

Only 1 signed copy needed per year



ATHLETIC CONSENT FORMS

LIABILITY: Playing in any sport may be dangerous and there may be chance for an injury to take place. **Neither NHA nor Walker Charter Academy, nor any party affiliated with them will be liable** for any injury sustained during the normal course of the sports activity.

COMMITMENT: Participating in sports at Walker is a big commitment. Game and practice schedules will be provided by the student-athlete's coach. **Team members are committing to attend all practices and games.** If it is unavoidable to miss a practice or game, **the coach must be contacted in advance.**

PAY TO PLAY: **\$25 pay to play fee** (per student per sport). If this fee is not turned in before the first game, the student-athlete will be deemed "ineligible" until the fee is taken care of. This could mean the loss of practice and/or game time. The fee is not refunded if an athlete is removed from a team or he/she decides to leave the team.

TRANSPORTATION: Parents are committing to picking up and/or arranging rides for their child to and from all games/practices in a timely fashion. Students are expected to be picked up no later than 20-minutes from the completion of practice. If a student is picked in excess of 20-minutes without communication, a warning will be received. If a second offense occurs, the student will be ineligible for his/her next contest. After a third offense, that student will be removed from the team. Additionally, if team members ride with drivers other than their parent or guardian and an accident occurs, neither the driver, Walker Charter Academy, nor NHA will be liable.

ELIGIBILITY: At Walker, academics are more important than athletics. Grade checks are done once a week during each season. This will be based upon academic and behavioral standards. A student will be deemed ineligible if he/she: **1.) Receives two "Think Sheets" in one week or is assigned a Character Enhancement. 2.) More than two missing assignments in one class, or two missing assignments in multiple classes. 3.) Student has a D in two classes or an F in one class. These letter grades reflect the cumulative class grade and not specific assignments or assessments.**

Ineligible players will receive an ineligibility form stating the expectations they have not met. When a student is ineligible, they will miss the first game/contest of the week. The student will continue to be ineligible for remaining games or until he/she has corrected the academic issue/concern.

A student receiving an out-of-school suspension will be ineligible to compete in 2 contests.

If any student is ineligible three times in one season, he/she will be removed from the team and may not attend the athletic banquet or end of the season team celebration.

PHILOSOPHY: The student-athletics' program is voluntary and extra-curricular. Team membership is earned through excellence in athletics, academics and sportsmanship. Participation in middle school activities is a privilege and not a right. With this privilege, it is the responsibility of the participant to uphold the standards established by Walker Charter Academy. Those standards are based on the fundamental premise that the participant is in a position of leadership and he/she should represent the sport, the school and the community in the highest manner. Each athlete should strive to compete at the highest level at practices and

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in events. High moral values, sportsmanship, preparation (both athletically and academically) and maximum effort are the keys to success at Walker Charter Academy.

GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL TEAMS:

- A student must be academically eligible in order to participate in tryouts or begin non-cut sports. This would be using our eligibility requirements that use scores, missing assignments, and behavior. This does not work for fall sports as they begin before school is underway. In this case, we will look at 4th-quarter grades from the previous year as feedback for coaches when considering players to make the team.
- In order to participate in an activity or practice on a given day, a participant must be in school for the entire day unless excused for medical appointments or other school authorized reasons.
- Team uniforms may be worn only for participation in the sport for which it is issued. Uniforms or warm-ups may be worn during the day of an event if approved by the team's coach and administration. Students and their parents are financially responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them. Any student who has not completed his/her payment obligations at the close of the season will not be permitted to compete in any further competition until the obligation is met. All uniforms must be returned to the team's coach at the end of the season.
- All athletes must report injuries to their coach. This must be done when the injury occurs.
- If a team member resigns or is dismissed from a team for violations of rules after the team has made its final selections, he/she will be ineligible to participate in the athletic program until the team from which he/she resigned or was dismissed has concluded all activities for that season. Individual cases can be reviewed by the Athletic Director and administration of Walker Charter Academy.
- Letters, certificates and awards will be presented at the end of each season at an awards banquet or team celebration. Student-athletes can only attend if they have returned all uniforms, equipment, etc. that belong to Walker Charter Academy.

SPORTSMANSHIP: We expect each student to conduct him/herself properly at all times during the season. This includes conduct during travels, at practices and at games. We will not condone improper language or behavior. We ask that you encourage your son or daughter to keep that in mind. Sportsmanship is the responsibility of all spectators also. Please remember that our opponents are our guests and that the officials are trained in their profession and are doing their best to officiate the events according to established rules.

CITIZENSHIP: We expect that all students understand that they represent the Walker Charter community at all times. The community holds athletes to a high standard and they should conduct themselves properly at all times: in the classroom, at events and at all other times. The Walker Charter Academy Code of Conduct and Conduct of Extracurricular/Co-curricular Activities are always in effect. If a student has to serve an in-school or out-of-school suspension during the season, they will also be ineligible to participate in their next game during that season. In the instance that an athlete serves two in-school or out-of-school suspensions during the same athletic season, they will be removed from participation for the remainder of that season.

TEAM POLICIES: Each head coach has team policies that govern the conduct of the sport. The head coach should give you a copy of these policies. It is very important that students and their parents understand these policies. If you have any questions, ask the coach for clarification.

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COMMUNICATION: Communication between coaches and parents is necessary for a successful season. Constant communication will insure that decisions affecting athletes are made by coaches and by parents using all available information. This communication can be initiated at the pre-season Coaches'/Parents' meeting and can be enhanced through phone calls or personal contact as necessary. Concerns should not be given to the coaching staff after a game; rather parents should call to schedule an appointment with the coach. If you still have concerns after meeting with the coach, you may contact the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.

HAZING: There will be no form of hazing or team initiation of student athletes permitted. Hazing is defined as any activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

SUPPORT: Please support your son or daughter by attending as many of their activities as possible! Also, please remember that all middle school athletes, our opponents and ours, try their best; sometimes they are successful and sometimes they are not. They all deserve your positive support.

The below portion needs to be signed and turned into Mr. Reed within the first week of making a school team. This will only need to be completed one time during the academic school year.

----- **PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN** -----

By signing below, I am stating that I have read and fully understand all of the information above relating to 1) liability for injury, 2) commitment to attend games and practices, 3) being picked up from practices on time, 4) transportation release, and 5) academic and behavioral eligibility.

Student-Athlete Printed Name _____

Student-Athlete Signature _____

Student-Athlete Grade (Circle One) 6 7 8

Parent/Guardian Printed Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent Contact Info: Email: _____

Preferred Phone (_____) _____ - _____