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Discipline

I build my entire philosophy on coaching and discipline around this simple idea: ***“That which you tolerate, you encourage.”*** That statement will help my kids and staff, understand my approach to discipline and attention to detail in every aspect of the program. I believe in communicating my expectations to my staff and my players. I believe in holding them accountable for their actions as well. I like to keep team rules brief and cut and dry. For example, ***“Do what is right, always.”*** I’d like that to be posted in the locker area and team room. Additionally, I like this rule: ***“Be where you are supposed to be, at the time you are supposed to be there, doing what you are supposed to do.”*** In addition to those simple rules are simple consequences that each athlete must accept when rules are broken, I anticipate forming a “Player Council” within the program. The Player council will assist the coaching staff in providing guidance and structure within the team and give ownership to the players. We will use a simple system. Each time a player has a discipline problem he will face consequences. He will be dealt with by his position coaches or the head coach. When he reaches 3 incidents he must face the Player Council. He must explain his actions and accept his consequences to remain with the team. He will be suspended for one game. The Player Council will address the young man professionally and with respect being sure to let him know how he is a distraction to the program and its mission. They will express to him that he is an integral part of the program’s success and provide suggestions for controlling his actions. The player will be on a “probation” of sorts. If a player reaches 4 incidents, he will be dismissed from the team.

Standard Sequence of Disciplinary Actions

- First incidence- TBD
- Second incidence- TBD
- Third incidence-TBD ,Player Council, game suspension”
- Fourth incidence- Dismissed from team.

*****The purpose of discipline is to provide the athlete with conditioning and an opportunity to right his actions. We do not seek to belittle or embarrass any student. I believe a student who continues to attract negative attention is in fact embarrassing himself and the program.**

Our program will be known for disciplined structured practices. Structured routines and traditions will be our norm. We will do things with “military like precision”. Every school rule will be reinforced in our program. All players will be treated equally and the idea is that “No player is bigger than the team, no team bigger than the program.” The bottom line, clear expectations, open lines of communication, swift, tough and fair discipline. I believe that discipline is something you do for someone, not to someone.

A disciplined person knows how to act when no one of higher authority is watching.

A disciplined team doesn't self-destruct.

In summary regarding kids who might be outsiders or different in some ways, it's my responsibility, my staffs responsibility and the mission of the program to make them feel a part, make them feel important and to provide life lessons that improve their quality of life. I expect many boys lives will be changed due to the impact of our quality staff and team. No boy will be disregarded due to playing ability. No boy is so great a challenge that we would not do our best to make a positive impact on his life. No effort is too great when it comes to a young man's future.

Player Code of Conduct

The Code: Goals of our team

- i. To develop **young men** who are respected for overcoming adversity, accepting challenges with enthusiasm, and for being positive, productive members of our society. People with strong enough character to do the right thing all of the time.
- ii. To create **student-athletes** who will get the most out of themselves. Student- athletes who are internally motivated to make themselves better and give everything they have every time. Student-athletes who value the team over the individual.
- iii. To produce **football players** who are confident in their abilities, training, and conditioning. Football players who know that they can win every game they are in, regardless if they do or do not.

The Code: Academic Eligibility

Football players must be eligible and have a 2.0 grade point average. Players on academic probation may be required to attend study hall(s) to improve their grades. Ineligibility does not necessarily exclude a player from responsibility of the program. Chronic ineligibility, whether in season or not, may result in removal from the program.

The Code: Class Attendance

Football players who are truant from a class will additionally be ineligible for practice and/or a game. A missed game or practice will carry additional penalty of an unexcused absence.

The Code: Workouts/Team Meetings

Football players must attend mandatory workouts or meetings, and be on time. All missed practices, excused or unexcused, will need to be made up. A missed practice is considered a missed opportunity to get better. To reduce the impact on a player, an absent player will be given the opportunity to make up the practice by running (for a predetermined time and under the supervision of a coach). This is not a punishment and thus will be considered in addition to any running requirement for an unexcused absence.

Failure to attend a mandatory meeting/practice without excuse will result in:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1 st Offense: | Opportunity |
| 2 nd Offense: | Opportunity and suspension for first half of next game |
| 3 rd Offense: | Opportunity and suspension for next game |
| 4 th Offense: | Dismissal from the team |

A tardy player can expect the following consequences:

- 1st Offense: Opportunity
- 2nd Offense: Opportunity and suspension for first half of next game
- 3rd Offense: Opportunity and suspension for next game
- 4th Offense: Possible suspension from the team
- 5th Offense: Possible dismissal from the team

***Please note that decisions of dismissal will be the sole decision of the head coach.**

During the Spring, Summer and Fall, practices will be considered mandatory/optional which is determined by the head coach. To be excused from any practices/meetings, a parent/guardian note or phone call must be provided to the Head Coach at least 24 hours before the absences. If calling, the only acceptable excusal is to speak directly to the Head Coach. **This does not include leaving a voice message.** Failure to clear the absence before the missed practice will result in missed practices being considered unexcused.

***Please note that decisions of dismissal will be the sole decision of the Head Coach.**

During the Spring, Summer, and Fall, practices are considered mandatory or optional as determined by the head coach. To be excused from any practices/meetings, a parent/guardian note or phone call must be given to the Head Coach at least 24 hours before the absences. If calling, the only acceptable excusal is to speak directly to the Head Coach. **This does not include leaving a voice message.** Failure to clear an absence before the missed practice will result in missed practices being considered unexcused. Also, remember that the player may have to compete with others whose performances have improved during that player's absence.

While the coaching staff believes in and supports family vacations/travel, please try to schedule vacations and/or trips at a time that will disrupt your player's practice/game schedule least. The coaching staff would be happy to discuss with you options that will minimally impact your player's performance and the total team's success.

The Code: Off Season Requirements

Spring football practice is a requirement to participate in the Buffalo Football Program. In addition, participation in track and field (or another Spring Sport) is required. We will use our track and field program as a base for off-season conditioning. Working together, we can help make more than just football successful at Tempe High School.

Attendance at both the summer workouts and Camps are a requirement for play and participation in the fall football season. Any player who misses summer camp will not only lose the opportunity to build team relationships and better himself as a player, but, will not be assigned to the Varsity squad until further proof of performance/ability.

The Code: Behavior

Unless otherwise indicated, infractions of the expectations in this section will result in the assignment of a consequence that may include but is not limited to:

- ✓ Immediate apology(s)
- ✓ Opportunity
- ✓ Opportunity and possible consequence
- ✓ Dismissal

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

1. Football players will be respectful to all. Especially school employees, officials, parents, teachers and other students.
2. Football players will be respectful to coaches and will refer to coaches as "Coach" or "Sir".
3. Football players will maintain composure during practice and competitions. They will not argue with or demean officials, opposing coaches and/or players.
4. Football players will not curse or swear.
5. Football players will refrain from horseplay or rough housing.
6. Football players will not litter the locker room or campus.
7. Football players will enthusiastically follow directions given by a coach. Sullen or reluctant behavior is not tolerated.
8. Football players will respond to questions asked of them with a "Yes, Coach," "No, Coach," "Yes, sir," or "No, sir." The same respect will continue in the classroom and on campus.
9. Football players will be honest. Players who cheat or lie will be punished and/or dismissed.
10. Football players will treat school property with care. Vandalism will be punished and could result in removal from the program, a monetary fine and/or prosecution.
11. Football players will not steal. Anyone found stealing from the locker room will be dismissed and prosecution will be recommended.
12. Football players will conduct themselves with dignity and class at all times.
13. Football players will win the same way they lose, with class. Players will quickly return to and from the sidelines. Players will cordially shake the opponent's hands.
14. When on the road, players will enthusiastically follow all schedules designed by the coach.
15. When on the road, players will never leave the premises of competition without requesting permission from the coach.
16. Football players will be responsible in completing all paperwork (i.e. physicals, clearances, transportation fees, equipment returns, etc.).

PARENTS/GUARDIANS/FANS EXPECTATIONS

1. Be positive and encouraging towards players and coaches.
2. Treat officials, game personnel and administration with respect.
3. Be respectful to other fans (you may have an opinion but, not everyone needs to hear it).
4. Be respectful and courteous when addressing a coach, player or administrator and expect the same.
5. Get involved in the Booster Club (parent organization) and/or any team support organization effort.
6. Practices and/or games are not an appropriate time to have a discussion with the coaching staff. Please schedule a time to meet with a coach at an appropriate and convenient time for everyone. At no point will play calling or coaching philosophies be an issue of discussion.
7. The entire athletic department appreciates and encourages community participation in our activities. However, if behaviors develop that are detrimental to the entire community's participation, the right to participate may be revoked.

The Code: Courtesy

Football players will follow all directions and direct commands of those in authority. If a question arises regarding the directions, the player will wait until an appropriate time to address the coach or other person in authority. At this time respect and courtesy for authority will be maintained at all times.

The Code: Drugs, Tobacco & Alcohol

- ✓ Football players will not use tobacco of any kind.
- ✓ Football players will not use alcohol.
- ✓ Football players will not use drugs, possess drugs/paraphernalia, or be in the presence of such items.
- ✓ Football players who have a problem with substances are encouraged to seek help for chemical dependency. Such players will be treated with privacy, and coaches will do everything in their power to help such players. Players who are reported to the coaches as alcohol or drug users will be given the opportunity to seek help. Players who partake in alcohol and drugs will be subject to the rules of the school governing these issues. In addition, on the first offense, any player found to have taken drugs or alcohol will be, at the least, suspended for the following competition or perhaps dismissed. A second offense would therefore result in dismissal.

The Code: Injuries

Football players will report to the coach and trainer for treatment immediately upon being injured. All injuries must be reported immediately. Injured players will report daily to the trainer until the treatment is complete. Players will report to the trainer after competitions. Attendance is mandatory. There is no loitering or horse play in the training room. Please note that injury does NOT excuse a player from attending practice(s) and or game(s).

The Code: Equipment

Football players will dress properly for workouts, practices and competitions. No football player will modify or alter issued equipment or wear any equipment not issued by the school without the coach's permission.

All equipment will be turned in on time. Any athlete who has not returned equipment or owes money will not be allowed to participate in the banquet. Also, he will be given a debt notice and will not be issued any other athletic gear until the equipment is returned or paid for.

The Code: Uniform

- ✓ Approved practice uniforms will be worn in practice and during weight lifting.
- ✓ Approved protective gear only.
- ✓ No jewelry, watches or customized towels.
- ✓ Practice uniforms are expected to be washed on Tuesday (Freshman)/Wednesday (JV/Varsity)
- ✓ Cleat color will be universal for all players. These decisions will be made by the coaches.
- ✓ Game socks will be universal for all players. This will be selected by coaches.
- ✓ No tape on uniforms or cleats without permission from the coaches.
- ✓ Any player not properly uniformed will be considered in defiance and will receive consequences for that action.
- ✓ No individualized sparring or taping will be permitted.
- ✓ Any uniform adjustments requested by the coaches will be made immediately.

The Code: Grooming & Dress

The school dress code will be strictly enforced. In the spirit of team togetherness, nothing that displays outlandish individuality will be tolerated. It is therefore strongly recommended by the coaching staff that all players shower directly following any practice. We suggest this be done on campus. It will be required that all players shower (on-campus – either ours or the guest school's) directly following any game. Should there be extenuating circumstances, coaches must grant approval.

The Code: Travel

Football players are expected to travel to and from competitions with the team unless excused by a member of the coaching staff. Football players should remember that they represent Tempe High School and the football program while traveling. Coaches expect them to show class and be respectful to all those they encounter.

Parents must provide coaching staff with a written note (prior to Game Day) asking for permission of their student-athlete to leave with them.

The Code: Early Termination

No player will be excused from participation in the football program without the express permission of the head coach. No player will participate in any other sport during the football season without the permission of the head coach and the coach of the other sport unless given administration approval.

If a parent/guardian decides to remove his/her child from the football program (for example, Brian is getting two Ds in his classes), the player will only be permitted to return with the express permission of the Head Coach.

The Code: Recruiting/Media Information

All players must have a district photographic release form on file with the Registration and Football offices. Additionally, players must agree to allow the football program to provide personal information (including but not limited to transcript, address, phone numbers and parent/guardian names) to authorized football representatives (i.e. college recruiters).

Players agree to allow the football program to use football photographs/video clips of the player for football related promotions and for posting on the football website. Again, the Photographic Release form must be on file in the Registration and Football Office.

The Code: Signatures

We believe that student athletes in the football program should exemplify the highest ideas of scholarships, sportsmanship, and citizenship. Young men in this program will be expected to be courteous, respectful, and responsible at all times, on and off the campus.

Participants in the football program recognize that playing football for Tempe High School carries with it additional responsibilities and thus will be governed by the following additional rules and expectations. Thus I submit the additional guidelines and consequences put forth in this document and referred to as "The Code".

As a participant and member of the Tempe High School Football Program, I agree to the following Code of Conduct.

The coaching staff has reviewed the rules and requirements orally and I fully understand my responsibility to myself and the Buffalo Football Program.

Student Name (printed)	Date
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Student Signature	Date
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Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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