

GROTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

~ ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY ~

The role and purpose of the overall athletic program at Groton Central School is to:

1. increase the educational opportunities for students and to better prepare them for life.
2. develop physical conditioning and discipline of mind and body.
3. develop respect for authority, teammates, and themselves.
4. learn sportsmanship.
5. develop pride in themselves and their school.
6. learn to work together as a team for a common goal.
7. learn responsibility and dedication.
8. promote conduct which demonstrates character, honesty, and a sense of good citizenship.

MODIFIED

The role and purpose of the modified sports program in addition to the overall is to:

1. introduce school's athletic policies (eligibility, training rules and sportsmanship).
2. develop the basic skills and learn the rules of the sport and how the sport is played.
3. see if it is a sport the athlete would like to continue (exposure-trial period).
4. give all participants opportunities to learn through drills and scrimmage situations during practice.
5. give all participants fair playing time (fair doesn't necessarily mean equal time or that every player will get into every contest).

JUNIOR VARSITY

The role and purpose of the junior varsity sports program in addition to the overall is to:

1. further develop the skills of the athlete.
2. increase the intensity if the competition.
3. prepare for the varsity level.
4. place more emphasis on winning but not to the extent of the varsity level.
5. there is a possibility that some players may not demonstrate the necessary skills, discipline or positive attitude to make the team.
6. it is our hope that each member of the team will see some playing time throughout the season but not necessarily every contest.

VARSITY

The role and purpose of the varsity sports program in addition to the overall is to:

1. develop skills and physical conditioning of the athlete to its full potential.
2. allow the athlete the chance to excel and prepare for college level.
3. learn to set goals and to strive to achieve them.
4. be a role model for younger athletes.
5. any junior varsity athlete moved up to a varsity team at the beginning of the season should see significant playing time unless this move is made to deal with an emergency situation or at sectional time.

The main focus of our varsity sports program is to produce responsible student athletes with the common goal of winning. There will be a limited number of players selected for certain teams. Only players who are determined by the coach to have the necessary skills, discipline and positive attitude that will contribute to the team's goals will be selected during try-outs.

MEET THE TEAM NIGHT

It is suggested that a "Meet the Team Night" for all level of sports be considered. It should be planned before the first contest or possibly at the first home event with an early start. The schedule for that particular season could be distributed. Participants should include teams, coaches, and parents.

Coaches should introduce the team and explain what the basic philosophy is at the different levels of play.

The athletic director, building principal or coach should be there to explain the philosophy of the school. For example, sportsmanship, player attitude (team play), parental and spectator support for all participants, including coaches, teams and officials. They should also explain the role of the site coordinator to control disciplinary actions.

DISCIPLINE

- a. Participation in sports activities is a privilege, not a right.
- b. Students must be willing to accept the responsibility for their actions and the consequences.
- c. Students are expected to behave respectfully and cooperatively, demonstrating good sportsmanship in all situations.
- d. The athletic director has final authority concerning the players in any sport-related situation. Action should be taken promptly when a problem arises to avoid its continuation and possible escalation to other problems.
- e. Grievances are to be dealt within a private meeting with the athletic director, coach, player and parent at an appropriate time.
- f. Disciplinary guidelines are spelled out in the Athletic Training Rules and Academic Eligibility Policies. Athletic Training Rules and Discipline Guidelines are the final authority concerning individual team rules.

SPECTATORS/PARENTS

Given the Athletic Philosophy of Groton Central School, we urge all spectators and parents to support our athletic program by:

1. attending games both home and away.
2. lending positive support to our teams and coaches.
3. encouraging all players without regard to their role on the team.
4. helping other spectators and parents to maintain an appropriate, sportsmanlike attitude.
5. having a goal of winning the sportsmanship award given annually by league officials.
6. showing respect for the authority of the game officials.

The superintendent has the authority to suspend spectators/parents from attending home contests for any inappropriate or unsportsmanlike behavior. The attending administrator, furthermore, may escort an uncooperative spectator from the home event.

Two copies of the Groton Central School Athletic Philosophy are to be given to each athlete. One copy is to be signed by parents/guardians and athlete attesting to the fact that they have read and understand the rules and regulations, and then returned to the coach. The remaining copy is to be kept for reference.

Student Athlete's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____