



## **Azle ISD Athletic Department Guidelines** **2018-2019**

Participation in athletics is an extension of the regular curricular programming at Azle ISD. While the regular curricular program is a right afforded to each student, participation in athletics is a privilege and students will be held to a higher standard. The emphasis of the athletic program is to provide students with direction in developing self-discipline, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and adherence to Azle ISD and UIL (University Interscholastic League) rules and regulations. Students that do not adhere to the rules and regulations of Azle ISD and UIL may have the privilege of participation in athletics revoked by the coaching staff, athletic director's office or building administration.

### **Mission Statement**

Consistent with the mission of the Azle Independent School District, the Azle ISD Athletic Department will provide an athletic program that helps develop the whole person through education and competition. In addition, the program will provide student-athletes an opportunity to pursue and understand the values of attitude, character, commitment, leadership, sportsmanship, responsibility, accountability, decision-making, work ethic and team.

### **Vision Statement**

The vision of the Azle ISD Athletic Department is to provide student-athletes a safe and healthy environment that promotes and supports academic, athletic and personal achievement. Athletic programs will encourage and empower student-athletes to excel in academics, athletics, leadership and as positive role models in our society.

### **Student Expectations**

Student athletes are expected to follow all rules of Azle ISD, coaches and UIL. A student is expected to:

- Practice/play with Azle Pride knowing they are representing students, coaches, parents, faculty, community and administration.
- Play/participate to win, display an exceptional work ethic, exhibit good sportsmanship, and be a great teammate.
- Abide by the rules set forth by the coaching staff. Attend all practices and games before, after and during school including all school holidays.
- Demonstrate respect for their coaches, teachers, staff, administrators, team and fellow students.

- Be leaders in the classroom through academic excellence and adhering to the Azle ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct.
- Communicate with coaching staff when they have questions or an issue has occurred. Coaches conferences are to be requested by the student athlete.
- Respond to all situations/adversity with class and composure.

### **Coaches Expectations**

The Azle Athletic Department is proud of the coaches and the knowledge they have for all sports. Coaches are expected to:

- Treat all athletes with respect, teach sport skills and exhibit good sportsmanship.
- Communicate with student/parent team expectation for the season.
- Communicate times and locations for all practices and games.
- Team requirements such as special equipment needs, school and team rules, in-season and off-season expectations.
- Exhibit good leadership, a positive role model and provide a positive learning experience during games/practice.

### **Parent Expectation**

As a parent with a student involved in the Azle Athletic Program the following things are expected.

- Show positive sportsmanship, respect for all students, coaches and officials during activities.
- Show our Azle Pride at all times.
- Support the coaching staff, teachers and administrators of Azle ISD.
- Allow your student athlete to handle adversity that comes his/her way by encouraging your son/daughter to request a meeting with the coaching staff.
- During the season a parent may wish to have a parent conference. These meetings are not discouraged but we do request that all meetings occur before, during or after school. No meetings will occur after an event or practice.

## **General Athletic Guidelines**

### **On the Field or Court**

Coaches and student athletes will exhibit good sportsmanship both on and off the court. Participants will display respect for officials and leave the resolution of any conflict to the coaching staff. Student-athletes should demonstrate the ability to accept defeat as well as being a gracious winner.

### **Practice Regulations**

Student Athletes are responsible for:

- Notifying the appropriate coach of an anticipated absence prior to the practice or a game.
- Obeying all rules and regulations of the game and the coaching staff.
- Attending all practices including those that occur during school holidays.
- Display a strong work ethic, good sportsmanship and supporting your teammates.

Failure to meet any of the above regulations may result in disciplinary actions, including, but not limited to, suspension from the team.

### **Multi-Sport Participation**

Participation in multiple sports is encouraged by Azle ISD Athletic Department. The coaching staff of Azle ISD will work together to ensure we can support the athletes in the sports he/she wants to participate during their athletic career. However, a student-athlete must complete the season in one sport before moving to the next sport season unless agreed upon by both varsity coaches and the Athletic Director's Office.

### **Student withdrawing from the Team**

Any student-athlete who quits a team or is removed from a team will not be permitted to work out with another sport team until the previous sport season has been completed. However, if both varsity coaches agree, the student athlete may move to the next sport before the end of the season. The athletic director office will be notified of the varsity coaches decision.

### **Team Travel**

Student athletes traveling as part of a team will follow these guidelines.

- Students that miss the given departure time by the coach may be subject to being excluded from the trip.
- At the discretion of the coaching staff a student athlete will travel and return with the team unless prior arrangements have been made by the parent/guardian. Student athletes must sign out with the coaching staff before leaving any activity.

### **Athletic Training Staff & Student Injuries**

Azle ISD employees Licensed Athletic Trainers that will oversee the safety and health of our athletes and staff. They evaluate, treat and rehabilitate our student athletes before and after an injury. Coaches and students must notify the athletic training staff when an

injury occurs to our student athletes. The staff will evaluate the injury and assist parents/student with seeing a physician when needed. Parents/guardians are asked to refer their student athlete to the athletic training staff for evaluation of all injuries. Student Athletes will be cleared to participate when the athletic trainer and or a physician clears them to return.

### **School Issued Equipment**

Student athletes will be issued proper equipment, workout uniform(s) and game uniforms to be used for each individual sport. In the event that the equipment or uniform(s) issued are not returned the student/parent will be required to pay the replacement cost. UIL rules prohibit giving school equipment and uniform(s) to athletes on a permanent basis.

### **Awards/ Lettering Policy**

Individual sports have specific criteria for earning a varsity letter award. The head coach of each sport will provide student athletes with the lettering criteria prior to the sport season. Lettering is a privilege that can be revoked if a student athletes violates the Azle ISD student guidelines during his/her athletic season.

### **Participation in Athletes**

Varsity coaches will set the criteria for participation on their teams. The chance to participate on an athletic team may require a tryout period. Coaches will communicate with the student athletes at the end of the tryout period whether they obtained a position on the team or not. Once a student secured a position on the team he/she is expected to attend all practices/games including during school holidays. Student athletes must have all Azle ISD and UIL required paperwork on file by the first day of school. For those sports that start before the school year begins all paperwork must be in place by the teams allowed start date. No student will be allowed to practice if his/her paperwork is not recorded in Rankone Software System.

### **Offseason and Strength and Conditioning Program**

Student athletes will participate in strength and conditioning activities as part of the in-season and off-season programs offered at Azle ISD. Azle Athletics will also offer a summer strength and condition program under the UIL guidelines. Student athletes participation is voluntary in the summer program offered and will not determine a student athletes position of the team.