# Rehoboth Christian School Athletic Handbook

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to have in written form the athletic policies and regulations that govern all extra-curricular sport activities at Rehoboth Christian School. It is important that each athlete, each coach, and every supporting parent become acquainted with the following material.

#### **II. CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY IN ATHLETICS**

Athletics at Rehoboth Christian School is an important part of Christian education. It helps students develop intellectual, physical, spiritual, and social goals. Therefore, it is a needed part of the total curriculum and serves a vital role in promoting school spirit and morale.

Our athletic program is one method of teaching the Christian way of competing and the Christian way of life. Our athletes must participate in such a way that honor comes to the team, the school, the Christian community, and our God. Ideals of sportsmanship, fair play, teamwork, and dedication to honor the team and the school should be exemplified by all athletes and coaches.

Rehoboth Christian School is dedicated to having a sports program and teaching athletes to develop a Christian perspective on both winning and losing that is consistent with the will of God. Athletics today all too often emphasize winning at any cost. An individual's, team's, and coach's success is often measured by the win/loss record. Winning should be an incidental goal that comes with achieving the primary goal of each participant playing his/her best with the talents and skills given by God. Even losing, then, can present a learning situation. To this end, RCS strives for excellence in its athletes, coaches, and teams.

- Two verses from the Bible help to put this philosophy and handbook for athletics into perspective:
- *Col.* 3:23 *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.*
- *Col.* 3:17 *And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

#### III. PRIVILEGE

Participation in the athletic program at Rehoboth Christian is a privilege that is earned, not a right. Therefore, student athletes are held to a higher standard of behavior than the student who

does not participate in such activities. Every student-athlete is expected to uphold the school's mission and help foster the school's goals and purposes.

#### **IV. GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS and GUARDIANS**

- A. Parents and guardians play a vital role in supporting RCS athletic teams and coaches. This handbook is published, in part, to provide accurate information about our athletic programs to the parents of our student athletes. Athletes have a great deal of responsibility as outlined in the previous material of this Handbook. Parents also share some of this responsibility.
  - 1. Parents are expected to encourage loyalty and dedication from their sons/daughters to their coach and team. Parents should have only constructive conversations at home concerning their athlete's participation. Parents are expected to show the same type of attitudes that RCS expects from the student/athletes.
  - 2. Parents should try to keep their athlete son's or daughter's performance in proper perspective as viewed in the light of the coach's job of forming the team and the athletes playing time.
  - 3. The same code of self-control for athletes on any RCS team applies to RCS parents and fans.
- B. Parents, guardians, and interested fans are asked to attend a meeting for parents and guardians during which the coach will review the above policies and other expectations of team members.
- C. Parents are not allowed to ride on school transportation to away games or tournaments.
- D. All donations must go through the coach and athletic director.
- E. Head Coaches are responsible for the banquets. Please go through the coach for instructions for guidelines on the banquets.

#### V. RCS ATHLETIC PROGRAM

- A. Rehoboth Christian School is a member of the New Mexico Activities Association and is subject to its rules regarding eligibility. Current sports for the year might include the following:
  - 1. Boys: Fall cross-country and soccer Winter - basketball Spring – track, baseball
  - 2. Girls: Fall cross-country, volleyball, and soccer Winter - basketball Spring – track, softball
- B. As a small school, it is possible for nearly everyone to compete in some area of athletics. In fact, all students should involve themselves in at least one sport during the school year. A sport may be cancelled because too few students wish to participate, or a coaching staff cannot be found.

#### VI. ELIGIBILITY

- A. New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) Requirements for Interscholastic Eligibility
  - Scholastic eligibility will be determined by semester grades. Eligibility checks for those deemed unable to participate at semester will undergo checks at designated marking periods (9 weeks) during that semester. If they are passing at the 9 week marking period, they are eligible for immediate participation that semester.
  - 2. No F's: A student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and No F's in order to be eligible to participate in activities/athletics.
  - 3. All class work counted for eligibility must be acceptable for graduation.
  - 4. The grade point average is based on a 4.0 scale with consideration of honor points.

5. All students must meet the requirements as stated in #1 above at the end of the first marking period within any semester in order to be eligible for the remaining part of that semester. Cumulative GPA will not apply at this eligibility check.

6. No student shall be absent from school for school-sponsored extra-curricular activities in excess of ten (10) days per semester, and no class may be missed in excess of ten times per semester.

- B. Rehoboth Christian School (RCS) Requirements for Interscholastic Eligibility
  - 1. All athletes must meet the minimum eligibility requirements as stated under the regulations of the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA).
  - 2. Each athlete must have on file a completed athletic physical, code of conduct and parental permission form before he/she may participate in any way. These forms, in addition to other necessary forms are available at the administration building in the form of an "Athletic Packet."An athletic physical is the responsibility of the athlete and his/her parents and must be completed after April 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year.
  - 3. Weekly Progress Report "Academic Watch"
    - a. If a student has 1 or more F's at the weekly progress report, they will not be allowed to miss school for athletic events and participate in athletic events.
    - b. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with their work and find out their grades.
    - c. For away competitions, students must ride on school transportation and not take their own transportation to an athletic event after school has ended.
    - d. In an effort to be fair and consistent, if a student is placed on "Academic Watch" and participates in a sport that does not have a home field or court (softball, baseball), the athlete will be allowed to participate in "home" events as long as they don't miss school.

- C. An athlete wanting to participate on two athletic teams at RCS during the same season should follow these guidelines:
  - a. Parental support of dual participation is required.
  - b. Both coaches must agree on the dual participation and agree on the practices and events the athlete is required to attend.
  - c. The athlete must participate in a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the regular season competitions in both sports in order to be ruled eligible for post season competition.
- D. Athletes are strongly encouraged to join a team within the first 9 days of practice to be eligible to participate. Student transfer situations will be looked at and considered on an individual basis.
- E. An athlete or team may be required to enter a contract to participate in a school sport if it is warranted due to an athlete's abuse of RCS athletic regulations under sections V.
- F. Academically ineligible students that want to join a team at the end of a marking period may practice if their GPA is above 2.00. It is the coach's decision if the athlete will be able to join the team. Students could have a try out period of up to two weeks before the end of the semester if they have had a formal grade check and their grades look good.

Issues that need to be considered:

- a. Did others get cut earlier that could have filled this position?
- b. Are they too far behind to catch up to the rest of the team?
- c. Will they fit into the team chemistry that already exists?
- d. Will playing time be affected for players currently on the team?
- G. Behavior Eligibility
  - 1. RCS athletes and coaches directly represent our school to the community. Therefore, it is expected that all athletes will dress in an acceptable manner and conduct themselves appropriately both on and off the field, court and bus.
  - 2. The administration may also suspend or remove a student from competition and declare him/her ineligible for any of the following:
    - a. Chronic tardiness or absence
    - b. Disrespectful behavior toward staff and other students
    - c. Falling below an acceptable grade level in the classroom
    - d. Participation in behavior that makes the student a poor representative of Rehoboth Christian School (vandalism, pranks, conviction for any legal problem, etc.)
    - e. Involvement as a mother or father with a pregnancy (See Student Pregnancy and Parenthood Policy)
  - 3. Alcohol, Drugs, or Tobacco Abuse:

- a. The code of conduct is to be signed and agreed to by students involved in athletic teams and managers. This code is in forced from the first involvement with a team until the end of their school career; this includes summers, weekends, and between seasons.
- b. Students agree not to use tobacco, alcohol, or any non prescription drugs. Also, any offenses considered illegal in the eyes of the law will be considered to be in violation of the code. Students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with Christian principles of morality.
- c. If a student is at a location where drugs or alcohol are being used by minors, the student has the obligation to pursue all means to leave the premises immediately. If the school believes that the most expeditious means to leave were not taken, the student is presumed to have participated in the activity in fact as well as in spirit.
- 4. Anti Bullying Policy
  - a. Rehoboth Christian School strives to provide a safe, secure and respectful learning environment for all students in school buildings, on school grounds and school buses, and at school-sponsored activities. Bullying has a harmful social, physical, psychological and academic impact on bullies, victims, and bystanders. Rehoboth Christian School will vigorously address bullying so that there is no disruption to the learning environment and learning process.
  - b. Bullying is a deliberate or intentional behavior using words or actions, intended to cause fear, intimidation or harm. Bullying may be repeated behavior and involves an imbalance of power. The behavior may be motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic, such as, but not limited to age; national origin; race; ethnicity; religion; gender; gender identity; sexual orientation; physical attributes; physical or mental ability or disability; and social, economic or family status. Bullying behavior can be:
    - i. Physical (e.g. assault, hitting or punching, kicking, theft, threatening behavior)
    - ii. Verbal (e.g. threatening or intimidating language, teasing or name-calling, racist remarks)
    - iii. Indirect (e.g. spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, social exclusion and sending insulting messages or pictures by mobile phone or using the Internet – also known as cyber bullying)
  - c. Bullying behavior is prohibited in all activities under school supervision.
- 5. Anti Hazing Policy
  - a. Hazing is an act that places a student or athlete in an embarrassing, demeaning or humiliating situation as a right-of-passage or initiation to a team.
  - b. The school district and athletic department forbids the practice of hazing by fellow athletes or coaches. Athletes are never required to pass or perform any initiation or

ritual to become part of or retain membership on an athletic team at Rehoboth Christian School.

- 6. Electronic Media Policy
  - a. Cell phones may not be used while on a team bench, team sideline, during a team meeting, or during an athletic contest or practice unless instructed to do so by a coach. For privacy reasons, cell phones are not permitted to be used in a locker room at any time. The use of cell phones may be further restricted during team travel or at away contests as part of team rules or policies.
  - b. No comments or pictures deemed inappropriate may be posted on social networking sites on the Internet and violations can put athletic participation in jeopardy. This may include posts, comments, and/or pictures about teammates or coaches that bring disunity to the athletic team.
- 7. Enforcement
  - a. The code of conduct is to be enforced by an Athletic Discipline Council (ADC) made up of the athletic director, principal and managing director.
  - b. The ADC will determine code violations which can include: use of alcohol or non prescription drug, disrespect for authority, profane language, legal difficulties, use of tobacco, violation of school rules of behavior.
  - c. A meeting of the ADC will convene as soon as possible to deal with any reported violation.
  - d. All penalties are at the discretion of the ADC, subject to the following guidelines:
    - i. <u>First violation</u>: the suspension or removal from athletic activities would be for the remainder of that season if the violation was severe enough. For violations that occur at the end of a season the suspension will carry over into the next season that they participate in a minimum of 30 school days. If a student was in attendance but not participating the suspension length could be changed.
    - ii. <u>Second violation</u>: the suspension or removal from athletic activities would be for the remainder of that school year or a period of 12 weeks if violations occurred during separate school years.
    - iii. <u>Third violation:</u> the student will no longer be eligible to participate on any athletic team for the remainder of his or her time at RCS.
  - e. A substance abuse evaluation could be required before participation could begin again, especially if this is the  $2^{nd}$  offense.

- f. The length of the suspension period carried over from one school year to the next could be shorter depending on the attitude and subsequent behavior of the student as determined by the ADC.
- g. If an athlete under suspension seeks to participate in a new activity in order to "get rid of a suspension" he/she must first receive permission from the ADC and coaches involved.
- h. Appeals must be made in writing to the Education Committee. These will be considered at the next scheduled meeting.
- i. At the end of the suspension the ADC will meet with the students to determine if attitude and behavior of the student warrants reinstatement to athletic activities.
- j. Lifting of the suspension is not automatic but there must be demonstrated improvement in behavior and attitude.
- k. If exceptional circumstances occur the ADC may request the Education Committee to review and make a decision.
- 1. If a student has violated the code, but reports this to the school him or herself, a reduction in the penalty may be considered.
- 8. Ejection from Athletic Contest
  - a. NMAA repercussions must be followed for a coach or athlete being ejected from an athletic contest.
  - b. If a player or coach has been ejected from an athletic contest, a written apology must be written by the coach or player to the officials and opposing school.
- 9. Student Pregnancy and Parenthood Policy
  - a. In our curriculum we take measures to educate students about Biblical standards of pre-marital relationships. However, we realize that situations may come to our attention when a student becomes pregnant or fathers a child. When this happens, it is important to have a meeting with the student's parent(s) and the Administration to discuss the situation. When these situations arise, we want to support the student and his/her family, to help him/her continue education in a setting that is best for the situation. This needs to be discussed with the family.
  - b. If it is decided that the student will continue at RCS, then we require the following:
    - 1. The parents must be notified of the situation.
    - 2. The student and family must receive ongoing counseling. A suggestion would be to have this done at the local Crisis Pregnancy Center or another Christian organization.

- 3. The student and their parents must meet with the Administration to set up a plan for meeting the academic requirements for graduation, or for completing the school year. This may include early graduation, correspondence courses, summer school, independent study, or regular classes at RCS.
- 4. The student must demonstrate responsibility for her/his new role as parent. Since the situation means that the student is passing into a new phase of her/his life, the student may not participate in any NMAA competitions and extra-curricular activities including but not limited to athletics, music competitions, student council, drama, etc. Instead, these students should focus their attention on the changes that will be coming into their lives.
- 5. The student may participate in other activities that are connected to high school classes. These include regular choir and band concerts, field trips, ropes course, etc. The student will be permitted to attend graduation and receive all academic honors that he/she may have earned.
- 6. It is expected that the student make arrangements for child care during school hours. Babies will not be permitted on campus between 8:00am and 5:00pm.
- 7. 18 months after the administration was notified of the pregnancy, the student may make a request to the Education Committee that the above conditions be lifted. At this time, the Education Committee/Board will evaluate the student's appeal based on several factors:
  - a. The student's maturity in dealing with his/her responsibilities as a parent.
  - b. The stability of the situation for the child.
  - c. The support structure in place for the child.
  - d. The student's ability to handle an added athletic/activities commitment above his/her academic and parenting responsibilities.

#### VII. RCS ATHLETIC REGULATIONS

- 1. The following information contains regulations that govern our athletic program. Each coach will also have specific information pertinent to his/her team, but it must be consistent with the general information contained in this section.
- 2. School Transportation
  - a. When school transportation is provided all athletes will ride to and from the games with the team and coach. Athletes will be permitted to ride home with their parents if the parent signs the athlete out at the conclusion of the game.

- b. Parent/Guardian may grant permission to another adult as long as there is a written note or verbal agreement and the individual signing the student out is over 18 years of age. A written note may be used for the entirety of the season.
- c. For events held in the Gallup area (Gallup HS, Miyamura HS, Wingate or City of Gallup facilities) the teams will use school transportation to the event and parents will be responsible for picking up their athletes. For activities held in the Gallup area on non-school days, athletes will likely meet at the competition site.
- 3. If any period during the school day must be missed by an athlete for an away game the athlete is responsible to have a leave permission form signed by each teacher indicating that all work has been made up before the departure, or at least other arrangements have been made with the specific teachers involved. This form should be handed to the High School Secretary before the athlete gets on the bus.
- 4. It is the responsibility of the athlete to communicate with parents regarding team departure and arrival times back to campus. The coach will give the information, but the athlete must pass that information on to parents.
- 5. Different levels of team participants (C, JV, V) should make every effort to support and cheer on their fellow team member at every event.
- 6. Injuries and illness:
  - a. Any school-related accident or injury in any sport activity should be reported immediately to the coach.
  - b. If an individual has any special medical problem, the coach must be informed.
- 7. Concussion Information
  - a. Parents and Athletes are required to sign a form acknowledging that they understand the rules associated if athletes show signs or symptoms of a concussion.
  - b. Athletes who experience any of these signs or symptoms after a bump or blow to the head should be kept from play for 10 days and until given permission to return to play by a health care professional with experience in evaluating for concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can last from several minutes to days, weeks, months, or even longer in some cases.
- 8. Absences from School
  - a. Athletes are expected to be in school for the entire day following a late arrival from an athletic contest. Absences following a late arrival will be marked as unexcused.
  - b. If any athlete is not in school because of injury, illness or any unexcused reason he/she will not be allowed to participate in an athletic practice or competition that

same day.

- c. If an athlete goes home ill in the afternoon of a school day, he/she will not be allowed to participate in a game that same evening.
- d. Athletes, who are absent in the morning and return for classes in the afternoon with a written note from home indicating that the athlete is feeling better, will be allowed to participate in a game that day. An athlete must be present for all three afternoon classes to be eligible for participation in that day's game or practice.
- e. An athlete who has an excused absence (ex. Dr. Appointment) will be allowed to participate in an athletic event that same day.
- 9. Practice Guidelines
  - a. All team members of all sports are expected to attend all scheduled practices and meetings. Unexcused lateness or absence at practice could result in penalty outlined below.
    - 1. Part of practice missed = ineligible for an equal amount of the game.
    - 2. Entire practice missed = ineligible for one entire game or meet.
  - b. Repeatedly missing practice or games (3 times) is grounds for dismissal from the team.
  - c. A student receiving a detention is expected to show up for the Detention. They are not considered valid excuses for missing practice and athletes will be penalized as noted above. Athletes are expected to maintain high standards of behavior and to be responsible in completing homework on time for their classes to avoid a detention.
  - d. If an athlete knows that he/she will be absent or late before practice begins, it is the athlete's responsibility to inform the coach.
- 10. Athletic Uniforms:
  - a. All uniforms issued by the school athletic department to the athlete for a particular sport or season is the sole responsibility of that athlete.
  - b. Uniforms should be kept clean and in good condition showing only normal wear for a season.
  - c. Uniforms, whether game or practice, may not be worn during the school day while attending classes.
  - d. If a uniform or equipment is ruined by abuse or carelessness or is lost and not returned, it is the responsibility of the athlete to replace it by paying a fine.
  - e. If an athlete quits a sport after being issued school equipment, that equipment must

be returned to the coach by the next day.

- f. All uniforms must be returned to the coach within one week after the completion of a sport. All returned uniforms must be clean. If uniforms are not returned within one week after the competition, students will be fined and will not be permitted to take exams until the fine has been paid or the uniform returned.
- 11. Parent/Fan Guidelines
  - a. Shout encouragement and positive comments.
  - b. Respect officials.
  - c. Be supportive of the coach.
  - d. Talk positively about the coach in front of your child.
  - e. Talk positively about the head coach with the assistant coaches.
  - f. Cheer for your own team and not against the other team.
- 12. Quitting a team:
  - a. Quitting a team puts a strain on teammates and coaches. It also has a negative effect on the athlete involved and it should be avoided if at all possible. An athlete having problems and contemplating quitting should discuss the problem with his/her coach, then the athletic director, and finally with both the coach and athletic director.
  - b. Athletes may quit without penalty if they quit prior to the first game of the season or they get a note from their parents and principal stating that their academic record or health requires it.
  - c. Athletes who quit or are removed from a team will not be allowed to participate in the next sport that runs after that sport is completed. (Example: If an athlete quits during the fall sports program, he/she will be ineligible for participation in the winter sports program. Spring sports will carry over into the Fall sports of the following year.) Such a decision will be made by the athletic director, principal, and coach.
- 13. Tattoos

Clothing, tattoos, or accessories that are visible at or during athletic contests which advertise, display, or promote any drug (including tobacco and alcohol), sexual innuendo, violence, weaponry, satanic symbols, profanity, bands of any kind including Christian, skulls, blood, hate, or bigotry towards any kind including Christian, skulls, blood, hate, or bigotry towards any group or are offensive, disrespectful to other individuals are not permitted.

#### **VIII. COACHES**

- A. Selecting Coaches:
  - 1. The coaching staff is presently selected by the Athletic Director with the approval of the Principal. The coaches are directly responsible to the Athletic Director.
  - Levels of responsibility are listed below: Team/coach → Athletic Director → Principal → Managing Director → Education Committee → School Board
  - 3. Every effort is made to select coaches from the RCS staff. Interviews are occasionally held with Christian individuals outside of the RCS staff.
  - 4. In cases where no coach can be found for a sport season, that sport might have to be dropped for the season.
- B. Team formation and participation:
  - 1. Procedures and rules for determining each team roster will be made known to each prospective team member early on in the season.
  - 3. Each coach will attempt to play each player according to the following guidelines:
    - a. Varsity Each player will play when directed by the coach. It would be ideal to have all team members play and contribute significantly. Putting the higher skilled athletes on the court/field is very important to give a good representation of the gifts that God has give the athletes to use in that sport at RCS.
    - b. Junior Varsity An attempt will be made to play each player in each game.
      Preparation for the varsity level of competition is emphasized. An opportunity to develop skills and being competitive are important in the development of future varsity players.
    - c. All Other Teams An attempt will be made to play each player an equivalent of one quarter each game. Other sports will vary in participation time.
- C. Parent and guardians meeting:
  - 1. Each coach will schedule a meeting for parents at which time the coach will review the above policies and other expectations of team members.
  - 2. Parents and guardians will be provided with a schedule of all events scheduled for the season.
  - 3. Parents and guardians may ask questions of the coaching staff and/or discuss mutual concerns of how parents can aid the program by getting involved with their children in developing skills and attitudes during the season and off-season.

D. Coaching remuneration:

In 2001 a coach's salary schedule was drafted for all sports and all teams within each sport. This remuneration schedule more appropriately recognizes the time and responsibilities of the various coaching positions. The stipend is a % of the RCS base for that year.

- E. Coaching responsibilities:
  - 1. Coaches must agree with the Christian philosophy of athletics at Rehoboth Christian School as stated on page 1 of this handbook.
  - 2. A complete list of coaching responsibilities are outlined in the "Coaches Handbook."
- F. Athletic Director Responsibility of Coaches:
  - 1. Makes arrangements for practice time and location in consultation with the coaches.
  - 2. Makes arrangements for school transportation with the coach.
  - 3 Schedules athletic contest in consultation with the coaches.
  - 4. Evaluates and hires the coaching staff.
  - 5. Approves travel itineraries, purchases, and overnight trips,
  - 6. Additional responsibilities are expected.

#### VIII. ATHLETIC AWARDS

Criteria for Varsity and Junior Varsity Letter Awards:

- 1. An individual must complete the season with the team. Exceptions will be injury or illness beyond the control of the individual which does not allow him/her to complete the season.
- 2. Lettering Criteria for all sports:
  - a. **Cross Country**: The athlete must be one of the top seven individuals that qualifies for the state championships or one of the top five runners for the majority of the season.
  - b. **Volleyball**: The athlete must be entered in a given number of games to qualify for a letter. That number of games needed to earn a letter will be equal to the number of regular season matches played by the team for that year, playoff match games will be applied to a player's total.
  - c. **Basketball**: The athlete must be entered in a given number of quarters to qualify for a letter. That number of quarters needed to earn a letter will be equal to the number of regular season games played by the team for that year, playoff game quarters will be applied to a player's total.

- d. **Track**: The athlete must score a minimum of 3 points that apply toward the teams score in track meets during that season and must participate in a majority of the meets. Points scored in a relay will be split equally among the members of the relay team.
- e. **Baseball/Softball**: The athlete must be entered in a given number of innings to qualify for a letter. That number of innings needed to earn a letter will be equal to the number of regular season games played by the team for that year, playoff game innings will be applied to a player's total.
- f. **Soccer**: The athlete must be entered in a given number of halves (each game has two halves) to qualify for a letter. That number of halves needed to earn a letter will be equal to the number of regular season games played by the team for that year, playoff game halves will be applied to a player's total.
- 3. A team member that is removed for academic or disciplinary reasons will not receive a letter award. In addition, athletes who quit a team will not receive a letter award.
- 4. Team student managers may also be awarded a letter for their service and being a part of the team.

<u>Participants</u>	JV Award	Varsity Award
<u>First Year</u>		
Certificate if Coach puts these together	Certificate if Coach puts these together	Certificate if Coach puts these together
	4 1/2" chenille letter	6" chenille "pin" for that sport
Second Year		
(or more)Certificate if Coach	Certificate if Coach	"Bar" & Certificate if coach
puts these together	puts these together	puts these together

5. Below is a list of Awards that are given to athletes at the completion of the season:

#### IX. Adding a New Sport

- 1. A "Club Sport" is defined as volunteer driven extracurricular activity that is associated with Rehoboth but not financed by the athletic budget. No awards or "letters" awarded. Club coaches and participants must meet the same criteria for participation as the sports teams.
- 2. A "Sport" is defined as an extracurricular activity that is fully supported by Rehoboth. Awards and "letters" given as outlined in the athletic handbook.
- 3. The first step in adding a new sport is to create a club sport. The following steps should be addressed as the program moves through the initial stages of becoming a club and then becoming a sport:
  - a. Phase I The interested parties should discuss the concept with the Athletic Director and

High School Principal a minimum of 6 months in advance of the season starting date. Issues to Consider include:

- a. Why add a club?
- b. Does this club fit the constituents of the school (parent support)?
- c. Will adding a club take away from other activities? (Track, CC, Volleyball, Soccer, etc.)
- d. What school representative do they answer to? (Staff, athletic director, principal) There needs to be a Rehoboth staff person that will support the club and be the school contact person with other schools. This person needs to have the time and be competent in dealing with the various aspects of the club (coaching, scheduling, financing, eligibility, etc.).
- e. How much will it cost to start-up? How much to maintain?
- b. Phase II Write a presentation to the Athletic Director and Principal explaining how factors 1-6 will be worked out.
- c. Phase III When the details of 1 6 are worked out, the proposal can be brought to the Education committee for approval, revision or denial. Factors influencing the decision will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - 1. Determine if student interest is high enough to look into starting the club. Team clubs should have enough people to field a full team plus 50% more.
  - 2. Full time volunteer coaches are needed that have attained their coaching license through the NMPED and NMAA.
  - 3. A Rehoboth staff person is needed that will support the club and be the school contact person with other schools.
  - 4. A plan set in place to finance the operating of the club (the school won't finance a program at the "club" status, only programs at the "sport" status.
    - a. Uniforms \$500 \$1,200
    - b. Equipment depends on the sport \$1,000 \$2,500
    - c. Travel Athletes are required to ride school transportation for safety and insurance reasons. (parent vehicles waiver form to ride with other parents.) \$800 \$3,000
    - d. Officials \$1,000 \$3,000
    - e. Coaches reimbursement for time and work. \$1,000 \$3,000
    - f. Facilities where are practices and games going to be held? What is the cost for rental of facilities? What is limiting school facilities? What are potential conflicts with other schools?
  - 5. All Eligibility standards for students involved in programs at the "Sport" status will apply to "Club Sports."
  - 6. The school will have to declare to the NMAA what our status is

- 7. Scheduling
  - a. Scheduling decisions must be worked out between the Athletic Director and Coach.
  - b. No scheduling should be done until the board approves the club.
- 8. Program moving from "Club" to "Sport"
  - a. Program should establish itself for 2-3 years as a "club" sport before requesting to move up to the "Sport" Level.
  - b. After 2-3 years, the future of the club sport can be reevaluated to determine status.
- d. Phase IV Determine the status of the club/sport based on the clubs performance, student interest, available coaches and expense/income factors.