Edward W. Bok Academy North

Athletic Participation Handbook

2026-2027 School Year

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Athletic Philosophy

Athletics are an extension of the educational experience at Edward W. Bok Academy North. Participation in extracurricular activities is intended to develop character, leadership, responsibility, perseverance, teamwork, and academic success. While competition and winning are important, the primary purpose of athletics is to help students grow into responsible and respectful young adults who positively represent the school and community.

Motto:

"Character First. Academics Always. Athletics with Excellence."

Mission Statement

The mission of Edward W. Bok Academy North Athletics is to develop student-athletes who demonstrate excellence in academics, athletics, leadership, sportsmanship, and citizenship while supporting the school's vision and values.

Athletic Participation Expectations

Participation in athletics is a privilege. Student-athletes are expected to:

- Demonstrate integrity, responsibility, and respect.
- Attend all practices, competitions, and team meetings.
- Follow all school policies and team expectations.
- Display positive sportsmanship at all times.
- Respect coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, staff, and spectators.
- Represent Edward W. Bok Academy North positively both on and off campus.
- Place academics above athletics.

Academic Eligibility Requirements

Academic Standards

Student-athletes must:

- Maintain a minimum grade of **C (70%) or higher in all classes.**
- Attend school regularly and arrive prepared to learn.
- Complete assignments and assessments on time.
- Submit weekly grade progress reports as required by coaches.

Academic Monitoring

Coaches and school staff will monitor academic performance throughout the season.

Students earning below a C in any class may:

- Be placed on Academic Probation.
- Be required to attend tutoring or academic support sessions.
- Have limited participation in competitions until grades improve.

Academic Probation

Students placed on Academic Probation must:

- Demonstrate academic improvement.
- Complete required interventions.
- Meet expectations established by coaches and administration.

Failure to improve academic performance may result in suspension or removal from athletic participation.

Attendance Expectations

School Attendance

Students must be present at school on the day of a game, competition, or practice in order to participate unless approved by school administration.

Excessive absences or tardiness may impact athletic eligibility.

Practice Attendance

Student-athletes are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled practices.
- Arrive on time and prepared.
- Communicate absences in advance when possible.

Unexcused absences may result in:

- Reduced playing time.
- Suspension from competition.
- Removal from the team for repeated violations.

Student Conduct and Sportsmanship

Student-athletes represent the school and are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times.

Athletes shall not:

- Engage in bullying, harassment, threats, or intimidation.
- Use inappropriate language or gestures.
- Participate in fighting or physical aggression.
- Disrespect coaches, teammates, staff, officials, or opponents.
- Violate school rules or the Student Code of Conduct.

Sportsmanship Expectations

Student-athletes will:

- Win with humility.
- Lose with dignity.
- Respect officials' decisions.
- Encourage teammates positively.
- Compete honestly and with integrity.

Social Media Expectations

Student-athletes are representatives of Edward W. Bok Academy North both in person and online.

Students are expected to use social media responsibly and refrain from posting content that is:

- Threatening
- Harassing

- Inappropriate
- Disrespectful
- Inconsistent with school values

Violations may result in athletic and school disciplinary consequences.

Athletic Participation Fee Policy

To support and sustain athletic programs, all student-athletes are required to pay a participation fee.

Fee Requirements

- A **$40 Athletic Participation Fee** is required for participation in each sport.
- The fee is **non-refundable**.
- Payment must be received by the **first scheduled game or competition of the season**.
- Students may not be permitted to participate in contests until the fee obligation is satisfied.

Purpose of Athletic Fees

Athletic fees help offset the costs associated with:

- Transportation and travel expenses
- Pregame meals
- Uniform maintenance and replacement
- Athletic supplies and equipment
- General athletic program support

Roles and Responsibilities

Student-Athlete Responsibilities

Student-athletes are expected to:

- Maintain academic eligibility.
- Monitor grades and communicate concerns.
- Attend classes, practices, competitions, and meetings.

- Follow all team and school rules.
- Respect coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, and staff.
- Demonstrate leadership and positive sportsmanship.
- Communicate absences, injuries, and concerns appropriately.
- Care for school-issued equipment and uniforms.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents and guardians are expected to:

- Support their student's academic success.
- Ensure their child attends school, practices, and competitions regularly.
- Promote sportsmanship and positive behavior.
- Respect coaching decisions and team expectations.
- Encourage direct communication between student-athletes and coaches.
- Follow the established communication process.
- Treat coaches, students, officials, and spectators respectfully.
- Support the mission and goals of the athletic program.

Coach Responsibilities

Student Development

Coaches will:

- Prioritize student safety and well-being.
- Promote academic achievement.
- Teach sportsmanship, teamwork, and leadership.
- Foster a positive learning environment.

Program Management

Coaches will:

- Establish and communicate team expectations.
- Conduct organized practices.
- Monitor grades, attendance, and behavior.
- Maintain required documentation and records.

Professional Conduct

Coaches will:

- Serve as positive role models.
- Treat all athletes fairly and respectfully.
- Communicate effectively with families and administration.
- Follow all school and district policies.

Communication

Coaches will:

- Communicate schedules and team expectations.
- Notify families regarding academic, attendance, or behavioral concerns.
- Respond to communications within a reasonable timeframe.

Administrative Responsibilities

School administration will:

- Support and oversee athletic programs.
- Ensure compliance with school, district, and state requirements.
- Support coaches in maintaining a safe environment.
- Assist with academic, attendance, and behavioral interventions.
- Support conflict resolution when necessary.
- Review eligibility concerns and disciplinary actions.
- Ensure equitable opportunities for student-athletes.

Athletic Communication Policy

Effective communication contributes to a successful athletic experience.

Parents Can Expect Coaches To Communicate

- Team expectations
- Practice schedules

- Competition schedules
- Athlete safety concerns
- Academic expectations
- Changes to athletic events

Coaches Expect Parents To Communicate

- Attendance concerns
- Illnesses or injuries
- Academic concerns impacting participation
- Emergency contact changes
- Questions through the appropriate communication process

Coaches Expect Student-Athletes To Communicate

- Absences from practices and competitions
- Academic concerns
- Injuries and health issues
- Questions regarding team expectations
- Participation conflicts

Direct communication helps students develop responsibility and self-advocacy skills.

Appropriate Topics for Parent-Coach Discussions

Parents may discuss:

- Student well-being
- Academic concerns
- Health and safety concerns
- Team expectations
- Ways to support student success

Topics Not Appropriate for Parent-Coach Discussions

The following matters are coaching decisions and generally will not be discussed:

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Position assignments
- Team selection decisions
- Comparisons with other athletes

Communication Chain of Command

Step 1

Student-Athlete and Coach

Step 2

Parent and Coach Conference

Step 3

Athletic Administrator or Designee

Step 4

Principal

24-Hour Rule

Parents and spectators are expected to wait a minimum of **24 hours following a contest** before requesting a meeting about coaching decisions, playing time, or competition-related concerns.

This allows emotions to settle and promotes productive communication.

Parent-Coach Boundaries and Spectator Expectations

Edward W. Bok Academy North values parent involvement while recognizing the importance of maintaining appropriate boundaries.

During Practices

- Parents and spectators are not permitted to interfere with practices.
- Parents should not enter courts, fields, locker rooms, team meeting areas, or practice spaces unless invited by school personnel.
- Coaches are responsible for running practices and providing instruction.
- Student-athletes are expected to focus on coaching instruction during practices.

During Games and Competitions

- Parents and spectators must remain in designated spectator areas or stands.
- Parents are not permitted on sidelines, benches, locker rooms, courts, or team areas unless authorized.
- Parents should refrain from coaching athletes from the stands.
- Parents should allow coaches to manage athletes and team strategy during contests.

Guiding Principle

Parents are encouraged to cheer, support, and encourage. Coaches are expected to coach. Student-athletes are expected to compete, learn, and grow.

Failure to follow these expectations may result in removal from an event or restrictions from future attendance.

Uniforms and Equipment

Student-athletes are responsible for all school-issued equipment and uniforms.

Athletes must:

- Maintain and care for issued equipment.

- Return all materials at the end of the season.
- Pay replacement costs for lost or damaged items when applicable.

Failure to return equipment may impact future participation.

Transportation Expectations

While traveling to and from athletic events, student-athletes must:

- Follow all directions from coaches and chaperones.
- Demonstrate appropriate behavior.
- Remain seated and respectful during transportation.
- Follow all school transportation procedures.

Students may only leave events with approved parents or guardians and in accordance with school procedures.

Discipline and Consequences

The coaching staff and school administration reserve the right to impose disciplinary consequences for violations of school or team expectations.

Possible consequences include:

- Verbal warning
- Parent conference
- Team conditioning
- Suspension from practice
- Suspension from competition
- Academic probation
- Removal from leadership positions
- Dismissal from the team

Serious misconduct may result in immediate dismissal from athletic participation.

Athlete Commitment Agreement

As a student-athlete at Edward W. Bok Academy North, I agree to:

- Place academics first.
- Maintain grades of C or higher in all classes.
- Submit grade reports as required.
- Follow all school and team expectations.
- Demonstrate sportsmanship and respect.
- Attend practices, competitions, and meetings.
- Represent my school with pride and integrity.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Commitment Agreement

As a parent/guardian, I agree to:

- Support my child's academic success.
- Encourage positive sportsmanship and behavior.
- Respect coaches and athletic staff.
- Follow communication and spectator expectations.
- Support attendance and participation requirements.
- Partner with the school to support my child's growth and success.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Coaching Staff Commitment Agreement

As a coach at Edward W. Bok Academy North, I commit to:

- Prioritizing student safety and well-being.
- Promoting academic achievement.
- Modeling professionalism and integrity.
- Treating all student-athletes fairly.
- Providing a positive learning environment.
- Communicating effectively with families.
- Upholding all school, district, and athletic policies.

Coach Signature: _____

Date: _____

Acknowledgement of Understanding

We acknowledge that we have read, understand, and agree to abide by the expectations and requirements outlined in the Edward W. Bok Academy North Athletic Participation Handbook.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Coach Signature: _____

Date: _____

Edward W. Bok Academy North Athletics

Character First. Academics Always. Athletics with Excellence.
Building Champions in the Classroom, in Competition, and in Life.