



Grand Forks Secondary School

ATHLETIC CONTRACT 2024-2025

***THIS CONTRACT MUST BE SIGNED BY
BOTH THE ATHLETE AND GUARDIAN
AND RETURNED TO THE COACH BEFORE
THE PLAYER CAN PARTICIPATE IN ANY
COMPETITION. ***

Dear Parent/Guardian and Athlete,

Your child has made the decision to represent Grand Forks Secondary by participating and committing to a team this season. This is a very exciting privilege and one that comes with so many benefits and opportunity - not only to their athletic ability and health but also to their personal growth as young adults. At GFSS we are very fortunate to have a group of dedicated and passionate Volunteer Coaches to facilitate these experiences for our students. Our Coaches' time, energy, and sacrifice to provide for our Athletes is something we do not take for granted and encourage our Student-Athletes to do the same through acknowledgment, dedication, coachability and commitment. Being able to participate and represent our school as Athletes is very much a privilege; not a right, and one that entails our students to adhere to certain school expectations that are highlighted in the following contract. Please read through this carefully with your child and sign, accordingly, acknowledging your willingness to allow your child to participate in Athletics at GFSS and represent our School Community, as well as have your child sign, acknowledging their understanding of what it is to be a Wolf, and their commitment to their team.

If you have any questions or concerns, my door is always open.

Let's Go Wolves!!!

Thank you for your time and energy,

Riley Friesen

Grand Forks Secondary School

Athletic Director

Riley.friesen@sd51.bc.ca

Grand Forks Secondary School Athletics

Policy and Expectations

At Grand Forks Secondary, we believe that athletics is an important part of the total education program and school experience. It is here that many fond memories of high school are created. Where teamwork, determination and humility contribute to building the foundation of the student as they grow into young adults and continue their journey outside of our school community. Participation in an athletic program is a voluntary privilege where the student is representative of their family, school, coaches, and community. Thus, standard of behaviour is expected of those choosing to participate. It is expected that all students, sponsors, parents, and coaches will adhere to the following standards of conduct:

Academic

Students will demonstrate satisfactory performance in all their classes through achieving passing grades, but more importantly by showing satisfactory effort, regular attendance, and a positive attitude in all their classes. Student progress will be reviewed each term. Those students not meeting the above criteria may be placed on an Athletic Probation. The probation period provides students with an opportunity to improve their performance. If the student-athlete continues to decline in class and doesn't show satisfactory effort in attempting to rectify the situation they may be put on Athletic Suspension and removed from the season of play. If poor performance continues the Athlete will be removed from all seasons of play for that calendar year.

Attendance

School - Students participating in athletic programs will be expected to attend classes regularly. Student will not be eligible to participate in practices or games if they have not attended school on that specific day. During the season of play, any student athlete who demonstrates a trend of absenteeism may be placed on Athletic Probation. Players who have an extended period of absence will need to re-establish their standing on the team as well as in the classroom before they are permitted to travel with the team. Multiple unexcused absences will result in the student athlete being put on Athletic Suspension and removed from the season of play.

Team – Attendance in sport is a direct reflection of the commitment level of said Student-athlete. Therefore, it is taken quite seriously. Age level does play a role in the commitment level of student-athletes however it is expected that athletes who commit to a team show up to every practice and every game, to commit to their team and to their volunteer coach. Repercussions for missed practices/games/tournaments are up to the coach of each individual team, however, need to be clearly communicated to Athletes at the start of the season. Coaches will have full support of the Athletic Director and Administration regarding the importance of commitment and ensuring athletes know they are being held accountable for lack of commitment. If students miss practices/games/tournaments are removed from the team because of their lack of commitment – they will be put on Athletic Suspension for ALL seasons of play for that calendar year. Multi-sport athletes need to make sure they are committed to all teams and coaches they play for – not just their favourite.

Behaviour

All teams, groups, or clubs will operate on the principle that participation is like a class away from school. Therefore, student conduct must be the same as what is expected of them in school and according to the expectations laid out in the school Code of Conduct. Students who are found to be in possession of, or under the influence of any alcohol or drugs during the school day, during any school sponsored event outside of the school day or while participating on a field trip, may lose their privilege of participating in ANY extracurricular activity for one school year and subject to consequences according the GFSS Code of Conduct. Students are not permitted to smoke/vape or chew tobacco during school sponsored trips.

Commitment

Being par of a school team means the following:

- Attend all practices and competitions.
- Be in good standing in the following areas:
 - Attendance/lates for classes
 - Academic performance (effort is acceptable)
 - Adhere to school Code of Conduct
 - Always demonstrate a good attitude.

Any student who quits an athletic team without a reasonable excuse or does not show up to pre-arranged competitions will be reported to the Athletic Director. The individual may be suspended from all athletic play for one calendar school year.

It is also expected that student will attend all practices and games as scheduled in a timely manner. Students that miss practice may be suspended from a competition as determined by the Coach/AD. Coaches will warn students after the first missed practice and then are expected to follow through with consequences following further missed practices or games. Any suspension from competition should be communicated to the athletic director.

Travel

Accommodation will be booked by either the coach or athletic director. Every travelling student should be given the hotel information and trip itinerary before departure by their coach. If the student has not been given this information close to the event date, please contact the respected coach or AD.

Students must stay with the group during the duration of the trip and may not be transported by anyone else during this time. Arrangements may be made to drive to and from the event with direct family members if the coach and AD (or Admin) are aware of it.

Depending on the circumstance, students will either be sent on a bus or with parent drivers. If you are asked to be a parent driver, please make sure you follow the appropriate steps set out by the coach as to obtaining a drivers abstract, insurance and so forth. Please be advised that we are strongly against students driving themselves to such events, and driving other students is forbidden.

Use of any swimming facilities is prohibited unless a certified lifeguard is on duty.

Uniforms

To keep things easier to organize we will not be collecting uniform deposits. Instead, each coach will keep an inventory on team uniforms. Please note that if a student loses, damages or keeps a uniform they will be responsible for the replacement cost of \$100.00.

Athletic Fees

We are asking each player to pay a participation fee to subsidize the cost of providing this opportunity. For the 2023/2024 sports season the following list depicts our Athletic fees for each sport/level. Please have your child pay their fee at the beginning of each season of play to THEIR COACH. Fees and Athletic packages must be submitted before a player can participate in ANY competition. Cheques can be made payable to Grand Forks Secondary School

***No student will be excluded because of financial difficulties. If there are any concerns or questions about our fees or if you need financial assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our Athletic Director – Riley Friesen or Administration ***

Sport	Fee
Senior Volleyball/Basketball/Soccer/Ultimate	\$200
Junior Volleyball/Basketball/Soccer Ultimate/Mountain Biking	\$150
Grade 8 Volleyball/Basketball	\$100
eSports (fall and spring)	\$50
*Curling, Track, X-country, and Golf	TBA

Athletic Fees help pay for the following:

Team uniforms, first aid equipment, team registration fees, BC school sports fees, tournament/playday fees, major officials, minor officials, sport specific equipment, minor repair costs of equipment, and other miscellaneous items.

Note: Athletic Fees do not cover tournament costs (mileage, accommodations) for athletes. These will need to be provided on a tournament basis, determined by the coach of each individual team. Teams will be expected to fundraise to help cover costs that exceed their athletic fees. Please reach out to your coaches with fundraising opportunities.

GUARDIAN/COACH COMMUNICATION FRAMEWORK

PLEASE NOTE: it is **NEVER** appropriate for a parent/guardian to approach or speak with major or minor officials and/or other coaches/players regarding the game/tournament play.

Expectations for Parents/Guardians:

1. Support your student-athlete's and their team's efforts to be successful.
2. Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of your student-athlete and their team.
3. Treat all coaching personnel with courtesy and respect.
4. Assure that your student will attend all scheduled practices and competitions on time.
5. Always promote and model mature and sportsmanlike behaviour in our school and others as dictated in the Spectators Code of Conduct on our gym wall.

Communication between Parent/Guardian and Coach (can be delivered through athlete)

1. Expectations the coach has for all the athletes on the team.
2. Locations and times of practices, games, and tournaments.
3. Any discipline that may result in the denial of the athlete's participation. Examples: poor attitude, behaviour, commitment, unsportsmanlike behaviour

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches (Note: It is never appropriate to discuss a serious matter, unannounced or before/after a practice or game – please email your Athlete's Coach to book a time to talk about your concerns.)

1. Situations involving YOUR athlete.
2. Ways to help YOUR child improve.
3. YOUR child's work ethic and attitude.
4. Concerns about YOUR child's behaviour, school experience or personal experiences that may be affecting YOUR child's experience on the team.

Issues that are NOT appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time of any student-athlete. This is up to the coach, and they will be following the guidelines of the athletic department. We strongly recommend encouraging your child to have a mature conversation with their coach about their playing time.
2. Team strategy, practice organization or play calling.
3. Other student-athletes, other coaches, major or minor officials.

Procedure to follow if there is a concern to discuss with a coach:

1. Your child should speak to the coach about an issue before you intervene. This will help student-athletes grow into young adults.
2. Contact the coach via email to set up a meeting.
3. If you can't contact the coach, the coach is unwilling to meet, or the meeting did not solve the concern to your satisfaction; contact the Athletic Director or school Administration.
4. The Athletic Director and Administration will only intervene if the issue has already been discussed with the coach.

Social Media/Live Streaming

Over the last couple years, it has become a trend for teams to have a social media presence, including live streaming. These social media pages are run by our Coaches and Athletic Director and will only contain appropriate, encouraging content. It's become an easy way to involve our community and share the successes of each team to a broader platform. The use of social media as a tool has helped sports community at GFSS grow exponentially. With that being said, we have added an extra signature space below. By signing, both you the guardian and the student athlete accept the potential for your child to be photographed and/or filmed and put on social media platforms such as Instagram and Facebook.

I _____ parent/guardian of
_____ acknowledge and permit my child to
participate in/on the social media platforms created for their team.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

In Conclusion, by signing below both guardian and student athlete are acknowledging their understanding and willingness to respect and adhere to all aspects of our Grand Forks Secondary School Athletic Contract. By signing both the guardian and student athlete are acknowledging they have read and fully understand the expectations of representing Grand Forks Secondary School Athletics outlined in said contract, the student code of conduct, the communication guidelines and all else stated in this contract.

I _____ acknowledge, respect and will adhere to all guidelines mentioned in this Athletic Contract while my child is representing GFSS Athletics

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

I _____ acknowledge, respect and will adhere to all guidelines mentioned in this Athletic Contract while I represent GFSS Athletics.

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

