

#### **INJURIES**

Any student-athletes that suffer an injury must notify their Coach and/or the Athletic Trainer immediately. Information on Concussion Management can be found within this packet or online by visiting [www.cdc.gov/concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion).

#### **LEAVING A TEAM** (Family/Medical)

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, as determined by the Athletic Administrator.

### 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 first 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.

### 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) may sign their son/daughter out with his/her coach. **Permission for someone other than the parent/guardian to sign the student-athlete out from away games, must get approval prior to the contest from the Athletic Administrator.** In special cases, parents/guardians may request to provide transportation to a contest for their child only.

### CHANGING SPORTS

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 as long as the new sport has not had cuts and is prior to the first contest. An updated permission form must be submitted to the athletic office. 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 as defined by the NYSPHSAA for making their team at any level.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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 **may 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.

Step 1: The student-athlete should address concerns directly with his/her team coach.

If, after speaking with the coach one is not satisfied, then you may try step 2.

Step 2: The parent/guardian should schedule a time to speak to the coach.

Step 3: 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.**

### **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.

### **TEAM RULES**

Each team/coach will have their own rules that are in addition to the Code of Conduct. These team rules will be handed out at the beginning of the season by the coach.

### **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: [camdenschools.org](http://camdenschools.org)

The Athletics tab will provide you with information pertaining to our programs.

### **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 at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). The best time for a student athlete to register with the clearinghouse is following his/her junior year of high school.

### **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.

## 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 Pin and Certificate

Second Year - Bar Pin & Certificate

Third Year & Beyond (non – senior) - Bar Pin and Certificate

Third Year & Beyond (senior) – Devil 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 ONLY as picked by the coaches or team members.

### **JV TEAM MEMBERS:**

First Year - JV Letter, Certificate & Numbers of their Year of Graduation

- \* 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.
- \* Each athlete may earn only one set of 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: (when applicable)**

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/MODIFIED 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.*

## 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 and/or Modified A

### Winter

Boys Basketball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Girls Basketball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Basketball Cheerleading	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Volleyball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Wrestling	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Boys Bowling	Varsity
Girls Bowling	Varsity
Boys Nordic Skiing	Varsity, Modified
Girls Nordic Skiing	Varsity, Modified
Alpine Skiing	Varsity
Indoor Track & Field	Varsity / Co-Ed

### Spring

Baseball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Softball	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Modified
Boys Track	Varsity, Modified
Girls Track	Varsity, Modified
Boys Golf	Varsity
Girls Golf	Varsity
Boys Tennis	Varsity