

**WELCOME TO THE
EUGENIO MARIA de HOSTOS CHARTER SCHOOL
(EMHCS)**

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



Believe, Achieve, Succeed

2017-2018

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Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School (EMHCS) Athletic Program for the 2017-2018 season. We are part of the Private Parochial League (PPL) of Rochester. This league

consists of the following schools Destiny High School, Aquinas High School, Bishop Kearney High School, Mercy High School, Lima Christian High School, Rochester Prep High School, Rochester Academy Charter, Charles Finney High School, North Star Christian High School, University Prep High School, and Young Women's College Prep. This handbook has been developed to explain the values, philosophies, rules, and procedures that are the foundation of a safe athletic program for our student-athletes. Parents and student-athletes should read this handbook carefully. It contains information that is important throughout a sport season. It should be kept close at hand for future reference. When a student-athlete chooses to participate in an athletic program at EMHCS, they and their families are committed to certain responsibilities and obligations. When parents take an active role in their son or daughter's efforts in athletics, they ensure an enjoyable, educational, and successful experience. Currently we offer ten sports/clubs at EMHCS. These sports/clubs include:

- Junior Varsity Girls Volleyball (Fall)
- Modified Girls Volleyball (Fall)
- Boys/Girls Club Soccer (Fall)
- Junior Varsity Girls Basketball (Winter)
- Modified Girls Basketball (Winter)
- Junior Varsity Boys Basketball (Winter)
- Modified Boys Basketball (Winter)
- Girls and Boys Track and Field (Spring)
- Girls Softball (Spring)
- Boys Baseball (Spring)

If there is anything we can do to make your participation in our athletic program a more successful experience, please feel free to call Ms. Kim McCormick, Athletic Director, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
EMHCS Athletic Staff
27 Zimbrich St
Rochester, NY 14621
(585) 544-6170

PRINCIPLES OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

A high-quality athletic program is important to our students, school, and community. Athletics is intended to be a broadening experience in which athletes strive for physical and mental

excellence. A well coordinated program is important to the morale of the school culture. Students who participate in athletics should realize they have an obligation to themselves, their peers, their school, and the school community to strive for excellence. Everyone involved in athletics possesses a unique opportunity to teach and learn positive life skills and values as well as learn the sport. The skills learned on and off the field/court through athletics help make each student-athlete college and career ready. Student-athletes need to develop desire, dedication, and self-discipline in order to ensure their success in any athletic program. There is a great deal of commitment and personal sacrifice required by athletes. Winning games has often been considered the measure of success; however, the number of victories is only one criterion that determines a season's success. Guiding the team to attain maximum potential is the ultimate goal. Working toward this common goal involves maximum performance, consistent effort, and a commitment to the EMHCS sport program.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT/TEAM EXPECTATIONS

All EMHCS athletes are expected to:

- Acknowledge that playing on this team is an HONOR and a PRIVILEGE, not a right.
- Every player is expected to attend EVERY scheduled practice, scrimmage, game, and all other team related activities.
- Work and play hard everyday to improve as individuals and as a team.
- Respect all coaches, teachers, staff members, peers, and especially teammates. Failure to be respectful may result in IMMEDIATE removal from the team. Disrespect will NOT be tolerated!
- Be dressed, on time, and ready for every scheduled practice, game, and team activity.
- Every EMHCS athlete must participate in physical education. Failure to do so will result in not playing in a practice or contest.
- Be supportive and encourage every teammate.
- EMHCS athletes will conduct themselves and treat others with the utmost respect. Any behavior that is considered disrespectful or inappropriate may result in a one (1) or more contest(s) suspension or removal from the team.
- EMHCS athletes will maintain respectable grades in ALL classes (overall GPA of a 2.0, and no more than one F) and treat all teachers and staff with respect.
- EMHCS athletes are to conduct themselves as respectful young ladies/gentlemen. Therefore, they are not to fight on and off school campus. If a student-athlete engages in a fight, they will be removed from the team.
- EMHCS athletes will need to complete a Run Around Sheet that must be filled out by each teacher. A copy of the Run Around Sheet is on page 9 of the handbook.
- EMHCS athletes will be dedicated to the team's goals and present a positive attitude that will not hinder the progress of the team.
- EMHCS athletes will strive to improve as individuals on the court/field, in the classroom, and in the community.

- No tobacco, drugs, or alcohol use will be tolerated. Use of any of these may result in your immediate dismissal from the team. Section V also has the right to random drug test all athletes.

COMING TO SCHOOL UNDER THE INFLUENCE

EMHCS students represent themselves, their families, and the school and therefore should not come to school under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. If an athlete comes to school under the influence they must go home for the day and cannot participate in athletics for that day. This includes but not limited to contest/games and practices. The student-athlete, coach, school administration, and parent/guardian will devise an action plan for this student-athlete and seek treatment if there is an addiction problem. Coming to school under the influence will result in a consequence as per the EMHCS Secondary School Parent/Student Handbook and may also result in removal from the team.

SPORTSMANSHIP/FAIR PLAY

Students, coaches, EMHCS staff, athletes, and other spectators are guests and must be well-mannered and adhere to Section V spectators rules and policies. The host court/field has the right to enforce their own rules and policies. Officials are the proper authorities to make decisions regarding rules and their interpretation; these decisions should be accepted. Spectators, student-athletes, and coaches must recognize that their conduct plays an important role in establishing the reputation of EMHCS and that their positive actions can relate directly to the success of their teams. Remember, that an athletic contest is only a game-not a matter of life and death for a player, coach, school, official, fan, or community.

ABSENCES AND TARDINESS

A student-athlete who misses a school day, unexcused, is ineligible for participation in practice/game that day. An excused absence is up to the coach if the athlete may participate in games or practices. Excused absences include but not limited to:

1. Death in the family
2. Hazardous roads or weather
3. Remedial health treatment
4. Religious observance
5. College visitation
6. Court dates
7. Motor vehicle driving test
8. Doctor or dentist appointment (a doctor's note is needed).
9. Or an excused absence that's stated in the Student Code of Conduct

All excused absences should be brought to the attention of the coach. The coach has the right to enforce his/her own absences/tardies policies. These policies must be addressed to parents and athletes before the start of the season.

LOCATION OF PRACTICES

The sports offered at EMHCS require space and equipment that we currently do not have in our school. Therefore, there will be times in which the team will practice at a location outside of EMHCS. Practices that are held outside of EMHCS will be communicated by the coach to athletes and their parents. Students will be able to take a school provided bus to the location of practice. The location of practice can be at the Metro YMCA (444 East Main Street), Carter Street Park, EMHCS gym, or another location. Parents/guardians can pick up their student-athlete from the practice location. It is important that coaches and student-athletes are not waiting more than fifteen minutes for rides to come after practices and games.

ATHLETE/PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION PROCESS

Various concerns may arise during the course of a season. Parents and student-athletes are encouraged to pursue the following communication process – if the first level is not successful at resolving the issue – the student-athlete and family should then move to the next level:

- Athlete arranges meeting between the player and coach.
- Athlete and parent arranges meeting with coach.
- Athlete and parent arranges meeting with coach and Athletic Director
- Athlete and parent arranges meeting with coach, Athletic Director & Administration staff.

QUITTING A TEAM

A player should first notify the coach of his/her intention to leave the team. A player must return all of the team's uniforms, warm - ups, or any other clothing as part of the uniform to their coach within two days of leaving the team. It is up to the coach if an athlete is able to rejoin the team.

RISK FACTORS IN SPORTS

Participation in sports involves a certain degree of risk of injury. Such physical injury can occur in any type of sports activity and will vary in nature. Athletic injuries can range from minor injuries such as bruises and scrapes to the more serious injuries such as fractures, dislocations, paralysis, and even death.

INJURIES

All injured athletes who have been seen by a doctor must be released (signed statement) by that doctor in order to resume participation with their team. This release must be filed with our school. In the case of a long term or severe injury, clearance by the nurse may be necessary prior to the return of an athlete to competition.

SPORT PHYSICALS AND FORMS

Sport physicals must be given yearly in order for athletes to participate in athletics. Students must have a physical on file one year or less from the start date of a season. For example, if a student had a physical on 8/18/15 (with a Fall Sport start date of 8/17/15), they may participate until the end of the fall season, but will need a physical prior to the winter season. Requal forms

must also be completed by a parent/guardian and submitted to the nurse before an athlete can try out for the team or practice. Requal forms are located on page 10 of this handbook.

ACADEMIC/BEHAVIOR ELIGIBILITY POLICY

Academics and athletics work jointly to ensure the student has educational success in the classroom. We encourage all student-athletes to be well prepared in his/her studies. All student-athletes are encouraged to stay after school with individual teachers to enhance the learning experience. Student-athletes are required to maintain an overall GPA of a 2.0, and no more than one F, in order to be eligible to participate in contests/games. Athletes are also required to have parents, teachers, and the student-athlete sign a Run Around Sheet with all teachers. This Run Around Sheet also includes behavior in all classes/hallways. A sample Run Around Sheet is located on page 9 of this handbook. EMHCS athletes are to conduct themselves as respectful young ladies/gentlemen. Therefore, they are not to fight on and off school campus. If a student-athlete engages in a fight, they will be removed from the team.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

A student-athlete who is suspended from school by school authorities, cannot participate in any athletics until the suspension is over. This includes practices, games, and other athletic events. The coach will be notified of the suspension through the Administration staff. If a student-athlete is suspended multiple times, it could lead to the removal of the team.

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM CONTESTS

Athletes will travel to all away contests on the bus provided for them. A coach may enforce a rule that everyone rides back to school on the bus, otherwise, the athlete may leave an away contest with his/her parents/guardians. The athlete must notify the coach before he/she leaves the contest with a parent/guardian.

CONDUCT DURING BUS RIDES

The coach will assist the bus driver in supervising the student-athletes. No “horseplay” allowed. Athletes must remain seated when the bus is in motion. Head or arms are not to be placed outside of windows. Nothing is to be thrown out of the windows. Loud noises or cheering that affects the driver’s ability to hear an emergency vehicle is not allowed. The driver has the ability to enforce his/her own rules when driving the bus.

CANCELLATION OF ATHLETIC EVENTS OR PRACTICES

If EMHCS closes or closes early, all athletic contests and practices involving EMHCS teams will be cancelled. The cancellation of contests and/or practices will be communicated by the coach to the athletes and their families.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MATERIALS CONTAINED IN THE HANDBOOK

Parents and students are responsible for knowing and understanding the policies and procedures contained in this handbook. A student’s participation on any athletic team implies that the

student-athletes and parent/guardians have knowledge and understanding of this handbook. It is available in the main office, on the school website, and from each coach.

DISCRETION AND INTERPRETATION OF HANDBOOK

The Administration staff has authority to waive aspects of the policies in this handbook or make any changes in special cases where it is determined that circumstances require such action.

Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School Athletic Contract for Parents/Athletes

Team Expectations:

All EMHCS athletes are expected to:

- Acknowledge that playing on this team is an HONOR and a PRIVILEGE, not a right.
- Every player is expected to attend EVERY scheduled practice, scrimmage, game, and all other team related activities.
- Work and play hard everyday to improve as individuals and as a team.
- Respect all coaches, teachers, staff members, peers, and especially teammates. Failure to be respectful may result in IMMEDIATE removal from the team. Disrespect will NOT be tolerated!
- Be dressed, on time, and ready for every scheduled practice, contests, and team activities
- Every EMHCS athletes must participate in physical education. Failure to do so will result in not playing in a practice or contest.
- Be supportive and encourage every teammate.

Team Rules

- EMHCS athletes will conduct themselves and treat others with the utmost respect. Any behavior that is considered disrespectful or inappropriate may will result in a one (1) or more game(s) suspension or will be removed from the team.
- EMHCS athletes will maintain respectable grades in ALL classes (overall GPA of a 2.0 and no more than one F) and treat all teachers and staff with respect.
- EMHCS athletes are to conduct themselves as respectful young ladies/gentlemen. Therefore, they are not to fight on and off school campus. If a student-athlete engages in a fight, they will be removed from the team.
- EMHCS athletes will need to complete a Run Around Sheet that must be filled out by each teacher every other week.
- EMHCS athletes will be dedicated to the team's goals and present a positive attitude that will not hinder the progress of the team.
- EMHCS athletes will strive to improve as individuals on the court, in the classroom, and in the community.
- No tobacco, drugs, or alcohol use will be tolerated. Use of any of these may result in your immediate dismissal from the team. Section V also has the right to random drug test all athletes.

I, _____, parent/guardian of _____, understand these rules and expectations. I will support the coaches and teaching staff at the Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School to ensure my son/daughter is meeting these expectations. I understand that if my son/daughter does not meet these expectations, he/she may be removed from the team.

Parent/Guardian signature

Date

Athlete's signature

Date

I, _____, parent/guardian of, _____,
Have read and understand the expectations of this handbook. By signing this form, I am
responsible for maintaining the rules and expectations within this handbook.

Parent/guardian signature

Date

Student – Athlete signature

Date