

Georges H. Primeau Middle School



Interschool Sports Program Handbook

~ To develop and promote the ideals of responsibility,
hard work, sportsmanship, teamwork and fellowship within
a safe and positive environment ~

2018/2019



School Foundational Statements

Motto:

PRIDE and faith in our students...

Mission:

Ecole Georges H. Primeau Middle School is a welcoming, inclusive, and student-centered community that cultivates the spirit of excellence. Every student, through relationships that foster hope, wellbeing, and engagement, is inspired to learn, live fully, and serve others.

Vision:

Every student will have the opportunity for a personalized learning journey that ignites passion and creativity to expand their understanding of one's potential in becoming ethical and contributing leaders within the global community.

School Athletics Philosophy

At Ecole Georges H. Primeau Middle School, we are truly blessed to have so many teachers, support faculty, parents, and community volunteers that come together to make all of our school's extra-curricular opportunities available to our students. This volunteerism, allows us to offer a wide range of science, technology, fine arts, and athletic opportunities to our students.

GH Primeau School recognizes that extracurricular athletics promotes team building sportsmanship, good citizenship, high academic standards, and community responsibility. Extracurricular athletics provide an opportunity for students to explore their unique talents outside of the classroom setting and encourage students to develop competitive athletic skills. These activities demand a high level of commitment and perseverance, which will help prepare students for the challenges they will meet outside the school community.

It is a **privilege** for students to participate in extracurricular athletics. Participation is voluntary and is not a requirement, nor an entitlement. Therefore, extra time and effort are required of those who participate. Those who earn the privilege of representing GHP in extracurricular athletics must maintain high standards. We believe that our students involved in athletics are 'student-athletes,' where they are students first and athletes second. Consequently, students must maintain excellent school attendance, demonstrate appropriate conduct, and be current in and passing all of their courses to be able eligible to participate in school athletics.



Athletic Teams

Available teams at GH Primeau include the following:

Activity	Grade Level	Tentative Season	Lead School
Jr Cross Country Running	5-6	September	GHP
Sn Cross Country Running	7-8	September	GHP
Jr Boys Volleyball	5-8	September – October	GHP
Jr Girls Volleyball	5-8	September – October	GHP
Sn Boys Volleyball	8-9	September – November	MCHS
Sn Girls Volleyball	8-9	September – November	MCHS
Jr Cheerleading	7-8	September – April	GHP
Jr Boys Basketball	5-8	November - February	GHP
Jr Girls Basketball	5-8	November - February	GHP
Sn Boys Basketball	8-9	November - March	MCHS
Sn Girls Basketball	8-9	November - March	MCHS
Jr Boys & Girls Journal Games	5-6	January -March	GHP
Sn Boys & Girls Journal Games	7-8	January - March	GHP
Boys & Girls Badminton	7-8	April – May	GHP
Jr. Track & Field	5-6	May - June	GHP
Sn Track & Field	7-8	May - June	GHP

Season Scheduling

The seasons of play have been established to protect the student athlete from being placed in a position of having sports seasons overlap. This, however, is not always completely avoidable, so it is upon the parents to establish where the player will attend for any overlapping period. If there is a conflict between times of school activities, the player (or parent) is to notify the affected coaches as soon as time slots are known. This allows each coach appropriate time to rearrange the activity at that time, or make further decisions to compensate for the absent player.



Team Selection

Tryouts to participate in extracurricular athletics are open to all students provided they meet the grade, gender and any requirements specific to the activity of their choice.

Students will be selected to participate on the basis of their fundamental skills, coachability, and attitude as seen by the coach.

- A. **Work Ethic:** Players are expected to give maximum effort at practices, games and tournaments.
- B. **Attitude:** Players must cooperate with coaches, teammates and officials. The athletes are expected to represent the school in a positive manner at all times.
- C. **Commitment:** Players must be committed to their school, academics, athletics and teammates. Team players are defined as players willing to sacrifice personal goals for the accomplishment of team goals.
- D. **Ability:** Players should display their highest level of skill in relation to their peers.

Coaches must conduct an open tryout for all eligible grades.

All players selected for a team must be registered at Ecole Georges H. Primeau Middle School for the duration of the season as either a full-time student or a student on a 'shared learning' program.

Final selections of the team shall be one, which increases the competitive level of the players for the present season, as well as giving younger team members an opportunity to develop their skills for the following years.

Once the team has been selected, the coach must promptly submit a roster showing only names of those who made the team to the Athletic Lead. The Athletic Lead is to release the roster for students to view within 24 hours of receiving the list from the coach.



Sport Activity Fees

It is necessary for the athletic program to charge a participation fee for each activity that an athlete participates in. The following applies to participation fees;

- All participation fees will be determined annually by the Athletic Lead.
- Fees are to be paid to the school directly (cash, cheque, or online). These fees are to coincide with the 'maximum amounts' that can be charged as approved by the Board of Trustees and subsequently the Minister of Education. These fee lists are posted on the school (www.ghp.gsacrd.ab.ca) and District websites (www.gsacrd.ab.ca). The purpose of the fees will be clearly communicate by coaches in a letter to parents.
- Players must pay fees in full, or make arrangements with the Athletic Lead before they are permitted to participate in any league game or tournament.
- Fees will vary to each specific activity, and will be outlined with each team's permission form/intro to the team.
- Fees are to include a set maximum of bus transportation, tournament fees, league fees, uniform rental fees, referee fees, program-specific equipment, and guest trainers. (transportation, and tournament fees).
- Uniform rental fees are charged to cover the cyclical replacement of uniforms when required. This fee is not inclusive of any damage to the uniforms that result in the need for repair or replacement.
- All sports gear will be separate from initial team fee and is never mandatory for an individual to be involved in the sport.

Fundraising

If an athletic team conducts a school or community fundraising project, all money raised through general fundraising allows us to maintain lower participation fees for team members and to cover any equipment or uniform purchases specific to that particular sport. Fundraising may not be used to cover costs for items to be kept by the students such as athletic wear.

As per GSACRD AP520, all fundraising is voluntary and at the discretion of the parent/guardian, where each athlete on the team benefits from the fundraising efforts equally.

No team/activity shall participate in, or organize any other fundraising event without the consent of the school administration. All canvassing-related fundraisers (e.g. bottle drives) must be approved in advance by the Superintendent of Schools.



Uniforms and Equipment

All required uniforms and sport equipment will be supplied by GH Primeau athletics.

Uniforms will be distributed by the lead coach of each activity; this to be at the initial team meeting.

Players will be responsible for the care and maintenance of uniforms while they are in their possession.

Players will be responsible for a \$50.00 (\$100.00 for Cheerleading, due to uniform costs) “restocking cost” of any uniform damaged or lost while in their possession. At the beginning of the season, a uniform deposit is required in the form of a post-dated cheque.

Gym Usage

All gym usage shall be booked through the Athletic Lead.

League games and home tournaments have booking priority over practices.

Any activity under way shall have priority over the following season of play.

There must be a lead teacher (coach) present at all practices and games.

Coaches may request specific practice times. While all efforts will be made to accommodate requests, it shall be the priority of the Athletic Lead to provide a practice schedule which is equitable to all teams in accordance with priorities.

The Athletic Lead will create a practice schedule on a monthly basis.

Coaches are encouraged to provide players and parents with individual copies of these schedules as they are available.



Transportation

The transportation for league, invitational, zone, and/or provincial events may be handled in two fashions at the discretion of the coach. The preferred method of transportation is school buses.

Bus

Bus must be booked through the Athletic Lead.

If school busses are not running due to extreme cold temperatures and/or poor driving conditions the event will be cancelled for that day. We recognize that road and weather conditions can vary considerably within the region and beyond. If road conditions are deemed “poor” in the Morinville area as well as the route to where the athletic even is taking place, buses will be cancelled as well. All efforts are made to re-schedule league play; however, this is not always possible and cannot be guaranteed.

Parent Vehicle

Family members may transport other immediate family members to events.

Players may be transported to and from events by other parents.. If parents choose to transport their child home when bussing is provided, they are required to sign a transportation form and return it to the coach. This is a safeguard to prevent an incident against forgetting an athlete at an off-campus venue.



Medical

All student athletes must complete the GH Primeau medical and concussion protocol forms prior to the first active game. If an athlete is injured while participating on behalf of GH Primeau, the school will not cover medical costs, as outlined in the medical form.

Any student injured on or off the field of play, and requiring medical attention, must present a note from a physician before being eligible to practice or play again. If the coach's discretion is that the student does not seem well enough to participate, they have the right to refuse that student participation out of concern for safety.

In the event that there is a suspected concussion, a separate form must be signed by the attending physician that was caring for the student and returned to the school. These forms will be made available to parents/guardians by coaches.

Students who are participating in any practice, game, competition, or tournament are required to have any of their emergency prescription medications (e.g. asthma inhalers, epi pens) or medical devices (e.g. knee braces) to participate.



Role of the Coach

The following guidelines are to be considered a code of conduct for GH Primeau coaching staff:

Teachers are first and foremost teachers and coaches second. Job related duties related to their teaching position take precedence over any coaching responsibilities.

The Coach is foremost a teacher. The chief objectives of school athletics are to build leaders and to develop athletic skills. Winning games/competitions/tournaments is secondary to these objectives. Coaches who do not make a positive contribution to the total educational process are not meeting their obligations.

There is to be clear communication between coach and player, player and parent, parent and coach, and between players. At the beginning of the season, coaches should provide a written statement of their philosophy, team goals, fees, and player expectations.

The Coach should always be regular and prompt in meeting assignments – practices, games and meetings.

The Coach should instill in the team an attitude of sportsmanship on and off the court, during the game and afterwards, in school and out.

The Coach should use acceptable language at all times. Vulgarity and profanity have no place on the athletic platform.

The Coach is a role model and promotes healthy living to his or her athletes. The Coach shall not use alcohol, cannabis, or non-prescription drugs in any form while with the team. Coaches are not to consume tobacco products in the presence of students and while on GSACRD property.

The Coach should accept the responsibility as a counselor to the athletes under her/his direction. The coach is in a unique position among all teaching staff in the relationship with the students. Many students complete their middle school program because of, on part, of their interest in athletic participation and the influence of the coach. In this way, the coach can play a major role in the problems now confronting junior high students.

The Coach should be mindful of their position of guardianship entrusted by the athletes and their parents.

The Coach should work to instill with their players respect for the officials, and establish that they alone shall discuss aspects of the game with the officials.

The Coach will respect the rights and feelings of other coaches and will never use tactics that take unfair advantage of others. The coach should be friendly and courteous at all times and never argue with an opposing coach in front of the team or spectators.



The Coach should teach the team to be respectful of and show sportsmanship towards opponents.

Duration of playing time during games falls under the discretion of each sport's athletic coach.

The Coach publicly supports school and District policies and decisions related to school athletic programs and operations. If the Coach is uncertain, they have the responsibility to contact the School Athletic Director or School Administration and seek clarification.

Code of Conduct

All Participants – Code of Conduct

Our athletes serve as ambassadors to our school community and the communities in which they reside in. All participants involved in the Interschool Sports Program will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes the good will and positive spirit of athletics. Participants will conduct themselves with the highest standard of courtesy, integrity and good sportsmanship.

1. All members and participants shall respect other coaches, players, members, fans, spectators, officials, and school employees. Any inappropriate conduct, threats, harassment, or abuse (verbal or physical) directed towards coaches, players, members, fans, spectators, officials, volunteers, parents, team officials, and school employees will not be tolerated.
2. All members, fans and participants of athletic events shall behave in a positive and supportive manner.
3. All players, fans and participants' behaviour is expected to mirror the spirit of the rules and regulations of this code.
4. Violation by any member, fan or participant of this document and the codes of conduct contained within may result in an immediate and indefinite suspension or expulsion from Interschool athletic activities: games, practices, tournaments and special events for the family (including the player) or family member involved.



Players – Code of Conduct

All players will:

1. Demonstrate qualities of integrity, courtesy and good sportsmanship at all times.
 - 1.1 I will play by the rules and in the spirit of the game.
 - 1.2 I will control my temper.
 - 1.3 I will respect my opponents, coaches, officials, fans, etc.
 - 1.4 I will always strive to give my best on and off the field of play.
 - 1.5 I will have a positive outlook regardless of the circumstances.
 - 1.6 I will be a team player that supports the actions, decisions, and the outcomes of my coaches and my teammates.
2. Demonstrate a commitment to coaches and teammates by:
 - 2.1 I will attend and be on time for every practice and game. I will be willing to give 100% effort 100% of the time.
 - 2.2 I will strive to improve in all skills involved in my activity and reach for a higher level of mastery.
 - 2.3 I will communicate to my coach and teammates any information which will effect my participation and commitment in team activities ahead of time.
3. Coaches are volunteers and are giving of their time freely.
 - 3.1 I will show respect for my coaches and teammates.
4. All players will represent their coaches, teammates, and school through school citizenship.
 - 4.1 I will strive to achieve the best academic standing possible.
 - 4.2 I will conduct myself in a manner that strongly represents my school.
 - 4.3 I will follow all Codes of Conduct within my school and school division.

Players - Breach of Conduct

If a player is exhibiting ongoing inappropriate behaviour in school, or is often late for class, they will not be allowed to play in the next -game, tournament game or practice as decided by administration in discussion with the coach.

- If a student is suspended from school for a day in which a game is scheduled or over a period of time where games or tournaments are schedule (even on non-instructional days, such as a weekend), students are not permitted to play.
- If a student has an avoidable absence during the day of a game (e.g. skipping school), he/she will not be permitted to play that day.

Individual breaches will be dealt with by the coach. Serious breaches may be referred to school administration if deemed appropriate by the coach.

When there is a breach involving participants from two or more schools, administration from all of the schools involved should consult with each other to ensure there is a fair and consistent discipline in dealing with these incidents. Communication regarding disciplinary action taken shall be reported to administration of all schools involved by the school administration.

Possible consequences of breaches of conduct may include but are not limited to: limit of playing time, suspension from the team, suspension from Interschool sports program, and possible suspension from school. If a student is suspended from participation or removed in its entirety from a team, fees will cannot be refunded.

Parents – Code of Conduct

1. I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteers who give their time to provide sporting activities for my child.
2. I will handle disputes between myself and team officials with dignity and through proper team channels: privately with the coach and at an appropriate time. In the rare event that a solution cannot be realized in communication with the coaches I will seek the assistance of the school administration.
3. I will handle disappointment, whether it occurs through disputes, my child's skill, the officials and their decisions, placement on a team, etc. with dignity, maturity, and common sense.
4. I will remember that my child plays sports for his or her enjoyment not mine.
5. I will encourage my child to play by the rules, and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or aggressive behaviour.
6. I will teach my child that "doing one's best" is as important as winning.
7. I will be positive and supportive in my comments to my child during competition.
8. I will be a fan not a fanatic.
9. I will support all the guidelines contained in this handbook including the coach's selection of the team and playing time.
10. I will complete any paperwork required for their son/daughter's participation on the team and events and return in a timely fashion
11. I will ensure that any team related fees are submitted by the due date.

Parents - Breach of Conduct

Breaches of conduct during Interschool activity shall be handled by the coach or teacher sponsor.

Breaches may result in the following:

- a. The offending parent(s) will be requested to stop the inappropriate actions immediately.
- b. If the actions do not cease, then the Interschool activity will be stopped and the parent will be asked to leave the site.
- c. If the individual refuses to leave the game will be forfeited to the opposing team.
- d. If the individual continues, the R.C.M.P. will be called to remove the parent from the area.
- e. An individual who has breached the Code of Conduct may be suspended from attending future activities.
- f. Any parent/guardian and/or spectator that is removed from a sporting by the R.C.M.P. or who is responsible for engaging in harassing behavior towards the Coaches will be issued a Trespass Notice or Restricted Access notification under Section 23 of the School Act. This individual will subsequently be barred from having contact with any Coach and/or faculty member working with a team and not be permitted to be on school property or in attendance for any on or off campus school event.



Coaches – Code of Conduct

All coaches will embrace the philosophy that the game is one of enjoyment. It is played not only in the pursuit of excellence, but to promote a healthy lifestyle in the social, mental and physical development of the student. All coaches are to lead by example, and should therefore follow the same expectations of conduct as the players.

1. All coaches will focus on maintaining a high level of integrity and good sportsmanship as leaders of their teams.
 - 1.1 I will follow the rules of the game, which are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no one should try to evade or break. No advantages, except those of superior skill, are to be sought over others.
 - 1.2 I will regard and treat all officials and opponents as being honest in intention.
 - 1.3 I agree that decisions of officials, no matter how unfair they may seem, are to be accepted without show of outward disgust.
 - 1.4 I agree that it is desirable to win but to win, at any cost, defeats the purpose of the game and the philosophy of the Ecole Georges H. Primeau Middle School Sports program. Losing can be a triumph when the best has been given.
 - 1.5 I will treat all visiting teams as honoured guests.
 - 1.6 I will treat all others as I, myself, would like to be treated.
2. The coach will promote the mental, social and physical development of values in the athletes under their care.
 - 2.1 I understand that the primary aim of school is education and the student's success in the classroom.
 - 2.2 I will be sensitive to the emotional needs of the athletes I coach.
3. The coach recognizes their responsibility to be aware of any medical needs that their athletes have and safeguard all confidential information pertaining to their athletes.
 - 3.1 I will know any medical conditions of the athletes that pertain to their safe participation in the athletic event.
 - 3.2 I will keep confidential any student records (medical information, parent contact information, incidents, etc) confidential.
 - 3.3 I will inform school administration of any ongoing and/or serious incidents involving student athletes that do not contribute to a positive, safe and caring environment.
 - 3.4 I will complete any school accident reports in the event there is an accident that requires any medical attention.



Coaches - Breach of Conduct

1. Coaches Governed by the ATA Code of Conduct

The code stipulates minimum standards of professional conduct of members (Coaches and administrators) but is not an exhaustive list of such standards. Any member (Coach or administrator) who is alleged to have violated the standards of the Association may be subject to a charge of unethical behaviour under the discipline by-laws of the Alberta Teacher's Association.

2. All Coaches outside of ATA Code of Conduct

All breaches of the Code of Conduct may be dealt with by the administration of the school in consultation with any of the following: teacher sponsor, and other coaches involved. A review hearing may be called and all involved parties will have an opportunity to be present. Upon completion of the hearing a decision shall be made as to the future of the coach with the team. Possible consequences warranted may include but are not limited to: a reprimand, a suspension of coach from the team for a period of time or the banishment of the coach from the team.

Possible Athletic Awards

Team sport awards are to be distributed at the year-end Awards Celebration and are open to all grade levels/teams. If there is no individual who represents the award criteria, there will be no award. Please reference Award Criteria for specifics. The athletic awards to be presented are as follows:

Activity	Awards
Jr Cross Country Running	Female Runner of the Year Male Runner of the Year
Sn Cross Country Running	Female Runner of the Year Male Runner of the Year
Jr Boys Volleyball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Jr Girls Volleyball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Sn Boys Volleyball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Sn Girls Volleyball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Cheerleading	Spirit (Heart & Hustle) Leadership (Cheer Member of the Year)
Jr Boys Basketball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Jr Girls Basketball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Sn Boys Basketball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Sn Girls Basketball	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Jr Boys & Girls Journal Games	Female Runner of the Year Male Runner of the Year
Sn Boys & Girls Journal Games	Female Runner of the Year Male Runner of the Year
Boys Badminton	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Girls Badminton	Heart & Hustle Player of the Year
Jr. Track & Field	Heart & Hustle T & F Member of the Year
Sn Track & Field	Heart & Hustle T&F Member of the Year





Player/Parent Contract

Ecole Georges H. Primeau Middle School
Interschool Sports Program



Student Athlete

I have read, accept and support the intent of this handbook. I also agree to uphold the guidelines outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Signature of the Player _____

Parent (Guardian) of the Athlete *(only once per child per year required)*

I have read, accept, and support the intent of this handbook. I have discussed the implications of this handbook with my family member. I understand the responsibilities regarding transportation and supervision. I understand that playing time for my child is the sole decision of the coach. I give my permission for my child to participate in all practices, games and tournaments as a member of Fowler's extra-curricular sports teams.

Name of Parent/Guardian

**Signature of
Parent/Guardian**

Date of Signature

This form must be signed and returned to the coach with all fees paid prior to a player being eligible to play. If fees are a concern, please contact the coach about a payment plan.

