

WALTER G. O'CONNELL

# COPIAGUE HIGH SCHOOL



# 2022-2023

INTERSCHOLASTIC

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# ATHLETICS HANDBOOK

[WWW.COPIAGUE.K12.NY.US](http://WWW.COPIAGUE.K12.NY.US)

## COPIAGUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS “HOME OF THE EAGLES”

WALTER G. O’CONNELL COPIAGUE HIGH SCHOOL  
2022-2023 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS HANDBOOK  
FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES AND PARENTS

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## *Interscholastic Athletics Handbook for Student-Athletes and Parents*

Dear Parents and Student-Athletes:

Welcome to the Copiague Eagles Interscholastic Athletics Program. This handbook has been prepared to be used as a reference by our student-athletes and their parents/guardians in an effort to define responsibilities as they pertain to the rules and regulations, as well as the policies and procedures, for participation in our interscholastic athletics program.

Upon entering middle and high school, students are afforded many new opportunities and challenges. An important part of the educational experience at this level is the extracurricular programs available to all students, in particular the interscholastic athletic program. National studies have shown that students involved in extracurricular programs, such as interscholastic sports, achieve better grades, manage their time more effectively, have less discipline problems and stay in school.

I am extremely pleased that you have taken an interest in this part of our school program. Participating in an athletic program is a privilege and honor and provides an opportunity for student-athletes to develop lifelong skills. Our main goal is to provide a positive experience for the student-athlete that will promote team and individual growth. An educational-based athletics approach will afford our student-athletes the opportunity to achieve success in a safe and healthy environment, while also providing the necessary skills that will benefit them both on and off the athletic field.

When students choose to participate in our athletic program, we feel that they have committed themselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. This handbook will acquaint you with some of the specific policies/rules that are necessary for a well-organized and successful athletics program.

We offer a wide variety of athletic programs and currently sponsor 53 athletic teams in grades 7-12. The Copiague Interscholastic Athletics Program is a member of Section XI of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) and competes as a class "AA" school.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Copiague Eagles Athletics Program. I look forward to working with you to ensure that you take advantage of the tremendous opportunities athletics provide. GO EAGLES!

Sincerely,

*William Bennett*

William Bennett,

Director of Physical Education & Athletics

631-842-4010, ext. 475

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Copiague Athletics Program is to provide our student-athletes with an equal opportunity to compete and excel in a positive environment that encourages community values and sportsmanship. Our teams and coaches strive to create opportunities for our athletes to develop and demonstrate those characteristics of citizenship and fair play that foster respect for the sport, persons of authority, teammates and opponents.

Copiague athletics is committed to ensuring that our programs nurture pride and self-esteem by providing relationships with positive role models. Through participation, our student-athletes learn to strive for victory while maintaining a proper perspective, emphasizing those lifelong skills that promote health in both mind and body, and enhancing those moral values that provide for responsible contributions to society.

In the spirit of Copiague School District's Academic Mission Statement, our athletics program emphasizes the role of the educational curriculum as the primary means for individual achievement and success.

## AWARDS/LETTERS

1. Awards and/or letters will be issued only to those student-athletes who complete their season (including postseason playoffs) in good standing. Student-athletes who are dropped from the team and those who resign before the last contest are not eligible for awards.
  - a. The first year a varsity athlete completes a varsity sport season, he or she earns a chenille letter "C" and sport-specific pin.
  - b. Each year thereafter, the athlete is awarded a varsity certificate.
  - c. Coaches will also give out "Most Valuable Player," "Most Improved Player" and "Coach's Award" at the end of each season.
  - d. Golden Eagle Awards are given to the top scholar-athletes in each sport based on report cards issued at the end of their respective seasons.
  - e. Junior varsity athletes will receive certificates and chenille numerals representing the year they will graduate.
2. Student-athletes who fail to return their practice/game uniforms and/or any other piece of equipment are ineligible for awards.

## ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

### FALL

Football (V/JV)  
Boys Soccer (V/JV)  
Girls Soccer (V/JV)  
Girls Tennis (V/JV)  
Boys Cross-Country (V)  
Girls Volleyball (V/JV)  
Field Hockey (V/JV)  
Gymnastics (V)

### WINTER

Wrestling (V/JV)  
Boys Basketball (V/JV)  
Girls Basketball (V/JV)  
Boys Winter Track (V)  
Girls Winter Track (V)  
Boys Bowling (V)  
Girls Bowling (V)

### SPRING

Softball (V/JV)  
Baseball (V/JV)  
Boys Lacrosse (V/JV)  
Girls Lacrosse (V/JV)  
Boys Tennis (JV)  
Boys Spring Track (V)  
Girls Spring Track (V)

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## 2022-2023 ATHLETICS CALENDAR

### FALL 2022

August 22 – First Practice, V & JV Fall Sports

### WINTER 2022-2023

November 14 – First Practice, V & JV Winter Sports

### SPRING 2023

March 13 – First Practice, V & JV Spring Sports

To assist you, Section XI, the governing body of all interscholastic sports in Suffolk County, has instituted a website with the following items:

- Most accurate schedule information
- Directions to all schools in Suffolk County
- Results of all varsity games
- Tournament and playoff information

Please use this website at [www.sectionxi.org](http://www.sectionxi.org). Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School is listed, and all updates of our schedules will be posted.

## PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

### JUNIOR VARSITY PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The junior varsity level is intended for those students who demonstrate the potential of continued development into productive varsity-level performers. Although team membership varies according to the structure of each program, freshmen and sophomores occupy the majority of roster positions. In certain situations, juniors who are expected to make contributions at the varsity level will be considered for junior varsity participation. Also, seventh and eighth-grade students who have satisfied all Athletic Placement Process requirements may be included on a junior varsity roster as well.

At this level, athletes are expected to demonstrate commitment to the program and team and continued self-development. To this end, increased emphasis is placed on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills, and elements and strategies of team play, in addition to socio-emotional development. Junior varsity programs work toward achieving a balance between continued team and player development and striving for victory. The outcome of the contest becomes a consideration at this level.

The realization that practice sessions are important is a premise that is vital to a successful junior varsity team and player. For all team members, meaningful contest participation will exist over the course of a season; however, a specified amount of playing time is never guaranteed. Participants at this level are preparing themselves for the six-day-a-week commitment that is expected at the varsity level. While contests and practices are normally not held on Sundays or holidays, practice sessions are sometimes scheduled during school vacation periods. With the goal of becoming a varsity athlete clearly in sight, a high level of dedication and commitment is expected at the junior varsity level.

## PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

### VARSITY PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Varsity competition is the culmination of each sport's program. Normally, seniors and juniors make up the majority of the roster. Occasionally, a sophomore and infrequently a freshman may be included on the team, providing that evidence of advanced levels of physical development, athletic skill and appropriate socio-emotional development is demonstrated. It is possible but rare for a middle school-level student to be included on a varsity roster. Athletic Placement Process occurs more frequently in sports commonly classified as "individual" (track, golf, swimming, etc.).

Squad size at the varsity level is limited. The number of participants on any given team is a function of those needed to conduct an effective and meaningful practice and to play the contest. It is vital that each team member has a role and is informed of its importance. The number of roster positions is relative to the student's acceptance of his/her individual role in pursuit of the team's goals. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time at the varsity level is never guaranteed.

A sound attitude and advanced level of skill are prerequisites for a position on a varsity team, as is the realization that a varsity sport requires a six-day-a-week commitment. This commitment is often extended into vacation periods for all sports seasons. While contests and practices are normally not held on Sundays or holidays, the dedication and commitment needed to conduct a successful varsity program should be taken seriously.

The varsity coach is the leader of that sport's program and determines the system of instruction and strategy for that program. The communication among the modified, junior varsity and varsity programs is the responsibility of the varsity coach. Preparing to win, striving for victory in each contest, and working to reach the group's and individual's maximum potential are worthy goals of a varsity-level team.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT PARTICIPANTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### **DEFINITIONS:**

Extracurricular – Any after-school activity that is not directly connected to an instructional or curricular program (e.g., all clubs, sports teams, Madrigals).

Co-curricular – Any after-school activity that is directly connected to the instructional or curricular program (e.g., band, chorus).

This policy does not apply to co-curricular activities.

District students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to conform to standards that meet or exceed the requirements of the general district code of conduct.

1. It is expected that a member of a team or club will be a responsible individual, possessing a good attitude as well as good citizenship.
2. Academic Standards:

### **Fall Sports:**

- a. A student may NOT participate in extracurricular activities if, upon review of his/her report card, he/she has failed more than two (2) subjects. A graduating student (12th-grader) may NOT participate in extracurricular activities if, upon review of his/her report card, he/she has failed one (1) subject that is required for graduation.
- b. In the fall, the final grades from the previous school year will be used to determine the first marking period's academic eligibility. (Students may attend summer school and pass the course failed in order to regain eligibility.)
- c. Academically ineligible athletes will have the opportunity to write a letter of appeal to the Eligibility Review Committee. All appeals will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

### **Winter and Spring Sports:**

- a. The eligibility requirements will pertain to the most recent marking period.
- b. All athletes who are academically ineligible (failed more than two subjects or graduating 12th-graders who have failed one subject required for graduation) will be permitted to try out for teams.
- c. Academically ineligible athletes who make a team will have the opportunity to write a letter of appeal to the Eligibility Review Committee.
- d. If the athlete becomes eligible after the committee meets, he/she will be required to turn in a weekly progress report.
- e. Academically ineligible athletes who make a team and are approved by the committee, will be permitted to practice on a daily basis. However, he/she will be ineligible to compete and dress in uniform (in scrimmages or games) for the first five weeks of the season.
- f. After five weeks (Winter: Dec. 12) (Spring: April 10), athletes will become eligible if they are in good academic standing and are following the school's code of conduct.
- g. If the athlete at any time is failing a class once they have been placed on probation after being ineligible, they are immediately dropped from the team for the remainder of the season.



## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT PARTICIPANTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

### **All Sports (Fall/Winter/Spring):**

- a. For sports whose seasons overlap marking periods, eligibility will be re-evaluated based on the most recent grades. (This would include playoffs.) If a student is not in good academic standing, he/she may appeal to the high school Eligibility Review Committee for consideration.
  - b. Withdrawn failure (WF) for dropping a course after the first making period will be considered a failure and carried for the length of the course.
  - c. Any freshman (9th grade student), sophomore (10th grade student) or junior (11th grade student) who has failed two (2) subjects in a marking period may participate, but will be placed on academic probation for the length of the activity/season. These students, in cooperation with their subject area teachers and guidance counselor, will develop a written improvement plan that will be monitored on a continuous basis by their advisors/coaches over the course of the marking period. A copy of each student's improvement plan will be submitted to the advisor/coach.
  - d. Any senior (12th grade student) who receives a progress report card comment stating, "Currently Failing," or failing grade at the end of any marking quarter in a course required for his/her graduation, will result in immediate ineligibility. Therefore, if a senior fails one (1) course required for graduation he/she will become ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities.
  - e. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a student with a disability as recognized by the CSE, or a student who has a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, may participate in extracurricular activities as specified in his/her IEP or Section 504 Accommodation Plan.
3. No student is permitted to try out for a team without having turned in a completed permission slip.
  4. No student is permitted to try out for or join a team without having turned in a completed pre-participation Interval Athletic Health History form.
  5. A student-athlete must receive an adequate health examination and may not practice or participate until he or she has been cleared medically. A physical examination is good for a period of 12 months.
  6. A student turning 19 before July 1 is ineligible to participate on an interscholastic athletic team.
  7. All other NYSPHSAA and Section XI rules pertaining to eligibility will be adhered to.
  8. All athletes and parents will be required to attend a mandatory meeting each season that will outline academic eligibility and the school's code of conduct as it pertains to athletics. After the initial meeting, teams will meet separately to discuss team rules/philosophies. Parents will be required to sign in.

## ATHLETIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The ultimate goal of athletics is to see each participant become an effective citizen in a competitive, democratic society through the accomplishment of specific objectives.

1. Learn teamwork – Develop self-discipline, respect for authority and the spirit of hard work; place the team and its objectives higher than personal desires.
2. Strive for success – Learn to accept defeat by striving to win through earnest dedication; develop a desire to excel to the best of one's ability.
3. Display good sportsmanship – Learn to treat others as one would wish to be treated by developing emotional control, honesty, cooperation and dependability.
4. Continue to improve – Establish a goal by diligently practicing skills and consistently adhering to desirable habits and characteristics.
5. Enjoy athletics – Acknowledge the personal rewards derived from sports and make every effort to preserve and improve the athletic program.
6. Educate the student body to enjoy sports while maintaining good sportsmanship.
7. Promote morale, school spirit and loyalty by providing activities that the whole community can take pride in and support.

## ATHLETIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

### CONDUCT OF AN ATHLETE

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. Your conduct is a reflection of the total educational institution that you represent. It is important that your behavior be above standards in all the following areas:

**On the Field** – In the area of athletic competition, a real athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics, learns fast that losing is part of the game, and is gracious in defeat and modest in victory. The student-athlete is always courteous and congratulates the opponent on a well-played game after winning or losing.

**In the Classroom** – In the area of academics, a good athlete becomes a good student. If you are lazy in class, you will be lazy on the practice field or floor and never reach your full potential. As an athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies to ensure acceptable grades. In addition to maintaining good scholarship, an athlete should give full attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and faculty members at all times. A healthy athlete should have a good attendance record, never cutting class or school.

**In School** – The way we act and look in school is of great importance. Athletes should be leaders and fellow students should respect and follow them. The Walter G. O’Connell Copiague High School Student Handbook rules apply to all student-athletes.

\*Please note: Athletes who are suspended for an extended time are not eligible to participate until the next school day following the last day of suspension.

### MEDICAL INSURANCE

The Copiague School District insures all students with a student accident insurance plan. This plan is intended to assist parents/guardians with the payment of bills resulting from any injuries that occur in school-related activities. This plan provides for payment that goes into effect only after any personal insurance coverage has been utilized by the parent/guardian. We have the responsibility to caution you that injuries do occur as a result of participation in athletics. However, we can assure you that the number and severity of injuries have been extremely low throughout the years in the Copiague School District.

### ATHLETIC TRAINER

The athletic trainer is located in the high school and provides service to the athletes each day during practice hours. The trainer provides emergency services to the student-athletes and develops prevention strategies through appropriate training methods and physical conditioning programs. To ensure proper follow-up after an injury, the trainer consults with parents, the school nurse and the school physician.

### CONCUSSION OVERVIEW

A concussion is a common but serious traumatic brain injury that alters the way the brain functions. Effects are usually temporary, but can sometimes result in prolonged difficulties with headache, memory, concentration, balance and other symptoms. Concussions occur when normal brain functioning is disrupted by a blow or jolt to the head. Recovery from concussions will vary. Avoiding re-injury and overexertion until fully recovered is the cornerstone of proper concussion management.

Children and adolescents are more susceptible to concussions and take longer than adults to fully recover. Any student demonstrating signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion while participating in interscholastic athletic activities will be removed from the game or activity and be evaluated immediately. Students requiring an evaluation will not return to play that day. The Copiague School District will notify the student’s parents or guardians and recommend appropriate monitoring. New York State law requires return to play clearance following a concussion to be provided by the school’s chief medical officer.

A student and parent information sheet on concussion management including materials regarding concussion symptoms and safety can be found under the “For Students - Athletics” section of the District’s website, [www.copiague.k12.ny.us](http://www.copiague.k12.ny.us).

### ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUGS

Interscholastic athletics provides a natural forum for education in this profoundly important area. The avoidance of the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs is a realistic goal that all student-athletes should strive to uphold and that parents, teachers, administrators and the community at large endorse and support. While the role of the school does not extend to the regulation of the private activities of student-athletes and their families, we cannot condone student-athletes’ behavior connected with alcohol, tobacco and other substance use. Smoking, vaping and/or the use of tobacco products will not be permitted on school district property at any time.

### HAZING/BULLYING

The school district recognizes that hazing/bullying is abusive and victimizing behavior that negatively impacts the school culture by creating an environment of fear, distrust, intimidation and intolerance. The school district is committed to providing educational, extracurricular and athletic programs that promote respect, dignity and equality and are free from all forms of hazing/bullying. Hazing means committing an act against another individual, or coercing a student into committing an act that creates a risk of emotional, physical or psychological harm to a person, in order to be initiated or affiliated with an organization, or for any other purpose.

Hazing, a form of harassment whether physical or verbal, should not be condoned by a victim, a coach, staff, family, school administration, fellow students, and especially team members. Students found to have committed an act of harassment against any student in the Copiague School District, including team members, will be faced with strong disciplinary actions, which may include suspension from his/her athletic team. Team members are fully expected to notify a coach if any such behavior is observed.

### EQUIPMENT

All athletic equipment must be returned at the end of the season to the coach or athletic office. A student-athlete will not be eligible to participate in another sport until all equipment is returned. The student-athlete will be held financially responsible for any unreturned equipment. Any student who does not return equipment will not be allowed to walk to graduation.

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance is the single most important indicator of an athlete’s commitment to a team. Student-athletes are expected to make all practices and contests, including those scheduled on Saturdays and days when school is not in session. We ask parents to schedule vacations so as not to conflict with an athlete’s commitment to a team.

1. Student-athletes will provide coaches with prior notification of projected absences when possible. Excused absences will only be permitted in cases such as medical reasons, religious observance, or personal/family extenuating circumstances approved by the coach.
2. Students must report to school no later than the end of the 4th period in order to compete on any given day, unless he/she has a medical or legal excuse for lateness. Extenuating circumstances will be given consideration by the athletic director.
3. A student-athlete injured severely enough to see a doctor or go to the hospital for evaluation/treatment must bring a doctor’s note to the nurse’s office the day he/she returns to school. Additionally, the athlete, in order to return to play, must receive clearance from his/her treating physician. The cost of the treatment is initially covered by the parents’ insurance carrier. Expenditures over the policy’s limit will be covered by the school district’s insurance policy.

### QUITTING ATHLETIC TEAMS/CHANGING SPORTS

Once selected for a team, an athlete is expected to finish the season. The following procedure will be followed by any athlete quitting a team:

1. An athlete who attends the first day of practice will be considered committed for participation with the team. (Permission slips, team meetings or verbal commitments are not binding.)
2. An athlete may not quit the original team and try out for another during the same season once he/she is committed. This policy should be clearly explained to all athletes at team meetings prior to the first day of practice. There will be no exceptions to this policy unless otherwise decided by the athletic director, who will make a decision after meeting with the coaches of the team involved. (Athletes cut from one team may try out for another.)
3. A note should be sent to the athletic director that a student has left the squad.
4. When a student quits the team, the parent should be contacted.

### TRAVEL

Student-athletes are required to travel to and from contests on the team bus under supervision of a coaching staff member. Proper conduct is expected at all times while riding on school transportation. If a parent wishes to take a student home from an athletic contest, permission must be granted in advance and a written note, signed by the parent, must be given to the coach.

### FAMILY VACATIONS

When parents and student-athletes choose to take their family vacations during sports seasons, it must be understood that the time missed by the student-athlete can affect team chemistry and personal conditioning. Student-athletes who miss practices or competitions for any reason may have their position or playing time adjusted. Coaches shall make every effort to inform parents and student-athletes of the season’s schedule as far in advance as possible.

## STUDENT-ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES

### NCAA INFORMATION

If a student-athlete is planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wants to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division I or Division II level, he/she must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Applications may be obtained in the high school guidance office. For more information, contact the director of athletics or call the NCAA: 317-917-6222 or visit their website at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

#### To the student:

Being a member of a Copiague athletic team is a fulfillment of an early ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built overnight; it takes the hard work of many people over many years.

We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our schools and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. Over many years, our squads have achieved more than their share of league and tournament championships. Many individuals have achieved All-League, Conference, County, Long Island and State honors.

It is challenging to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. When you wear the blue and white of Copiague, we assume that you not only understand our tradition, but also are willing to accept the responsibilities that go with our tradition. However, the contributions you make should be a satisfying accomplishment for you and your family.

- **Responsibilities to Yourself**

The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to derive the greatest benefit from your high school experiences. Your academic studies and your participation in other extracurricular activities, as well as in sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.

- **Responsibilities to the School**

Another responsibility you assume as a team member is to your school. By participating in athletics, you are contributing to the reputation of your school. You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic team. The student body, the community and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitude, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute significantly to school spirit and community pride.

- **Responsibilities to Others**

As a team member, you also have a responsibility to your family. When you know in your heart that you have lived up to all of the training rules, that you have practiced to the best of your ability every day, and that you have played the game "all out," you strengthen your self-respect and your family can be justly proud of you. Younger students look up to you, and it is your responsibility to set a good example for them. They will copy you in many ways. Set good examples for them.

## PARENT/ATHLETE/COACH RELATIONSHIP

### **COMMUNICATION**

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult roles. Coaches and parents want the athletes to have a positive experience as they participate in the sport or activity. Communication is the key to making a positive experience become a reality. Athletes, parents and coaches are all responsible for effective communication.

#### **Communication coaches expect from players:**

- Athletes should express concerns immediately and directly to the coach.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts will be made well in advance.
- Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations will be communicated.

As your children become involved in the athletics program at Copiague, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

#### **Communication you should expect from the coach includes:**

- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all of the players on the squad.
- Locations and times of all practices and contests.
- Team requirements (special equipment, off-season conditioning).
- Procedures taken should your child be injured during participation.
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

#### **Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches are as follows:**

- Concerns regarding your child's mental and physical status.
- Ways to help your child improve in the activity.
- Concerns about your child's behavior.

#### **Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches include:**

- Team strategy.
- Play calling.
- Discussion of other student-athletes.
- Playing time.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved are respected and have a clear understanding of the other's position.

#### **If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, do the following:**

- Call to set up an appointment with the coach.
- If the coach cannot be reached, call the district athletic office at 631-842-4010, ext. 475. The director of athletics will communicate to the coach your need to meet with him/her.
- Do NOT attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

#### **What a parent can do if a meeting with the coach does not resolve the concern:**

- Call and set up an appointment with the director of athletics to discuss the situation. The appropriate next step can be determined at this meeting.

## COPIAGUE SPECTATOR CONDUCT

### SECTION XI CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECTATORS

#### A. Statement of Philosophy

The member schools encourage the attendance of students, parents and interested members of the community at all athletic events. We further encourage their active support of these programs by participating in those activities which lend themselves to stimulating student achievement, good sportsmanship and school spirit. These activities should be positive in nature and within the guidelines of the Section XI Code of Conduct. It is not our intent to reduce involvement of spectators or the enjoyment of those who participate. Rather, it is our goal to create an atmosphere that is conducive to healthy athletic competition, is safe for those involved, and provides the ideals of sportsmanship and sound educational practices.

#### B. Spectator Code of Conduct

1. Spectators are an important part of the game and shall at all times conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.
2. Spectators shall at all times respect officials, coaches and players and extend all courtesies to them.
3. Wholesome cheering is encouraged.
4. Stamping of feet, taunting, foul and abusive language, inflammatory remarks, and disrespectful signs and behavior are not acceptable.
5. Faculty-supervised pep bands are permitted during “dead-ball time.” However, spectator noisemakers or sound devices are prohibited.
6. Spectators shall observe and obey the rules and regulations of the school concerning smoking, food and soft drink consumption, and use of lavatory facilities and parking of motor vehicles.
7. New York State Law prohibits alcoholic beverages of any kind on school property; the law further prohibits any person under the influence of alcohol to be on school property.
8. Spectators shall respect and obey all school officials, supervisors, security personnel and police at all athletic contests.
9. Smoking, vaping and/or the use the tobacco is not permitted on school property.

### SPECTATOR CONDUCT

Good sportsmanship requires all Copiague spectators to follow this code of conduct. Cheer for Copiague athletes; never mock or boo opponents. Be considerate of opposing players and coaches. Treat visiting teams as invited guests. Become familiar with the spirit and rules of the game. Accept decisions made by officials. Be gracious in victory, sportsmanlike in defeat. Cheer good plays by either team. Support our cheerleaders positively. Remember, all school rules of behavior apply to athletic contests.

## COPIAGUE SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

### TRAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-Athlete Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Team (Please Print)

**\*THIS STATEMENT MUST BE SIGNED BY THE ATHLETE AND PARENT/GUARDIAN\***

I have read and understand the TRAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS contained in the INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS HANDBOOK FOR ATHLETES AND PARENTS.

I accept my personal responsibility for these guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I acknowledge receiving the Copiague School District's TRAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS contained in the INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS HANDBOOK FOR ATHLETES AND PARENTS and accept my responsibility in helping my son/daughter live up to the responsibilities and obligations of an athlete as outlined in the handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE COACH BEFORE PARTICIPATION IN CONTESTS/SCRIMMAGES IS PERMITTED.

## COPIAGUE BOOSTER CLUB

The Copiague Booster Club is an adjunct to the athletic program and serves to enhance its operation. The club's activities are varied and include active participation in awards dinners, homecoming, and the development of our young people on the fields and in the gym. The Booster Club is very active, with many volunteers working at concession stands for various sports, making phone calls, and helping with fundraisers within the school and community.

The Booster Club meets monthly in the high school cafeteria. The membership fee is \$5.00 per adult, \$3.00 per student and \$10 per family of three (3) or more each year. Through concession sales and gate receipts collected at home events, the Copiague Booster Club presents scholarships annually to student-athletes at our senior awards presentation.

The partnership between our Booster Club and athletic teams plays an integral role in the success of the Copiague Athletic Program. Our invitation is open to all in the community to get involved and help our athletes become champions. The Booster Club needs your support! Come join the fun in helping our athletes be successful!

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### Membership Form - Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

### Students: Please List All Sports That You Play at Copiague

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Names for Membership

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Resident (\$5.00 ea)    Alumni (\$5.00 ea)  
 Faculty/Staff (\$5.00 ea)    Student (Grades 8-12) (\$3.00 ea)  
 Family of 3 or More (\$10)

If you would like to volunteer to assist the club in any way, please let us know.

- Yes, I would like to help
- Available only during the day
- Available only during the evening
- Available any time

### Thank You for Your Support

Membership Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

President . . . . .	Kenneth Urban
Vice President . . . . .	Anthony S. Pepe
2nd Vice President . . . . .	Brian J. Sales
Trustees . . . . .	Paul Daubel Michael Higgins Rosemary Natoli Ledy Torres

## **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

Superintendent of Schools . . . . .	Dr. Kathleen Bannon
Director of Physical Education & Athletics . . . . .	William Bennett

## **HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

Principal . . . . .	Joseph Agosta
Assistant Principal . . . . .	Jonathan Cutolo
Assistant Principal . . . . .	Kristin Donnelly
Assistant Principal . . . . .	Dr. Jonathan Krawchuk
Assistant Principal . . . . .	Janine Proulx

## **BOOSTER CLUB**

President . . . . .	Kimshea Moore
Vice President . . . . .	Bianca Ordonez
Treasurer . . . . .	Viscel Moore
Sergeant at Arms . . . . .	TBA
Secretary . . . . .	Cecilia Francisquini

For additional information about our  
Interscholastic Athletic programs, contact  
William Bennett, Director of Physical Education and Athletics,  
at 631-842-4010, ext. 475

WALTER G. O'CONNELL  
COPIAGUE HIGH SCHOOL  
1100 DIXON AVENUE, COPIAGUE, NEW YORK 11726

[www.copiague.k12.ny.us](http://www.copiague.k12.ny.us)