



Harpool Middle School Athletic Information 2014-2015

Preparation has begun for the 2014-2015 school year. We, as a coaching staff are excited about your child making the decision to be a part of the Longhorn Athletic Program. Below is a brief description of expectations for our athletes. Please review this packet of information and return the last page signed. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to set up an appointment or contact myself or any of our coaching staff at 940-369-1773. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Tracy Reed
Girl's Coordinator

Coaching Staff:

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Harpool Middle School Parents/Athletes:

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! Hopefully, you have enjoyed your summer vacation. We have been preparing to make this a successful athletic program for you.

Volleyball season is here! Tryouts for both 7th and 8th grade girls will begin Tuesday, August 26, 2014. For 7th grade girls, doors will open at 6:50 a.m. Practice will begin promptly at 7:00 a.m. and continue into first period. 8th grade tryouts will begin during 8th period and end at 5:00 p.m. Parents of 8th graders, please assist us by making arrangements to have your daughter picked up as soon as practice is over.

ATHLETES MUST HAVE PHYSICALS AND ALL FORMS TURNED IN BEFORE THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO PRACTICE BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL.

VOLLEYBALL

Practice attire: Purchased workout clothes, athletic shoes and kneepads. Game attire will be issued once teams are selected. NO JEWELRY OR HAIR FEATHERS ALLOWED AT ANY TIME DURING PRACTICES OR GAMES.

All 7th & 8th grade volleyball games will be on Thursdays, with a couple of exceptions. 7th graders will play in the Practice Gym while 8th graders will play in the Competition Gym. The first match begins at 5:30 p.m. Games will be played in the following order: C-team, B-team, A-team. The last match should begin around 7:30 p.m. Schedules and directions to games are posted on www.rankonesport.com.

BASKETBALL

Basketball season begins immediately following volleyball season. Tryouts are scheduled to begin Tuesday, November 4, 2014. More information will be provided at a later date. Practice attire is the same as volleyball.

CROSS/COUNTRY & TRACK

Cross Country will begin towards the end of volleyball season through December 3, 2014. Athletes may participate in basketball and Cross Country. See Coach Reed for more information regarding Cross Country.

Track season starts after basketball season, which is Monday, February 16, 2015. We are looking forward to working with your student/athlete this year.

Should you have any questions, feel free to call the coaches' office at (940) 369-1773.

HMS Girls' Coaches

Harpool Pride-A Commitment to the Team

Harpool Middle School athletics is committed to becoming the best TEAM players possible. We must have certain expectations in order to reach these goals. During each sport we will enforce these policies because **responsibility and respect to others** is crucial when others are depending on you.

Participation in Athletics

Athletic packets (physical, medical consent, etc) are due no later than **August 29th** to avoid being placed into PE for the year.

Athletic Dress Code

In addition to adhering to the Denton ISD dress code, athletes have additional expectations regarding hairstyles, jewelry and practice uniforms.

- Jewelry

- **No jewelry is allowed during practices or competition**
- **No piercing is allowed during the year.** (This is due to the fact that they are advised not to remove the jewelry for a given period of time)
- **Wearing tape over earrings is unacceptable as well.**

- Hairstyles

- Must be suitable for athletic competition
- Long hair must be pulled up and short hair must not impair vision

- Practice uniforms

- Harpool shorts and shirt
- During cold weather black sweats may be worn.

Behavior:

All athletes are representatives of Harpool Middle School at all times. Harpool Longhorns are a step above the general population. Always set examples of Longhorn pride on and off the court/field.

The use of alcohol, smoking cigarettes of any kind or use of any illegal drug is not permitted. Breaking these rules is grounds for dismissal from the athletic program.

Bus behavior: Talking must be kept at a normal level. No standing or moving about the bus is allowed, especially when the bus is in motion. The bus must be left clean. Everyone is expected to ride the bus to games. Athletes will be allowed to ride home with their parents. A sign-out sheet will be provided for parents and must be signed before taking your child (this only applies to away games).

Practices:

BE ON TIME. It is the player's responsibility to arrange for rides and/or to be prompt between classes so they are on time. Players should plan to arrive earlier than the announced practice time, bus departure time or home game time in order to take care of personal business (ex. - putting on braces, securing personal items, etc.). Players who miss part of workouts due to tardiness will be assigned extra conditioning. Please see "Tardiness" in the Practice/Game Rules Section.

Athletes are not allowed to miss workouts to assist another teacher or to make up work. Athletics is a class and you are expected to be in attendance. Please take this into consideration when scheduling doctor's appointments. Athletes are expected to make up any missed workouts. The missed workout will need to be done in a timely manner or playing time will be affected.

ELIGIBILITY:

Athletes must pass each of their classes the first six weeks or they will be ineligible to participate in U.I.L. sponsored sports for three weeks beginning the first day of the seventh week of school. They will then have three weeks to pass all classes to be eligible to participate the fifth week of the second six weeks. However, players may continue to practice with the team before and after school but may not participate in any games. Participation includes sitting on the bench, riding with the team or dressing in uniform. Also, conduct grades lower than satisfactory, detentions or other behavioral problems will not be tolerated. If these situations occur, they will be dealt with on an individual basis.

If an athlete is assigned ISS by administration on the day of a competition, she will not be able to participate in that particular game.

Parent Expectations:

We want to partner with you to help your daughter become the best player possible. We would be happy to talk to you at any time about the following three things, with your daughter in attendance: how your daughter can improve, behavior or personal issues with your athlete, and their grades. Three things that will never be discussed with a parent: playing time, game decisions, and other players on the team. Also coaches and parents will **NOT** take part in any kind of conference before, during or after a game. If you would like to talk to a coach about any concerns or questions you may have, please contact them during their conference or call to set up a time to have a meeting. We the coaches would love to sit and discuss any concerns or questions you have, but not before, during or after a game. We are working together to raise young women we can all be proud of and make a positive difference in their lives.

Quit Policy

Once a sport has started, a player will have 1 week to decide if they want to quit or stay with the sport for the entire season. After this, if they quit, the highest grade an athlete can make is a 70% for the 9 weeks and will be expected to come talk face to face with a coach about their decision. We are trying to teach our athletes to take responsibility for their decisions. We do not encourage any of our players to quit, no matter what the circumstance. We believe in building character and to finish what you start. We expect 100% from our athletes, and not participating or dressing out will result in a ten point deduction per incident.

Game Schedules

The head coach of each sport will hand out game schedules to each athlete that is participating in the in-season sport. Schedules may also be viewed by logging on to www.rankonesport.com and following these directions:

- click on View Schedules
- City name: Argyle
- School name: Harpool Middle School
- Then choose sport to view schedule.

Facebook:

Please friend us on Facebook

Harpool Middle School Girls Athletics

We have updates just in case your daughter forgets to let you know□!

Remind 101:

See Handout

Try-outs and Selection of Teams:

The head coach of each sport will determine the players on each team. There is no guarantee everyone will make a team. The hardest thing in sport, at any level, is selecting a team. The number of athletes on each team will vary from sport to sport. In addition, the length of the tryout will vary from sport to sport.

7th and 8th Grade Volleyball and Basketball teams will consist of:

- A-10 to 12 athletes
- B-12 to 15 athletes
- C-12 to 15 athletes

Practice/Game Rules

All student/athletes must attend scheduled practices. If you need to miss a practice, parents will need to notify the coaching staff in advance by calling (940) 369-1773, via e-mail or by sending a signed note with an explanation. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Please find below a few rules pertaining to practices and games.

Missed practice without notification to coach:

1st offense: extra conditioning

2nd offense: one game suspension

Missed game without one-week notification to coach results in dismissal.
(Exceptions – illness, family illness, funeral, etc.)

Tardiness and Inappropriate workout clothes:

1st offense: extra conditioning

2nd offense: extra conditioning and parent contact

3rd offense: one-game suspension/change teams

We ask that all student/athletes make prior arrangements for rides from practice and/or home games. Following are policies for rides.

Ride Pick-up Policies:

Late pick-up more than ten (10) minutes:

1st offense: warning

2nd offense: parent contact

3rd offense: one game suspension

4th offense: dismissal

Games:

The coaches try to estimate a return time from away games so that parents will have an idea as to when to pick up players. Parents should be at the school at the given time. We want to minimize the amount of waiting time at the school after all games.

To promote school spirit and support among all team levels, players are expected to sit together, as a team, watching and cheering for each team competing. Family or friends are asked not to sit with the teams. The coaches feel strongly about team unity, encouragement and support among the teams. Therefore, we encourage everyone to remain in the gym until all games have been played. Thank you so much for your support!!!!

Injuries/Illness:

- A. If an athlete must miss practice or a game due to illness or other family emergency, the parent should call the coaches' office at (940) 369-1773 and ask to speak with the athlete's coach. If the coach is unavailable, please leave a message. We appreciate knowing if a player will not participate in a game beforehand to allow for adjustments. Should a player miss a practice before a game, the player may not start the next game. All injuries should be evaluated by your family doctor, by our school nurse or high school trainer.
- B. Although every precaution is taken to make athletes safe, each player and parent must be aware that risk of injury exists. Any injury should be reported immediately to the coaching staff. Failure to report immediately may result in loss of supplemental insurance coverage by the school. Horseplay is not permitted at any time.
- C. **NOTES:** Athletes are expected to work out daily. However, we understand illnesses and injuries do occur. We are asking you, as parents, to please be sure your daughter is taken to a doctor if ill or injured and needs to be out more than **two days**. No more than 3 parent notes per semester. If you cannot participate in practice, you are still required to attend to study your position. This rule will be enforced to minimize the amount of unverified excuses. In addition, any athlete who cannot workout will be given a written assignment to be turned in at the end of class. If injury is prolonged schedule may be changed.

Fundraiser:

Each student is expected to sell \$60 worth of candy bars to help pay for our program's needs. (30 candy bars) If a student does not want to participate in the fundraiser, they may opt-out by writing a check to Harpool Girls' Athletics for \$30- the amount of profit we would receive from participating in the fundraiser. Students choosing not to participate in the fundraiser or the opt-out program will not be allowed to go on the Six Flags Reward Trip.

Reward Trip:

In May, we will be taking athletes who qualify on reward trip to **Six Flags**. Athletes must meet the following requirements in order to attend the trip.

- 1) Must participate, complete and compete in at least 2 sports.
- 2) Must maintain passing average all year.
- 3) Cannot be assigned ISS by administration 3 times.
- 4) Cannot be suspended from school.
- 5.) Must participate in Fundraiser.

Harpool Athletic Oath

Please read the information below, **parent and student initial each line**, and parent and student sign and date the Harpool Athletic Oath.

____/____ I have read and understand all policies and procedures of the Harpool Girls' Athletic Program.

____/____ I understand I am responsible for all school issued uniforms and equipment.

____/____ I understand quitting mid-season I will receive a grade of 70 for the nine weeks.

____/____ I understand I cannot get my ears pierced while participating in athletics.

____/____ I understand I have to pass all academic classes to participate in games.

____/____ I understand I need to be present and on time for all games and practices.

____/____ I understand that if I am injured or physically unable to participate in practices or games for an extended period of time my schedule may be changed at the coaches' discretion.

Student-Athlete Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____