Davis Junior High Athletic Department

Mission Statement
The mission of the Davis Joint Unified Junior High Athletic Department is to provide student-athletes with an opportunity to compete successfully in a Junior High Athletic Program that is an integral part of their educational experience and their growth and transition into High School Athletics. This experience will provide a positive learning environment with equitable participation opportunities available for student-athletes based on effort and commitment in developing their athletic and leadership potential. Top priorities include, teaching personal responsibility while providing transparency and modeling the importance of sportsmanship while having fun. The Junior High Athletic Department will pursue athletic excellence while dedicating itself to the ideas of pursuing victory with honor and integrity.

Philosophy
The interscholastic Athletic Program of the Davis Joint Unified Junior High Athletic Department is an important, integral part of the District’s comprehensive educational program. Our Interscholastic Athletics provide a unique opportunity for students to extend their physical, social, and moral education through their experience and participation on a school team.

Sports Offered
Fall
Cross Country
Girls 7th Grade Volleyball
Girls 8th Grade Volleyball

Winter
Wrestling
Girls 7th Grade Basketball
Girls 8th Grade Basketball
Boys 7th Grade Basketball
Boys 8th Grade Basketball

Spring
Girls 7th and 8th grade soccer
Boys 7th and 8th grade Soccer
Track and Field

Season of Sport Dates
Sept 4 – October 20

October 22 – January 26 (wrestling)
October 22 – December 13 (7th grade basketball season)
December 17 – February 16th (8th grade basketball season)

February 19th – April 10 (soccer)
April 15 – May 22

*All teams with 8th graders will compete at the end of their season in the Yolo County Athletic League (YCAL) tournament for each sport. Dates TBA

Commitment Policy
Commitment and hard work and communication are valued aspects of playing on a team. It is vital that these are not comprised in the course of a season, as team play will be adversely affected. The Athletic Director strongly urges all student athletes and coaches to work together to find a solution (other than quitting or dismissal) when faced with a difficult situation.

Permission / Physical Forms
All athletes will need to turn in all forms to the Athletic Director prior to the first practice. Athletes cannot practice until all forms are turned in, this includes a current physical form signed by a physician every year. All forms are available on the website and in hard copy in the front office of the school. Forms include: CIF Code Of Conduct, Agreement For Team Participation, Substance Use Form, Concussion And Head Injury Sheet, Sports Physical Examination Form, and Emergency Card.
Athlete Expectations / Eligibility / Participation / Sportsmanship

The Athletic Department encourages a student’s athletic participation to instill in them the skills needed to be successful in life. These skills include; responsibility, communication, cooperation, and most importantly, teamwork. Additionally, the Athletic Department supports the academic goals of the school and encourages students to perform well within the classroom.

Participation is a very important role in playing team sports. Attendance is required, and student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and games in order to play and remain on the team. Each season has approximately 10 days of practice before competition starts and approximately 10 days of practice after competition starts. Friday’s will be used for jamboree scrimmages (volleyball and basketball only) to provide more playing time in game type settings.

Team members have the responsibility to themselves, their teammates, and their coaches to learn their role on the team. Teamwork requires the development of many interpersonal skills such as listening, following directions, accepting constructive criticism and supporting coaches and teammates. If a student is involved in Athletics, they have an obligation to participate in practice and games with full commitment, effort, and enthusiasm.

Practice times are determined by the coaches.
Missed practice = missed playing time
Missed practice = missed learning time where important information is gone over for games. Playing time will be directly influenced if students are not making effort to attend practice to learn and implement the skills being taught. Coaches cannot play you if you have not been learning or making effort to learn what is being taught. Student athletes are expected to take charge of their effort and attitude and that is the first step to earning more playing time. Coaches would never put you in an unsafe or unsuccessful position, they want to set you up for success. It is your job to learn and earn playing in a game.

If a student-athlete is absent from school, they are not eligible to participate for that day (unless they are absent from school for a school excused reason).

Attendance at all practices is mandatory and coaches have an 80% attendance policy. If you cannot make a practice, it is the student-athletes responsibility to email the Athletic Director who will send the message along to the appropriate coach. Too many missed practices will result in removal from the team (unless excused by a doctor).

- Suspended from school = suspended from practice and game
- Earned detention = it must be served before you can practice or play in a game.
- Kicked out of class on a game day = suspension from play for that day’s game.
- Must have team uniform at all home and away games in order to be eligible to play. Your uniform is your responsibility to wash in cold water and hang dry and turn in at the end of the season.
- All athletes will help with set up and take down of home games
- All athletes are expected to be on time and dressed ready to practice and compete
- Stay positive, be a leader, be a good teammate, have good behavior
- In order to participate in games and travel, weekly progress reports must be submitted to Athletic Director and signed by all teachers and your parent/guardian
Physical Education is a required course. If a student is excused from Physical Education class for a medical reason (from a physician or a parent), they may not participate in an athletic competition or practice until cleared.

Every student-athlete represents our community as well as their own team. Therefore, it is of upmost importance that each athlete upholds all rules of sportsmanship and follows proper conduct at all times. Players are to sign and abide by the CIF code of conduct. Student-Athletes are expected to show positive sportsmanship and respectful behavior to EVERYONE at all times.

**Parents**
In order to ensure that the educational experience your child has is positive while participating in our Athletic Program, we feel that it is important for you to read and abide by the following guidelines:

- Practice and model appropriate sportsmanship.
- Respect officials and their authority during games.
- Do not question or confront a coach at the athletic venue. Make an appointment via email.
- Remember that the game is for the student-athletes to have fun. This program is for the youth, not the adults.
- Reinforce with your child that competing as hard as one can is more important than winning or losing.
- Demand that your child treats opposing players, officials, coaches, and spectators with respect and dignity.
- Promote the physical and emotional well-being of all student-athletes.
- Do not encourage any behavior, which could endanger the health and well-being of the student-athlete.
- **Please understand that it is a privilege, not a right, for your child to be a member of our athletic program. Therefore: it is a privilege for you to be a spectator. Failure to abide by the aforementioned expectations may be cause for removal from an event and future events.**

Parents are encouraged to help their child communicate with the Coach and Athletic Department regarding any aspect of participation in athletics. Before a parent contacts a coach, we encourage the student-athlete to speak first with the coach. The Athletic Department requests that any questions about coaching and / or expectations be expressed during a private conference and never directly or publicly before or after a contest or practice. It is not appropriate for parents to discuss team strategy and student-athletes other than their own child.

If a student-athlete is going to miss a practice, it is their responsibility, not the parents, to email the Athletic Director who will then pass the email along to the appropriate coach. Student-athletes will be required to attend 80% of the practices in order to be on a team.

**Coaches**
Coaching is a very challenging and rewarding commitment. Coaches are one of the most influential members of our staff. Our goal is to find coaches who have a passion for and a background in the sport that they will be coaching. Finally, all coaches and assistant volunteers must have a background and fingerprint screening, be current on their CPR / First Aid certification, and participate in a mandated reporting training.

Each coach will communicate weekly via email to all families participating on their team. While we have a no cut policy for athletics, we have high expectations of school accountability and practice attendance. Therefore, athletes will be expected to turn in to the Athletic Director a weekly progress report signed by all teachers and parents AND coaches will be taking attendance for all practices and competition.

It is our goal for athletes to find opportunities for participation, success, and learning. Placing each student at the level where they can contribute physically and gain positive feelings from their effort is a top priority for
our coaches. Our goal is for students to learn the value of being on a team and the contributions that each member must make to be on a team.

**Schedules**  
Will be updated on the athletics website and coaches will communicate weekly to parents.

Updates will be communicated to parents and athletes by their coaches. They will also be posted in the website or available in the school front office. All schedules and games are subject to change. Weather will be taken into consideration in all outdoor events and could result in cancellations or make-up games.

**Equipment / Uniforms**  
Uniforms are used year after year and need to last, so please take good care of them. **Wash them in cold water and hang dry only.** Failure to turn in your uniform will earn the athlete a $50.00 fine.

**Transportation**  
Busses are not provided, and parent volunteers will be needed to help in transporting athletes to and from games. Parents must fill out driving forms and provide their insurance policy, along with a photo of their current drivers’ license BEFORE they are able to drive athletes. A sign-up genius will be used to make sure that every athlete has a ride. Each team will need one parent driving coordinator that will work with the coach to make sure that all games are set for transportation. Directions to all playing cites are available on the school website.

**Locker Room**  
The locker room is a facility used to change in and out of practice clothes and uniforms only. It is not a place to socialize or hang out before practice. Please be respectful of the locker room and to everyone else that uses it. Athletes are not to use the locker room unless it is supervised by an adult.

**Injuries**  
Unfortunately, injuries can be a part of any game. All injuries must be taken seriously. Any injury must be reported to the coaching staff immediately. Athletes will not be allowed to return to participation from an injury without written clearance from a physician once they have been restricted from participation or diagnosed by a physician. It is imperative that all medical and insurance forms are filled out correctly and are current in the even that medical attention is needed during a game.

Please email us if you have any questions. We are looking forward to an exciting year of Athletics!

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**Holmes**  
Leigh Choate  
Lchoate@djusd.net

**Harper**  
Leigh Choate  
Lchoate@djusd.net  
Marc Hicks  
mhicks@djusd.net

**Emerson**  
Chelsey Bragg  
cbragg@djusd.net