Woodbury School provides a comprehensive athletic program that complements the school’s academic curriculum. The athletic program at the Woodbury School consists of 13 sports and 15 teams that provide over 350 opportunities to participate in interscholastic athletics throughout the school year. The opportunity for participation in the athletic program at Woodbury School is a vital component of the middle school experience. Participation in the athletic program provides experiences which allow our student athletes to develop physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally.

Spirit, pride, and sportsmanship are the backbone of the Warrior athletic program. These three characteristics have helped Woodbury School create a tradition of excellence that is second to none. Participation in the athletic program is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, the sport, the student body, the community, and the student athletes themselves. These responsibilities focus on commitment, teamwork, preparation, dedication, and the establishment of high standards for conduct and attitude, all of which enhance our spirit, pride, and sportsmanship.

The Athletic Handbook is intended to serve as a guide to help students and their families become familiar with the athletic program at Woodbury School. This handbook will provide everyone with expectations of Woodbury student athletes as well as the rules and regulations by which the athletic program is governed. The rules and procedures set forth in this handbook are intended to apply under normal circumstances. However, from time to time, there may be situations that require immediate or non-standard responses. This handbook does not limit Woodbury School to deviate from the normal rules and procedures, and to deal with individual circumstances as they arise in the manner deemed most appropriate by the Woodbury School Administration and Athletic Director. If you have any questions concerning the athletic policies of the Salem School District or Tri-County League please make your requests to the Director of Athletics, Woodbury School.

All information concerning Woodbury School Athletics can be obtained by visiting the school website. At this site you will find news, schedules, scores, directions to away events, forms, and a coaches directory.

http://www.sau57.org/woodbury-athletics
1. **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

   A. All students wishing to participate in athletics at Woodbury School must be registered through Family ID. All requirements must be completed and on file before the first day of tryouts/practice.

   B. Athletes/Managers must have a yearly PHYSICAL dated after June 1st of the current year. For example, a physical for an athlete wishing to participate during the 2018-2019 school year must be completed after June 1, 2018. The physical can be uploaded to this Family ID form, OR you can bring the form to the Athletic office, OR you can fax the form to the school at 603-898-0634.

   C. All areas of Family ID must be completed. If anything has been skipped, and is a required field, you will be prompted within the registration process to complete that area before your registration is considered complete.

   D. The **PARENTS/GUARDIANS** are responsible for filling out this form (**NOT** the student) and ensuring that all information is accurate. By signing the agreements, you are also acknowledging that you and your student athlete will abide by the rules/guidelines listed.

   E. Any athlete who reports to a team after seasonal practices have begun will not be allowed to practice unless they have written permission from the Athletic Director stating all required forms have been received. This is done for insurance and eligibility reasons.

   F. A student cannot participate on more than one team per season in which they represent the school.

2. **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

   Athletes are responsible for academic performance and should plan to spend sufficient time on their academic work so as to not allow athletics to interfere with their studies. Students are encouraged to check their grades throughout the marking period to ensure they are doing well.

   A. Failure of a class during the current marking period may be grounds for suspension from the athletic activity. School Administration, along with the Coach and Athletic Director, will decide what form of action will be taken based on the circumstances.

3. **ATHLETIC RULES FOR PARTICIPATION**

   The following rules have been set down by the Woodbury School to govern participation in the school athletic program.

   A. Upon entering sixth (6th) grade, a student is eligible for competition whether he/she competes in Tri-County League Interscholastic Athletics, for no more than three (3) consecutive years.
B. Students are expected to arrive at school on time and attend all scheduled classes. In the event of an athlete being absent from school they may not participate in any athletic contests or practices that day. For an athlete to participate in practices or athletic contests, the student must be in school by 9:00 a.m.

- For contests dates that fall on non-school days the student athlete is expected to attend all classes on the previous day of school.

- If a student athlete is late or needs to be dismissed due to a medical/dental appointment (primary doctor, physical therapy, dermatologist, dentist, etc.) the student athlete needs to provide a note from the doctor that states “cleared for sports” upon their return to school in order to participate in practices or games.

- All student athletes must be present in school and at practice the day before an event (to include the day preceding a weekend or holiday) in order to be eligible to participate in the next day’s event.

Any extenuating circumstances should be referred to the Athletic Director.

C. Student athletes on suspension may not participate in any tryouts, practices, games/matches/meets, etc. during the period of suspension. Any student receiving a detention must serve the detention on the assigned days, whether or not it conflicts with any athletic contest or practice.

D. Non-School Competition - A member of a school team is a student athlete who is regularly present for, and actively participates in, all team tryouts, practices and competitions. Bona fide members, as of the first date to practice in that sport of a school team are prevented from missing a middle school practice or competition tocompete with an out-of-school team, practice or competition to include tournaments, showcases, combines or other athletic events. Whenever a conflict arises between the middle school team practice/competition and an out-of-school practice/competition on the same day, the middle school team practice/competition must be honored by the student athlete. Priority must be given at all times to the middle school team, its practices, and its contests unless a waiver has been granted prior to the absence at the middle school practice/competition by the Athletic Director. Any student athlete who violates this rule, unless a waiver has been granted as stated above, for the first time shall be declared ineligible for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic competitions of the sport in which the student athlete is a participant. Any student athlete who violates this rule a second time or subsequent time shall be declared ineligible for participation in any middle school sport for the balance of the season the student athlete is participating.
4. **BEHAVIOR AND DRESS CODE**

   A. Athletes are expected to behave in an exemplary manner at all times. The use of profanity and obscenities is strictly forbidden. Displays of unsportsmanlike conduct toward an opponent, official, teammate, spectator, etc. or a violation of the Tri-County League sportsmanship rule, will result in the athlete being disciplined by the Coach and/or Athletic Director.

   B. If an athlete receives a game disqualification during an athletic event, that athlete shall be ineligible for the next event or contest. During a suspension the athlete may not attend the contest/event in which the suspension is imposed. If any athlete receives a second game disqualification during the season, that individual will be suspended from the sport for the remainder of the season.

   C. All student athletes are expected to dress in an appropriate manner to positively reflect on their team and school. For those athletes who are not required to travel in uniform, the dress code for away games is as follows:

   - Appropriate dress for females – Dresses, skirts and blouses, dress pants, sweaters, and dress shoes.
   - Appropriate dress for males – Dress shirt and tie, or polo type shirt, dress pants, and dress shoes.

5. **UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**

   A. Uniforms are school property and their care shall be the responsibility of the student athlete. Uniforms must be clean, worn properly and in their entirety at every game/meet. Uniforms are to be returned to the team coaches at the end of the sports season. Any loss of school issued equipment or uniform items must be paid for by the student athlete. If restitution is not made for the lost items, the student athlete is not eligible to participate in any further school athletic activity.

6. **TRANSPORTATION**

   A. Members of school athletic teams will travel to and from away games/matches/meets using transportation provided by the school. We do feel traveling to and from away contests is an important part of team building. If a parent of the student athlete wishes to have the student athlete return from a game/match/meet with the parent due to a special circumstance, a written request must be completed and submitted to the Coach or Athletic Director prior to the event. In the event of an emergency this written request requirement can be waived. Parents/guardians are expected to pick up their children in a prompt manner at the end of any game or practice.
7. **BENCH AREAS**

   A. The team bench is an athletic classroom. Athletes on the bench are expected to focus and concentrate on the game, listen to the coach, and support their teammates. The bench area can provide an important and unique opportunity to learn and teach. We ask that parents and spectators afford the coach and players the respect and courtesy that they would afford teachers and students in the academic classroom. Please maintain an appropriate buffer or distance as to allow an athletic classroom atmosphere around our team benches.

8. **COMMUNICATION PHILOSOPHY**

   A. Both parenting and coaching can be extremely challenging. By establishing communication and an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to the student athletes. To be successful, communication is vital and requires involvement, dedication, sacrifice and commitment from parents, student athletes, and coaches.

   **Communication you should expect from your child’s coach:**
   - Coach’s and program’s philosophy.
   - Individual and team expectations.
   - Location and times of all practices and games/matches/meets.

   **Communication coaches should expect from parents:**
   - Concerns expressed directly to the coach. Email is utilized to forward information, not for voicing concerns.
   - Notification of schedule conflicts in advance.
   - Specific concerns with respect to a coach’s expectations for their child.

   **Appropriate concerns for parents to discuss with coaches:**
   - The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
   - Ways to help your child improve and develop.
   - Concerns about your child’s behavior.

   **Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:**
   - Playing time.
   - Team strategy.
   - Play calling.
   - Other student athletes.

   B. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a game/match/meet. These can be emotional times for parents, athletes, and coaches. Meetings of this nature seldom promote positive resolutions. If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, please call the coach for an appointment. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director and a meeting will be set up for you.
9. **HAZING**

   A. Any form of hazing behavior designed to humiliate, initiate, degrade, or intimidate another student, or knowledge of hazing taking place and doing nothing to end the behavior, is prohibited and governed by state law. When the school administration has determined that the hazing policy has been violated, the student will immediately be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.

10. **LOCKER ROOM**

   A. No one except assigned coaches and players are allowed in the locker room.

   B. No cell phones or cameras may be used in the locker rooms.

   C. Cleats are to be removed and cleaned **prior to entering the building** and not in locker rooms.

   D. Teams are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the locker rooms during their season.

   E. Following the season, all sports lockers should be emptied. Failure to do so will result in the contents of the lockers being removed.