



ATHLETICS HANDBOOK

DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

[Mike Bavineau](#), Director of Athletics x1101
[Kelly King](#), Assistant Director x1102

Dexter High School
2200 N. Parker Rd
Dexter MI 48130

Phone: 734-424-4170

Fax: 734-424-4251

Email: athletics@dexterschools.org

#DREADSTRONG

CONTENTS

03	INTRODUCTION/VISION/DIVISIONS
04	MISSION/DHS SPORTS
05	MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION/MC SPORTS
06	PARTICIPATION FEES PARENT-GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT
07	STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT
08	
09	COMMUNICATION/PROBLEM SOLVING
10	SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS ATHLETIC HONORS

DRONE POLICY

Excerpted from DCS [Board of Education Policy 7440.03](#): The Board prohibits the operation of small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) at any time by any individual who is not employed by the District, as well as by any District staff member or administrator who is not expressly authorized to do so by the Superintendent.

The Board also prohibits the operation of a sUAS (drone) on property owned or leased or contracted for by the Board during District-sponsored contests (including scrimmages and previews), practices, tournaments, and activities under the auspices of the Michigan High School Athletics Association (MHSAA). District officials may deny admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a sUAS until the event has been completed. Any exceptions to this prohibition must be approved in advance by the Superintendent.



DREADNAUGHT SUPPORTERS

On behalf of the athletic department, we would like to welcome you to the world of athletics at Dexter High School. Dexter High School offers twenty-five Varsity sports and three club varsity sports. We along with thirteen other schools are members of the Southeastern Conference (SEC). This conference is divided into two divisions: the Red and the White.

This handbook contains information pertaining to the understanding, development, performance, dedication, commitment, and the educational value of high school athletics at Dexter High School. Before your children embark on their athletic careers at our school, please read through this handbook. Should you have any remaining questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Dexter Athletic Department at (734) 424-4170 during the typical school day, or access our high school website at www.dexterschools.org or our athletics website at <http://dexterathletics.com/>.

The success of the Dexter Athletic Department depends on the shared responsibility of the students, staff, parents, and the Dexter community. Your child, and the support you provide are what makes Dexter athletics possible. We are excited about the future of our athletics program and are encouraged and motivated by Dreadnaught pride and tradition. We wish you the very best, both academically and athletically, for success at Dexter High School.

[Mike Bavineau, Director](#)

[Kelly King, Assistant Director](#)

GOVERNING BODY

Dexter Community Schools operates under the guidelines of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and the Southeastern Conference (SEC), which utilizes National Federation High Schools (NFHS) rules.

2023-2024 DIVISIONS

<u>RED</u>	<u>WHITE</u>
Bedford	Adrian
Dexter	Chelsea
Huron	Jackson
Lincoln	Pinckney
Monroe	Tecumseh
Pioneer	Ypsilanti
Saline	
Skyline	

VISION

Dexter athletics seeks to connect athletic programs, coaches, and student-athletes with the community of Dexter with an unwavering focus on team, student-athlete experience, character development, and collective greatness.

OUR MISSION

The Dexter Athletic Department considers athletics to be an integral part of the Dexter learning community and thus follows and honors the Dexter Community Schools overall institutional mission.

Our commitment to excellence implies that the Dexter Athletic Department will provide exemplary leadership, appropriate facilities, and support services to allow its student-athletes to compete at the highest level of interscholastic competition and to reach their educational and athletic objectives.

DHS SPORTS

FALL

Cross Country, Boys & Girls
 Equestrian*
 Dance*
 Football
 Field Hockey
 Golf, Girls
 Sideline Cheer
 Soccer, Boys
 Swim & Dive, Girls
 Tennis, Boys
 Volleyball
 Water Polo, Boys

**self-funded*

WINTER

Basketball, Boys & Girls
 Competitive Cheer
 Dance*
 Ice Hockey*
 Swim & Dive, Boys
 Wrestling

SPRING

Baseball
 Golf, Boys
 Lacrosse, Boys & Girls
 Soccer, Girls
 Softball
 Tennis, Boys
 Track & Field, Boys
 Track & Field, Girls
 Water Polo, Girls



MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS MISSION

Dexter Community Schools and the Southeastern Conference believe students need to be able to explore athletics at the age where they are learning about themselves and their abilities. The 7th and 8th grade athletic experiences should serve as a time of exploration and discovery as student-athletes participate in interscholastic sports for the first time.

The SEC encourages equal playing time for Middle School student-athletes and has rules governing playing time in some sports. We attempt to give students the opportunity to develop their skills in a sport by maximizing both practice and game time.

Hard work, sacrifice, and desire are the keys to success in sports and in life. These components of success are encouraged and developed in our athletic programs.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS

FALL

Field Hockey
 7th grade Girls Volleyball*
 8th grade Girls Volleyball*
 7th grade Football*
 8th grade Football*
 Co-Ed Cross Country

WINTER

7th grade Boys Basketball*
 8th grade Boys Basketball*
 7th grade Girls Basketball*
 8th grade Girls Basketball*
 Wrestling
 Co-Ed Swim & Dive

SPRING

Girls Track
 Boys Track

**two teams at each level if there is enough interest*

Many of our middle school teams have been divided into two teams each with comparable skill levels. The two teams (Maroon and Gold) will compete independently of each other within the Southeastern Conference Middle School League. The primary purpose of expanding the middle school athletic program to two teams is to provide greater opportunity for participation, to increase playing time for all participants and to help athletes develop their skills. Although we want all of our teams to be competitive, emphasis is not placed on winning every game. Participation by all members of the team is the primary goal.

PARTICIPATION FEES

Dexter Community Schools charges a participation fee for all sports with the exceptions of the three club sports (Dance, Equestrian, and Ice Hockey, which remain self-funded).

High School Athletic Participation Fee:

\$250 per sport

Middle School Athletic Participation Fee:

\$150 per sport

Family Maximum:

\$1000, club sports not included

Payments should be made online via [eleyo](https://eleyo.com)

There are financial scholarships available. The link below is the Dexter Athletic Scholarship Form. The scholarship form should be sent directly to Mike Bavineau: bavineaum@dexterschools.org



PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

We believe athletics will contribute significantly to the overall development of your student. As with academics, parental involvement in these programs helps ensure a quality experience for all concerned. Athletic Administration encourages parents and guardians to be active participants in the following ways:

- Encourage good sportsmanship by being a positive role model;
- Do your best to make athletics a positive experience for everyone involved (athletes, staff, etc.);
- Treat other participants, coaches, officials, and fans with respect;
- Reinforce the school's substance abuse policies and refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs;
- Do your best to understand and appreciate the rules of the contest;
- Be a "team" fan, not a "my child" fan;
- Appreciate the importance of skill development, both sport specific and in life;
- Talk to the coach at the appropriate time and place;
- Know that your ticket to an athletic event provides you with the privilege of observing the contest;
- Understand the ultimate purpose of educational athletics as an integral part of the total educational mission;
- Keep in mind that participation in athletics is a privilege.



STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

The following list highlights essential guidelines of the Dexter High School Student Activity Code of Conduct. The rules apply on a twelve-month basis throughout the student's high school career.

I. ATHLETIC/ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- The Dexter athletic academic guidelines require that a student-athlete must pass five out of six classes in order to remain eligible for full participation.
- If a student fails to meet the Dexter athletics academic eligibility requirements, a student will be placed on academic probation.
- After a grade check, any student-athlete who is failing a class or has multiple D's will be asked to complete a weekly Travel Card; this will allow the student-athlete to remain eligible to participate in contests and practice. A travel card is a weekly progress report that is signed by a student-athlete's teachers and turned in to the athletic department.
- If eligibility requirements fall below DHS academic standards, the student-athlete will be required to use the travel card for the remainder of their season.
- MHSAA guidelines require that a student-athlete must pass four out of six classes.
- Student-athletes who fail to meet MHSAA Academic requirements at the end of the semester will be ineligible for 4 1/2 weeks.

DHS Academic Grade Checks are generally conducted on the first Friday of each month with the exception of January.

First Semester: October 6, November 3, December 1 and January 12

Second Semester: March 1, April 5, May 3 and after final grades are posted

II. ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Use, possession, attempting to possess, concealment, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of the following is prohibited:

- Tobacco/ Tobacco products in any form
- Alcohol/ Alcoholic beverages in any form
- Illegal or unauthorized drugs including, but not limited to, those substances defined and "controlled substance" pursuant to federal and/or state statute.
- Steroids, human growth hormones, or other performance-enhancing drugs

Penalties for Substance Abuse

These guidelines supplement and do not supersede or modify the [District's Student Code of Conduct](#), with which all students are expected to comply. Violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in suspension or expulsion from school, and would also affect a student's eligibility to participate in extra/co-curricular activities.

First Violation: Any student-athlete in violation of the substance abuse policy will be withheld from competition for two consecutive weeks (14 days) or two contest whichever is greater from the date of the decision.

STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT, CONTINUED

Second Violation: A second violation, suspension for six consecutive weeks (42 days) of competition or six athletic contests whichever is greater. The student will also be required to receive a full assessment by a trained professional and follow the recommendation.

Third Violation: The student will lose eligibility for participation in athletics for one full year.

THESE OFFENSES WILL BE CUMULATIVE THROUGHOUT THE STUDENT'S DHS CAREER.

III. GROSS MISCONDUCT

Student shall not engage in acts of gross misconduct including, but not limited to behavior which is addressed in the student handbook such as acts of theft, vandalism, assault, sexual misconduct and gross disrespect that brings embarrassment to Dexter Athletic Programs. Violations will be dealt with on an individual basis, and penalties will range from administrative intervention to exclusion from athletic activity participation.

IV. SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Any student-athlete, who is suspended from school for violations of the Dexter High School Student Code of Conduct, will be ineligible to participate in practices, competitions, or any extra-curricular team activities for the duration of the suspension.

V. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Student-athletes are expected to be in school all hours in order to participate. Exceptions would be doctor, dentist, or orthodontist appointments; school-sponsored activities; or college visits. Approval from the athletic department is advised if you are unsure if the absence will be excused.

No athlete will be permitted to practice or play in a game, contest, or event if absent for any part of that school day unless excused by athletic director or designee.

Truancy: when a student-athlete has been deemed "truant" by a school administrator, the athlete will not be allowed to practice or compete in the next competition following the reported truancy.

Multiple unexcused absents can be subject to attendance infractions.

TRAINING RULES VIOLATIONS

The importance of the Code of Conduct should be apparent to everyone. If a student athlete is reported in violation of these rules; the case will be investigated by one or more of the following Coach, Athletic Director, Principal/Assistant Principal and/or HR Director.

- Practice/game suspensions may result from infractions of school and coach's expectations
- Length of suspension will be determined by the severity of the infraction
- Repeated violations may result in the athlete's removal from the team.

DUE PROCESS

- Athletes and parents will be notified of the charges and particulars of the case.
- Athletes has a right to a hearing with the "Board of Athletics Appeal Committee"
- Request must be made 24 hours after notification of violations



COMMUNICATION

THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Communication can and should start with the student-athlete. Our coaches are professionals. They make judgments based upon what they believe to be in the best interest all student-athletes involved. Certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. **Other topics should be left to the discretion of the coach:**

- Team strategy/substitutions
- Play calling
- Other students/athletes

Communication you should expect from our coaches:

- The coach and program's philosophy
- Location and times of all practices and contests
- Team/Player requirements
- Discipline that may result in denial of participation

Issues that are appropriate for parents and guardians to discuss with coaches:

- Treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- Ways in which your child can improve
- Academic support and college opportunities

PROBLEM SOLVING

Some situations may require a conference between coach, player, and parent. These are encouraged. Both parties involved must have a clear understanding that coming to a resolution is in the best interest of the team and individual.

Adhere to the 24-Hour Rule. This is a tool for giving space and time to allow discussions to occur in a productive environment. If an issue has arisen regarding your child, his or her status on the team, etc., give yourself 24 hours before you contact the coach. Please do not confront a coach before or immediately after a contest or practice. The time will give you a chance to search for different perspectives, which may provide a new way to look at the situation.

- After 24 hours have passed, contact the coach to set up an appointment.
- If after meeting with the coach you were unable to come to a satisfactory resolution, the next step would be to set up an appointment with the athletic director.
- The last step (if you feel the athletic director did not provide a satisfactory resolution) would be to set up an appointment with the principal.

STUDENT-ATHLETE SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS

- ☑ Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility and the privilege of representing your school and community.
- ☑ Live up to the standards and sportsmanship established by the school administration and staff
- ☑ Learn the rules and regulations of the game thoroughly
- ☑ Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated. Who better understands all the hard work and team effort that is required of your team?
- ☑ Refrain from taunting, or making derogatory remarks to your opponents, before, during and after the contest.
- ☑ Understand that comments of an ethnic, racially divisive and/or sexual nature will not be tolerated by Dexter High School and Athletics.
- ☑ Respect the judgment and integrity of game officials
- ☑ Win with humility and lose with grace



DEXTER ATHLETIC HONORS

The Dexter Athletic Department is proud to recognize student-athletes with the following athletic awards. Upon completion of the season in good standing with the team, a student-athlete may receive one of the following awards.

Varsity Athlete: A Varsity letter "D" (for their varsity jacket) is awarded one time. For each additional varsity sport that is played, a student earns a Varsity certificate and pin. The requirements to earn a Varsity letter/pin are determined by each individual program/coach.

SEC Scholar/Athlete: The SEC Scholar-Athlete award is given to seniors who have a cumulative GPA 3.25 or above.

DHS Scholar/Athlete: A certificate and pin is earned by carrying a 3.25 GPA or above for the semester in which the sport is played. The DHS Scholar-Athlete award can be earned twice a year: Fall sports are awarded after first semester; Winter and Spring sports are awarded after second semester.

Junior Varsity Athlete – A Junior Varsity Certificate

Freshman Athlete – A Freshman Certificate

