

Griffin-Spalding County Schools Athletics Hazing Regulations

(Please read and discuss the regulations and then sign on the back)

Our mission at Griffin-Spalding County Schools is to provide every member of our community opportunities to develop to their fullest potential. When hazing occurs within our athletic teams our mission is defeated and the safety of our student athletes is endangered. No student-athlete participating in the Griffin-Spalding County Schools athletic program may be involved in hazing activities.

Hazing is any act committed against someone joining or becoming a member or maintaining membership on any GSCS athletic department team that is humiliating, intimidating, demeaning, or endangers the health and safety of a GSCS student-athlete.

Hazing is prohibited by the Griffin-Spalding County Schools Athletic department. It is an offense whether it occurs on or off campus.

Hazing includes active or passive participation in such acts and occurs regardless of the willingness of student-athletes to participate in the activity. A student cannot consent to participate in a hazing activity. Hazing creates an environment in which dignity and respect are absent.

Active participants are individuals who exercise their power and control over a team member through subtle, harassing, or violent actions that humiliates, degrades, and/or endangers their teammate.

A passive participant is a member of the hazing group who stands by and watches the hazing activity perpetrated upon another victim and choose not to do anything that would or could change the course of action. The passive participant contributes and perpetuates the hazing culture.

Hazing includes but is not limited to the following activities:

Telling, cursing, or swearing; wearing embarrassing clothing; tattooing, piercing, head shaving, or branding; participating in calisthenics not related to the sport; forced to associate with a specific person, but not allowed with others; acting as a personal servant to players off the court or field; depriving oneself or another of food, sleep, or hygiene; consuming extremely spicy/disgusting concoctions; consuming alcohol or participating in drinking contests; making prank calls, electronic messages, or using the social media to harass others; destroying or stealing property; engaging in or simulating sexual acts; being tied up, taped, or confined in small spaces; paddling, whipping, kicking, striking, or beating others; kidnapping, transporting, or abandoning an individual.

Retaliation is prohibited. Retaliating directly or indirectly against a person who has in good faith filed, supported, or participated in an investigation of a complaint of hazing as defined above is prohibited.

Reporting hazing activities: Activities believed to be hazing should be reported to your principal, the school's athletic director/athletic coordinator, or the district athletic director.

Penalties for Violation of Hazing Regulations

First offense for passive participation shall be removal from all team activities for a minimum of 20 days (Sunday not included) or more depending on the severity of the hazing activity. Second offense will be a one (1) year suspension from all athletic activities, beginning on the day the event occurred. A third offense will result in a permanent suspension from all athletic activities. If the 20 day suspension is longer than the remainder of the season, the suspension will continue with the next GHSA sponsored activity which the student-athletes participates.

First offense for active participation shall be removal from all team activities for one (1) year, beginning on the day the event occurred, up to permanent suspension for all athletic activities depending upon the severity of the hazing activity.

Second offense for an active participant is permanent suspension from all athletic activities.

In the event of a serious hazing incident, it may be recommended by the building administrator, expulsion from school, and in addition be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for proper investigation to determine if there has been a violation of applicable laws and/or statutes.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____