***Canon City Middle Schools***

***Athletic Handbook***

***Athletic Policies and Expectations***

Canon City Schools have established certain policies and expectations by which all athletic participants (including managers) are expected to abide.

1. All policies of Canon City RE-1 school district must be followed.

2. An athletic fee of $75 is due for each sport at registration if an athlete is on free or reduced lunch status the fee is reduced and will be administered through the main office.

3. Good sportsmanship and citizenship are expected of athletes at all times including at home, in school, at practices, at home and away contests, and in the community. Any disrespect to an adult or another athlete or any violation of behavioral expectations may result in removal from the situation and/or suspension from the team.

4. **All athletes must be passing all of their classes to participate in a contest and/or travel with the team. Eligibility will be checked by the Athletic Director and sent to coaches every Thursday. If a student is deemed ineligible (not passing one or more classes) on a Thursday, he/she will remain ineligible until the next Thursday eligibility check. Ineligible athletes will be allowed to practice with the team unless otherwise decided by the coach. Students may only be removed from the ineligibility list by the teacher who reported the grade.**

5. Athletes will receive the necessary equipment from the school with the exception of shoes, socks, underclothing, etc. Athletes will be charged for any equipment not properly checked in at the conclusion of each sport. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in future sports until equipment has been checked in or fines paid.

6. Alcohol, tobacco, and/or drug violations will result in immediate suspension from athletic participation for a minimum of eight school days and up to a maximum of one calendar year.

7. Personal items such as sports equipment, clothing, jewelry, electronics, etc. are the responsibility of the athlete and not recommended to be brought to practice.

8. Parents/guardians are responsible for picking up athletes **immediately** after each practice and game. If an athlete is repeatedly picked up late, he/she may be removed from the team.

9. If it is determined that an athlete violates any of the above policies and/or expectations, the coach will notify a parent/guardian of the infraction and subsequent consequence. If parents/guardians wish to appeal a coach’s decision, they may set up a meeting with the coach and athletic director.

10. Any athlete that is found to be in violation of the sexual harassment policy held by the school or district will be removed immediately from the team until an investigation is complete. If discipline is handed down from the school or police the athlete will be suspended from athletics for a length of time to be determined by the school administration.

11. **Chain of Command**

The Canon City Middle School Athletic Department will strictly adhere to the policy that a disgruntled parent, fan or athlete MAY NOT address a coach before, during, or after a contest.

The chain of command that CCMS will follow is:

1. Athlete and Coach

2. Parent, Athlete, and Coach

3. Parent, Athlete, Coach, and Athletic Director

4. Parent, Athlete, Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal

These meetings will be made by appointment at a designated date and time. The athlete will be present at all meetings between parents and coaches.

\*\*\*Violations of the above policies may accumulate during 7th and 8th grade years\*\*\*

***Sportsmanship Code of Conduct***

All participants, parents, and/or spectators at Canon City Middle School are expected to conduct themselves with the utmost integrity and demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. This includes, but is not limited to, respectful behavior toward all opposing team members, opposing team coaches, officials, and all other support staff. The expectation is that all participants will be courteous, honest, and maintain the integrity

of the sport.

***Athlete, Parent, Families, Spectators are expected to***:

-Show respect toward opponents, referees, coaches, and players

-Respect officials and accept their decisions

-Maintain self-control at all times

-Be positive and supportive by encouraging players & cheering for your team, not “coach” from the sidelines

-Recognize and acknowledge good performances by both teams

-Be humble, not boastful in victory

-Leave the site of the event, to include the parking lot, immediately after the contest has ended

\*\*\*Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in removal from a team or removal from a contest\*\*\*

**Practice/Participation**

-all required forms must be on file in the office prior to participation in practice

-all athletes must complete the required number of practices before competing

 --Football 9 practices

 --All other sports the athlete must complete 5 practices prior to competing

(Colorado *High School Activities Association guidelines.)*

-attending a scheduled contest does not count as a practice

-practice during a scheduled game day does not count as a practice

**Quitting a team**

Students wishing to be released from a sport during the season (after games have started) must arrange for a meeting with the coach and the Athletic Director (parents are encouraged to be present) and express their reasons for wanting to leave the team. Student must contact the coach or Athletic Director to set up the meeting. Students will not be eligible to participate in another sport until released from team. Students who quit a sport will not be allowed to participate in another sport during that same season unless approved by Athletic Director.

Equipment must be checked in to coach immediately upon leaving team.

**Team Selection**

Athletes will be evaluated to determine the level of play in which each will participate.

Coaches will expect athletes to perform at his/her highest level in the areas of performance, attitude, and competitiveness. The beginning of each season will serve as a tryout period consisting of three days in which the athlete will be rated on performance. The coach may excuse any absence during the tryout period *prior* to the practice. The coach will notify each athlete as to the level in which he/she will participate. When numbers warrant, an intramural team will be established and a schedule to provide game like situations for these athletes.

There will be no guarantee as to the amount of playing time for any athlete.

***Sports Concussion Protocol***

*\*IF an athlete is removed from play (practice and/or competition) and the signs and symptoms cannot be readily explained by a condition other than a concussion, the coach shall notify parent/guardian and the athletic director and the athlete shall not return to play until he/she is evaluated by a health care provider (MD, DO, NP, PA) and receive written clearance to return to play.\**

An athlete who is diagnosed with a concussion will not be allowed to participate in team practice or competition until:

1) A written clearance note is received from the athlete’s health care provider

2) The athlete is symptom-free at school and doesn’t require academic adjustments in the classroom

When all conditions are met and the athlete has been released to return to play the coach shall work the athlete back into participation at his/her discretion. The return to play may not be immediate and is put in place to protect the athlete as well as the coaches and school.

***Schools Without Sports Offerings***

***Middle school students attending Mountain View Core Knowledge School and Canon Exploratory School have the option to participate in athletic programs within the Cañon City School District.  Students who attend Mountain View must participate in the sports programs offered by Harrison K-8 School, if they are offered.   Students attending Canon Exploratory School must participate in the sports programs offered by Canon City Middle School, if they are offered.   This also means that if a student is cut from the program they were assigned to participate in, they will not be allowed to choose a different school to try out once again.  Exception to this rule will be made if the schools combine athletes, based on number of participants, in order to field a developmental team to offer more students an opportunity to participate.***

**Canon City Middle School**

**Athlete Parent Contract**

**Athlete Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

We (athlete and parent/guardian) have read, understand and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in the Canon City Middle School Athletic Contract. We also understand that participating in athletics is a privilege and a responsibility. It is a privilege to develop various athletic skills and a responsibility to represent your school and community with your best sportsmanship and appearance. We will accept

responsibility to contribute in making this a successful year with Canon City Middle School athletics.

We agree to:

● demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times

● be a positive representative of our school

● be gracious in winning and losing

● not use vulgar and abusive language in games, at school, or in the community

● not criticize game officials

● not be in possession of any illegal substance

If we have any questions regarding items in the contract, we will contact the coach and/or athletic director. If situations should arise during the season, we will follow the appropriate methods to handle each situation as it arises.

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**Student Athlete Signature Date**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature Date**

**\*\*This form must be signed and on file in the office for student athletes**

**to participate.**