

## Dobbs Ferry School District Compact Committee Notes 2015-2016

### High School Compact Committee Notes

Thursday, November 5, 2015

**Members in attendance:** Frank Adamo, Maria, Addona, Will Palmer, Raquel Addona, Katelyn Fanning, John Falino, Andrew Klaich, Scott Patrillo

Members not in attendance: Cliff Kahan, Jibby Kapadia, Alexis Demetrovic

Explained the purpose of the compact committee

Research Question: How, if at all, would an Athletic Code of Conduct benefit the Dobbs Ferry Athletics Program?

What are the most critical components of an Athletic Code of Conduct?

Discussion:

Andrew explained the current state of affairs in terms of defining behavior for athletics.

Read: "Improving Student-athlete Codes of Conduct"

- Define pro-active, positive, expectations for students
- 7 standards defined in the article
- Great way to define expectations for students, spectators, coaches, and parents
- Current code of conduct is reactive. Don't spend a lot of time on defining expected behaviors. Almost learn the positive by experiencing the negative.
- Could pave the way for modifications to the school code of conduct
- Consistency amongst the sports

Discussed the need for Buy - in

Discussed next steps

- Research codes of conduct from the region
- Interview coaches
- Why an athletic code of conduct and not extra-curricular

Structure of Code  
Highest Standard for:  
Student  
Athlete  
Musician etc.

2 sets of consequences: School (code of conduct already exists) Team (consequences)

Discussion of a mandatory pre-season meeting with AD and coaches  
Meet the coaches night

Google Doc - List specific musts that our code of conduct must include from the codes of conduct we researched

### **High School Compact Committee:**

After reading your Athletic Code of Conduct please list the most important items or the "MUST HAVE'S". Please list the items below prior to our next meeting (December 15th, 3:30 PM)

### **MUST HAVE'S:**

Maria Addona ~ Rye Neck High School  
consequences listed regarding...

- attendance of all scheduled classes (Seven Standards relative)
- to successfully meet academic responsibilities
- serious acts
- out of character behavior
- cyber-image violations
- drug/alcohol use ~possession or association
- hazing/bullying
- performance enhancing drugs

specifically list consequences/violations  
athletic parent/coach/student partnership pledge?

Commack High School-Will Palmer

- organizational structure

- specific objectives of student athletes
- time commitment expectations/consequences
- off-field/classroom conduct/behavior expectations
- role of the parent
- academic expectations/standards

Klaich:

Academic Eligibility Standards...must be clearly defined

- What grades are used for what quarters to determine eligibility
- failing 1, 2 or 3 classes. What is the process?
- How do we monitor?

Strict Sportsmanship Policy (good character):

- "On and off the field"
- Representative of the school. Can enforce further penalty for inappropriate behavior.

Drug and alcohol policy:

- Clearly defined penalty
- process must be defined. Appeal process defined

*Coach/Parent expectation:* Could be different document...?

Raquel Addona - Briarcliff Manor High School

- All athletes must adhere to all school disciplinary policies
- Students should be in attendance by a certain time for participation in games or practices that day with an excused note(I think we may have this already)
- If athlete is late for practice or a game or absent from a practice or a game it is the coach's discretion subject to review by athletic director
- Primary responsibility of all students is educational
- Cooperation among coaches, student athletes, parents, and school personnel is essential if students are to realize the value of athletic participation
- Student athlete must attend every practice/game unless excused by the coach
- The student athlete will work closely with all school personnel in order to order to ensure an appropriate academic as well as athletic experience

- We commit ourselves to promote mature behavior from students, parents and coaches during all athletic contests
- We commit to ensuring that the student athlete maintains positive health and fitness levels. It is agreed that the use of alcohol, drugs and nicotine is strictly prohibited
- We recognize that the future of a student athlete as a responsible adult relates more to academic than athletic activities; academics before athletics
- We commit to ensuring that the student athlete accepts the responsibility of team membership including, but not limited to cooperation, support of teammates, shared responsibilities, positive interactions, and mutual respect.

#### Frank Adamo: Sleepy Hollow High School

- Class attendance
  - Detention might be a good way to monitor
- Substance Abuse
  - How will we manage?
- Academic Eligibility
  - Progress Reports/Report Cards?
- School Suspension
  - Consequences; ISS vs OSS
- Athletic Attendance
  - Sleepy includes statements on:
    - Expectations of attending every practice and game
    - Expectations of players to attend over breaks (vacations, trips, etc.)
- Also something looking into is including the Section 1 Guidelines for Sportsmanship for both Parents and Players

#### Katelyn Fanning- Rondout Valley High School

- should maintain a good attendance record and will adhere to all attendance requirements established by the school and by the coach
- All athletes are expected to attend all practices
- The athlete should make a commitment to the sport
- All athletes shall adhere to all rules and responsibilities as outlined by the school and by the coaches
- Academic Eligibility Requirements
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**High School Compact Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, December 15th, 2015**

**Members in attendance:**

Andrew Klaich: Athletic Director  
John Falino: Principal  
Maria Addona: Teacher  
Janine McCarthy: Parent  
Cliff Kahan: Parent  
Will Palmer: Guidance counselor  
Frank Adamo: teacher/coach

We discussed the rationale for an athletic code of conduct and how it can have a positive and proactive effect on our students, staff and parents. The code of conduct will be an extension of the district code of conduct and it will set expectations for students, parents and coaches. To begin the process, it is important to define our student athlete and how we want our athletes to act, behave and interact with others. Each member of the committee reviewed an athletic code of conduct and shared the pros and cons of each.

It was determined that the “Must Have’s” of the code of conduct are the following:

Academic Eligibility Criteria  
Drug and Alcohol  
Sportsmanship and Good Character (include social media responsibility)

The code of conduct should set forth expectations as well as consequences for specific behavior

Our discussion in creating the athletic code of conduct included addressing fan behavior, coach expectations, practice schedules, and chaperone expectations. The goal of the committee is to create consistency amongst all coaches and sports and make sure students and coaches understand what the expectations are for the following:

- overlapping seasons
- vacation practice schedule
- what hours are acceptable to conduct a practice
- process for “playing up”

There was conversation about if these topics will exist in the athletic code of conduct or a separate document addressing coaches expectations.

A rough draft of the athletic code of conduct will be submitted prior to the next scheduled meeting and the committee will assess and make the appropriate changes. It will be important to eventually get feedback from many student athletes, coaches, parents and teachers as we continue to create the draft.

**High School Compact Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, March 15, 2016**

**Members in attendance:**

Andrew Klaich: Athletic Director  
Maria Addona: Teacher  
Will Palmer: Guidance counselor  
Frank Adamo: teacher/coach  
Scott Patrillo: Dean of Students

Review of the "Rough Draft" code of conduct:

Questions:

Should we address how captains are chosen?

- Should we have "one way" or should coaches have autonomy on how they choose their captains (coaches choose, players vote etc)
- Should we have the same criteria for every sport?

If a student has an In School Suspension, should they be allowed to participate in practice or a game on that day. At this point in time, it is not clearly defined.

Should our Code of Conduct address student responsibility of jerseys/equipment given by the school. Such as, students may not try out for the next season until all equipment jerseys are handed in or paid for.

Should there be a link between participation in Physical Education class and athletics. For example, failure to participate in PE class will result in ineligibility for athletic participation for that day.

How are Athletic Awards selected? What is the criteria?

There should be an administrator review of students attending athletic trips (Disney, track overnigher etc.). If certain students have consistently demonstrated that they cannot represent Dobbs Ferry in a positive way should they still attend an athletic trip.

Next Steps:

- Add additional items to Code of Conduct
- Have committee review draft
- Submit to coaches for feedback