

## **All School Handbook for Athletics & Wellness Policies, Procedures, and Offerings**

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## **Mission Statement for BB&N Athletics & Wellness**

The primary mission of the Buckingham Browne and Nichols Athletic & Wellness Department is to develop life skills, sportsmanship and citizenship.

## **Guiding Principles**

In pursuing and supporting our purpose, BB&N strives to adhere to the following guiding principles that ensure and promote our department's mission and philosophy.

- Our number one responsibility is to create and promote a safe, healthy, non-threatening and respectful environment.
- We teach that character in competition is no different than ethics in life. By subscribing to solid and honorable principles, students learn skills that will impact their lives for years to come. The values inherent to a BB&N athletic experience are: teamwork, ethical and responsible behavior on and off the field, adherence to the spirit of rules, leadership, and sportsmanship.
- By inspiring a commitment to others, we strive to instill school spirit and a true sense of community into the broader life and fabric of our diverse campus.
- We will provide students with the opportunity to develop life skills such as: valuing physical activity, healthy food and sleep choices, self-care and advocacy, mindfulness, play and more.
- Interscholastic and wellness programs will be organized and supported in a manner consistent with our commitment to academic excellence, the integrity of ISL member institutions, and the personal growth of students.

## **Interscholastic League Affiliation**

The Independent School League (ISL) and New England Prep School Athletic Conference (NEPSAC): BB&N students are privileged to be a part of the Independent School League. This collection of 16 schools shares the highest ideals of school sports and competes against each other in almost every sport BB&N offers. In addition to the ISL opponents, we schedule contests against other members of the New England Prep School Athletic Conference (NEPSAC) when the level of competition is appropriate for both schools. At the end of the season many teams that have qualified are given the opportunity to compete in the NEPSAC tournaments.

## **ISL Guidelines**

**Sportsmanship Creed:** The ISL is proud of the behavior and sportsmanship displayed by its players, coaches, and fans. We value spirited and fair play as well as positive support for our players and teams. In order to ensure that our expected level of decorum continues each game and each season, we ask that all members of the ISL community continually renew their efforts to abide by the ideals of our league.

Athletic competition in the ISL is guided by the following ideals: Players and coaches shall at all times represent themselves and their school with honor, proper conduct, and good sportsmanship. They shall understand that competitive rivalries are encouraged but that disrespect for opponents is unsportsmanlike and lessens the value of the rivalries. They shall confine the competitiveness of the game to the field, and behave properly on the sidelines and in the locker rooms before, during, and after the games.

**The Players and Coaches:** Players and coaches shall comply fully with the rulings of the officials. In no way, either by voice, action, or gesture, shall they demonstrate their dissatisfaction with the decisions made. Players must never forget that they represent their school.

The Spectators: ISL schools will not tolerate at their athletic contests any spectator, either student or adult, whose behavior is disrespectful toward players, officials, coaches, or other spectators. Nor will ISL schools permit any type of spectator behavior that either detracts from the proper conduct of the game, or serves to place a player or a team at a disadvantage. Some examples of unacceptable behavior are as follows:

- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game;
- Booming or heckling an official's decisions, criticizing officials in any way, or displaying temper with an official's call;
- Trash talk or yells that antagonize opponents;
- Verbal abuse or intimidation tactics;
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs, gestures, signs, posters, or banners;
- Any distracting activity such as yelling, waving arms, feet stomping during an opponent's free-throwing attempts;
- Use of artificial noisemakers of any kind (legitimate pep bands, however, are encouraged).

These guidelines apply equally to players, coaches, and spectators. The ISL asks officials to apply these guidelines strictly, especially with regard to players and coaches.

## **Campus Programs, Offerings and Requirements**

### **Grades K-5 Wellness Philosophy**

Through a balanced and developmentally appropriate curriculum, the wellness program emphasizes a sound mind in a healthy body. We nurture the whole child by teaching the skills and fitness components necessary to enhance health and promote participation in physical activities and sports. In a safe, supportive and fun environment, children are motivated to discover their unique potential and develop a sense of responsibility, respect, and perseverance. Progressively, children learn the elements of teamwork, sportsmanship, and competition as preparation to participate at the Middle School level.

### **K-5 Lower School Program**

Every student in Beginners through Grade 5 participates in a Physical Education class instructed by our faculty. (Every one of our Sixth-Grade students participates in the Grades 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> Middle School Sports Program.)

### **Grades 6-8 Interscholastic Athletics & Non-Interscholastic Activities Philosophy**

In a developmentally appropriate atmosphere and a safety-first environment, students learn about leadership, adversity, teamwork, and self-discipline through participation and competition. We emphasize skill development, sportsmanship, and character development, and believe that our educators best facilitate this by creating a positive and encouraging environment where our students can learn about themselves, their peers, and develop life skills.

### **Grades 6-8 Middle School Program**

Associate Athletic Director, Jaye Locke, oversees the Middle School (Grades 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup>) athletic program. She can be reached at [jlocke@bbns.org](mailto:jlocke@bbns.org).

All students are required to participate in the Middle School athletic program for all three seasons. Student participation on a team sport must yield enough players in order to compete at an interscholastic

level. Practice days are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, immediately following the academic program with end of day pick-up at the Nicholas Athletic Center on the Upper School Campus. Games are typically played on Fridays and alternating Wednesdays with times and locations available seasonally on the website under the Athletics section.

A tryout selection process according to ability will be used when necessary. If cut from a team, an alternate plan will be arranged by the coaches and Associate Director of Athletics at the Middle School. No student will be cut from his or her first choice more than one time throughout the academic year. Additionally, 6th graders are not eligible for 'A' teams. Please refer to the Athletics Waiver Policy as outlined below.

### **Middle School Student Responsibilities**

Attendance at practices and games is required. It is important that each student understands that the team is affected when an athlete misses a practice. We expect students to plan their time around practices and plan ahead for conflicts that may have an impact on the team. Each student is asked to take responsibility for certain equipment/uniforms that belong to the School. Practice and Game schedules can be viewed on the athletic website.

### **Middle School Absence Policy**

#### ***Sports Excuses:***

If a student is unable to participate in sports activity on a particular day, parents should send a note and students must submit the note to the Front Office first thing in the morning. *Our Middle School Nurse communicates directly with the Athletic Trainer and MS Athletic Director and students will be expected to accompany the team but will be excused from activity. Students are allowed sports excuses only for documented illnesses.* For injuries, please contact our Middle School Nurse to make a plan and accommodations. Students who are members of sports teams are expected to play in all the afternoon interscholastic games. In the rare case of a legitimate conflict with a game, families must communicate directly with a coach and the Middle School Athletic Director *at least a week* in advance.

#### ***Participation in School Activities/Performances/Games:***

We expect students who are unwell to stay home and recover properly, and not to return for a game, performance or special event. At the latest, a student should be in School by mid-morning in order to participate in School games, performances, or special events. Any special circumstances, events, or appointments should be approved by the Grade Dean.

### **Middle School Conflict Resolution Policy for Athletics**

1. An athlete and coach should attempt to resolve any issues.
2. If the conflict cannot be resolved between the athlete and coach, the athlete should make an appointment to meet with the Advisor or Associate Director of Athletics at the Middle School.
3. If the problem is still unresolved, then the parent should contact the coach.
4. Only when the problem cannot be resolved with the coach should the parent contact the Director of Athletics.
5. These are the steps to be followed for conflict resolution:
  - a. Athlete – Coach
  - c. Athlete – Advisor or Associate Director of Athletics at the Middle School
  - d. Parent – Coach
  - e. Parent – Associate Director of Athletics at the Middle School

f. Parent – Director of Athletics

*\*Topics that will not be discussed include the following: Playing time, discussions about other student athletes, and game strategies.*

*Situations in Incommunicado - In the event that there is a serious conflict or communication inability between two parties, the process would proceed to the next level.*

### **Anti-Hazing Policy**

Hazing refers to any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or any other person. Copies of legislation regarding hazing are distributed annually to all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. Incidents of hazing must be reported to law enforcement officials.

A link to the School's Anti-Hazing policy can be found on page 14 of the [All School Handbook](#).

### **Additional Information**

A link to the School's Harassment policy can be found on page 13 of the [All School Handbook](#).

[Click here](#) for a link to the School's Anti-Bullying policy.

A link to the School's Child Abuse policy can be found on page 13 of the [All School Handbook](#).

### **Middle School Athletics Waiver Policy**

Students with demonstrated ability and a major commitment to training for a sport or activity that BB&N does not offer (i.e. riding, skiing, swimming, figure skating) may apply for an off-campus Athletic Program Waiver. The Independent School League bylaws state, "Multi-season, single sport: Athletes may not receive credit for participating in a sport (offered) for more than one season in an academic year." All proposals and any additional season requests must be submitted for approval to the Associate Athletic Director for the Middle School by dates published by the athletic department before seasonal tryouts. Seasonal tryout dates will be communicated to students/parents via [www.bbns.org](http://www.bbns.org) and the seasonal Athletic Department Information Letter. Waiver Forms are available online.

If a student is granted a waiver he/ she will be dismissed at the end of the **academic** day and must be picked up from their respective campus (LS for 6<sup>th</sup> graders and MS for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders) at the end of the academic day. Those students who cannot be picked up at the end of the LS or MS academic day will not qualify for a waiver. Students with a Medical Waiver or athletic injury will be dismissed at the end of the academic day unless a rehabilitation program with the BB&N Athletic Trainers is requested and approved.

***\*\*Please note: The Lower School academic day runs longer than the Middle School (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) academic day, therefore, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students may be offered a classroom to study if on athletic waiver, only when such a space is available. Students at the Middle School campus are never offered a space at the end of the academic day if on athletic waiver.\*\****

Middle School No Sports/Mud Weeks

“Mud Week” refers to the dates in between athletic seasons. During these weeks, Seventh and Eighth Graders are often dismissed at 2 p.m. After-School study hall is available until regular dismissal time.

<b>FALL SEASON</b>			
<b>Interscholastic: Boys</b> Cross Country Football Soccer A & B Flag Football (coed)	<b>Interscholastic: Girls</b> Cross Country Field Hockey A & B Soccer A & B Volleyball A & B Flag Football (coed)	<b>Non-Interscholastic: Coed</b> Health & Fitness/Yoga	
<b>WINTER SEASON</b>			
<b>Interscholastic: Boys</b> Basketball A & B Hockey	<b>Interscholastic: Girls</b> Basketball A & B Hockey	<b>Interscholastic: Coed</b> Wrestling	<b>Non-Interscholastic: Coed</b> Health & Fitness/Yoga Rock Climbing Fencing Squash
<b>SPRING SEASON</b>			
<b>Interscholastic: Boys</b> Baseball Lacrosse Tennis	<b>Interscholastic: Girls</b> Softball Lacrosse Tennis	<b>Interscholastic: Coed</b> Track and Field	<b>Non-Interscholastic: Coed</b> Health & Fitness/Yoga Golf Crew

***Reminder: A team sport must yield enough student participation in order to compete at an interscholastic level.***

### **Eighth Grader Varsity Tryout/ Participation Policy**

The following procedure must be followed in order for an eighth grader to become eligible for participation on a Varsity Team with Upper School students. The sequence of events is critical to preserving the integrity of the parents’ and advisor’s decision-making process.

Only Eighth Grade Middle School athletes with exceptional athletic talent will be considered candidates for varsity teams; fundamentally a Middle School student should play with his or her peers, giving directly to the Middle School community. However, in certain cases, when a student’s athletic talent far exceeds that of his or her peers, and playing at the Middle School level might hinder his or her athletic development, the student will be considered a candidate for a varsity team.

The following procedure must be followed in order for an eighth grader to become eligible for participation on a Varsity Team with Upper School students. The sequence of events is critical to preserving the integrity of the parents’ and advisor’s decision-making process.

If an exceptional athlete in good academic standing is identified as a potential Varsity candidate, the following steps must be completed in order for the student to become eligible. The student must be the last to be informed in this process, never before the advisor and parents.

1. The coach informs the Associate Director of Athletics for the middle school of interest in a student-athlete.

(The student needs to show exceptional talent, i.e., plays significantly above his or her age level, and will be a significant contributor or starter/high impact player at the varsity level.)

2. The Associate Director of Athletics informs the Athletic Director and the Middle School Director, who notifies the Grade Dean and Advisor. The following areas are considered:

Academic: The student's profile is reviewed to determine whether the student is in good academic standing;

Social: The student's social/emotional maturity is considered. Any disciplinary record will be reviewed. Given the pace, demand and exposure to older students, the student's ability to comfortably interact with older students will be considered. Time management skills, organization and motivation are all important considerations

3. The latter two confer, and the Advisor:

- a) consults the teachers to assess the student's academic standing,
- b) consults the parents if the general feeling is to move forward,
- c) or conveys reasons to the Middle School Director why the process should not move to the tryout stage.

The Middle School Director confirms the decision with the MS Athletic Director. If the student makes the team, the MS Associate AD will communicate with all parties involved. The MS AD covers details, expectations and transportation issues with the family. The MS AD, with Grade Deans will cover this with the student. If an Eighth Grader makes the varsity team, he/she will be waived from his/her Middle School athletic commitment.

Failure to follow this process—particularly if the student-athlete is prematurely contacted—may result in the student being automatically withdrawn from varsity eligibility for the season.

If the above steps are completed, and the student-athlete has a successful tryout, the student may be a provisional member of a varsity team as long as:

1. The student does not miss any part of the Middle School program (arts, academics and/or Community Time on blue week Wednesdays) more than once (coach/advisor decision at least 24 hours in advance) per season.
2. The student's academic progress is monitored on a regular basis and he/she is deemed to be in good standing (determined by the Grade Dean and Campus Director).
3. The student meets responsibilities (on time, homework, lunch duties, meetings, etc.) and does not incur warning slips or is deemed guilty of behavior inappropriate for someone who has been granted the privilege of playing on a varsity team.

If the above conditions are not met, the Advisor will meet with the Grade Dean, MS Director and MS AD to assess the student's eligibility for the remainder of the season.

In general, it is recommended that involvement be limited to one season. In extremely rare circumstances, a student may be considered for a second season.

### **Upper School Athletics & Wellness Philosophy**

BB&N is committed to serve and direct students along a path that combines their educational pursuits with excellence in their athletic and wellness endeavors. Our purpose is to provide programs and experiences that represent BB&N in an exemplary manner and afford a wide range of students the best opportunity to reach their full potential. In doing so, our programs will: (1) attract educators and students

of the finest quality, (2) provide training that promotes a healthy lifestyle and (3) provide competitive facilities and resources vital for safe and successful learning and training experiences. Our wellness program, available to all students, strives to integrate health, fitness, and experiential education. By developing emotional and social learning, in both the interscholastic and/or wellness setting, students will acquire a variety of life skills such as resiliency, empathy, goal setting and responsible decision-making.

### **Grades 9-12 Upper School Program**

While sub-varsity teams are more developmental in nature, varsity programs are quite competitive. Along with enjoying the sport, playing on a team is a valuable participatory experience for athletes, from being an All-League caliber player or a substitute in a supporting role. At BB&N, athletics are an integral part of a student's curriculum and each student should plan his/her participation with the help of his/her advisor. This discussion will help everyone gain a better understanding of each child's overall School program. The varsity and sub-varsity teams are made up of students who have demonstrated, through a try-out process, that they can successfully and comfortably compete at that level.

### **Upper School Student Responsibilities**

The athletic program strives to teach personal responsibility. Participation on an athletic team is a commitment, a responsibility, and often a requirement. Attendance at practices and games is required. It is important that each student understands that the team is affected when an athlete misses a practice. We expect students to plan their time around practices and plan ahead for conflicts that may have an impact on the team. Information about future events and commitments is readily available at School and students should seek it out. Each student is asked to take responsibility for certain equipment/uniforms that belong to the School.

### **Practice Information**

At the beginning of each season, the School is given a designated date before which official practice/tryouts cannot begin. Each Varsity Head Coach determines the exact starting date for his or her team. These dates are established in consideration of our league guidelines and with reasonable breaks between seasons.

The parent information letter, posted on the BB&N Athletics Web Page, will clearly outline all pre-season requirements. Varsity teams are often expected to practice during vacations. During winter and spring breaks, one week is reserved for practice while the other is designated as a non-practice period.

*The players* initiate Upper School Pre-Season Optional Workouts in order to prepare players for the tryout stage of the season. Open field and gym space will be available for all players to use. Head Varsity Coaches should in no way emphasize/ organize any workouts. These sessions are not required.

All-School Weekly Practice Schedules are posted and made available the Thursday prior to the week of practice. We attempt to maintain some consistency to the routine, but scheduling three levels of competition to play home or away on different days, as well as fall and spring rescheduling, always make things complex as well as lively. A copy of the practice schedule is available on the team pages.

### **Location of Practices and Games**

A list of the facilities where our students practice and play home games and directions to the schools we compete against are available online at [www.bbns.org](http://www.bbns.org) or the host school's web site.



**Athletic Transportation Policy and Practice**

The Athletic Department provides transportation to all sanctioned athletic practices and games that require transportation. All student athletes must take the transportation provided by BB&N. However, student athletes will be permitted to drive their own vehicle to scheduled practices off campus if the following conditions are met: a request is made in writing by the student athlete to the athletic director; parents of the student athlete have provided their permission in writing; and the student athlete and parents acknowledge that no other students (other than sibling(s)) are permitted to ride in the vehicle to or from practice. All student athletes must take the BB&N transportation to all games, with no exceptions. However, student athletes will be permitted to be released to their parents/caregivers after the game.

**Lockers, Equipment, Uniforms**

Every student will be assigned a gym locker. It is required that students store all of their athletic belongings in their locker. Locks are available for purchase in the equipment room. The School is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Some equipment is issued to athletes for their use during the season, with the expectation that such equipment will be returned at the end of the season. Uniforms are issued at the beginning of each season and are to be returned at the end of each season. Athletes who do not return issued uniforms or equipment within two weeks after the end of the season will be billed for the replacement cost of each item.

Items that are returned after billing may be eligible for a refund or credit, subject to a non-refundable processing and ordering fee of \$25.

**Requirements**

Students in Grades 9 – 11 must participate in the Athletics Program for three seasons each year. Students in Grade 12 must participate in the Athletics Program for at least two seasons. Students in Grade 10 and 11 who participate in two interscholastic sports may take the third season off. During Grade 9, students must participate in interscholastic sports for at least two seasons. By the end of Grade 10, students must participate in at least three interscholastic sports in total. Students new to the School in Grade 10 must participate in at least two interscholastic sports within the academic year. Participation in a school theatrical production meets the interscholastic sport requirement for one season per year.

FALL SEASON		
Interscholastic: Boys	Interscholastic: Girls	Non-Interscholastic: Coed
Cross Country V, JV Football V, JV Soccer V, JV, 3	Cross Country V, JV Field Hockey V, JV Soccer V, JV, 3	Game Manager Health and Fitness Sculling

Team Manager	Volleyball V, JV Team Manager	Strength and Conditioning	
<b>WINTER SEASON</b>			
<b>Interscholastic: Boys</b>  Basketball V, JV, 3 Fencing V Hockey V, JV Team Manager	<b>Interscholastic: Girls</b>  Basketball V, JV, 3 Fencing V Hockey V, JV Team Manager	<b>Interscholastic: Coed</b>  Squash V Team Manager Wrestling V, JV	<b>Non-Interscholastic: Coed</b>  Game Manager Health and Fitness Rock Climbing Strength and Conditioning
<b>SPRING SEASON</b>			
<b>Interscholastic: Boys</b>  Baseball V, JV Lacrosse V, JV Crew V, JV Tennis V, JV Team Manager	<b>Interscholastic: Girls</b>  Softball V, JV Lacrosse V, JV Crew V, JV Tennis V, JV Team Manager	<b>Interscholastic: Coed</b>  Sailing V Golf V, JV Track and Field, V Team Manager	<b>Non-Interscholastic: Coed</b>  Game Manager Health and Fitness Strength and Conditioning

***For interscholastic teams, a tryout process will be used if necessary. Each team must have at least the required number of players in order to compete at an interscholastic level. If there are an insufficient number of players, the team will not be offered.***

## **Program Descriptions**

### *Game Manager (Grades 10 – 12)*

Game Managers assist the Athletics Department in a variety of ways, such as running a game clock, setting up equipment prior to a game, keeping a scorebook, and helping with field cleanup following a game. Students who wish to be Game Managers are assigned by the Athletics Department to attend a variety of games based on the needs of the department. The time commitment is typically between four and six hours per week. Students may enroll in either the Team Manager or Game Manager program for only one season per academic year.

### *Health and Fitness (Grades 9 – 12)*

Offered all three seasons, the Health and Fitness course emphasizes the concept of a sound mind in a healthy body. Through this individualized program, students participate in physical training based on their needs and interests and develop their mental and physical potential through relaxation and exercise. Students learn to create a balance between the four pillars of health: getting enough sleep, eating nutritious, healthy, and delicious food, exercising to power up the body and mind, and dealing positively with stress.

Students in Grades 10 – 12 attend four classes per week during the regular academic day. Students in Grade 9 attend four after-school classes per week (Monday – Thursday), each lasting for one hour. These include one yoga class, one class devoted to nutrition and principles of training, and two classes of physical conditioning.

#### *Rock Climbing (Grades 9 – 12)*

Offered in the winter, this course provides students with instruction on climbing and belaying. Students attend three after-school classes per week, each lasting two hours. The School provides all equipment as well as transportation to and from the facility (Central Rock Gym in Watertown). Enrollment in this course is limited; preference is given to students in Grade 12.

#### *Sculling (Grades 9 – 12)*

Offered in the fall, this course is intended for students who are novices in the sport of sculling and wish to improve their skills under the guidance of experienced rowing coaches. Students attend three after-school classes each week (Monday – Thursday), each lasting 90 minutes. Practices occur in the Fitness Center and on the Charles River, rowing out of the BB&N Boathouse. No previous rowing experience is necessary.

#### *Strength and Conditioning (Grades 10 – 12)*

Offered all three seasons, the Strength and Conditioning course is designed for students who are preparing for and aspiring to play on a varsity team. Topics that are taught include strength training, conditioning, speed development, and agility training. Students attend three after-school classes per week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). Enrollment is limited to students in Grades 10 – 12.

#### *Team Manager (Grades 10 – 12)*

Team Managers are assigned by the Athletics Department to assist a specific athletics team. Responsibilities may include attending all home games and some practices, and traveling with the team to away games. Additional responsibilities may include transporting the medical kit, providing water bottles, keeping a scorebook, and other tasks as assigned by coaches. The time commitment is typically between six and ten hours per week. Students may enroll in either the Team Manager or Game Manager program for only one season per academic year.

### **Alternative Activities - Waiver for Athletic Independent Activity**

Athletic Independent Activity: Students with demonstrated ability, history of participation, and a major commitment to training for a sport or activity that BB&N does not offer (e.g., riding, skiing, swimming, figure skating), may apply for a Waiver for Athletic Independent Activity. All Waivers for Independent Activity (WIA) Forms must be submitted to the Athletics Department no later than 30 days prior to the first day of sports for that season. The committee will review all WIA Forms and notify students prior to the start of the athletics season if the activity is approved. WIA Forms are available in the Athletics Department Office and on the School's website.

Note that the Independent School League Bylaws state, "Multi-season, single sport: Athletes may not receive credit for participating in a sport (offered) for more than one season in an academic year." For example, a student who participates in soccer may not also receive athletics credit for participation in a club soccer program.

### **Other Independent Activities**

#### *Afternoon Arts*

Students who have a true interest in art may participate in the Afternoon Arts program two days per week (Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.) For students in Grade 9, this option is only available during the winter or spring season. Participation in Afternoon Arts receives 0.25 arts credits for each trimester and must be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season.

#### *Artistic Activity*

Students with a major commitment and demonstrated ability in the arts (Grades 9 – 12), including in-school technical theater and drama, may apply for a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity. All Waivers for Independent Activity (WIA) Forms must be submitted to the Head of the Arts Department no later than the first week of seasonal tryouts. The committee will review all WIA Forms and notify students if the activity is approved. WIA Forms are available in the Athletics Department Office and on the School's website.

*Students in Grades 10 – 12 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least one other season per academic year. Students in Grade 9 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least two other seasons per academic year.*

#### *Service Learning*

Students in Grades 10 – 12 with a significant interest in pursuing a specific commitment to Community Service may apply for a Season of Service Learning in lieu of one athletics season per academic year. Students must demonstrate significant dedication to their area of interest through a documented commitment of 40 hours during the season. At the end of the service, students will be required to write a 500-word reflective essay.

Season of Service Learning Proposal Forms must be submitted to a Service Learning Co-Coordinator during the first week of seasonal tryouts or sooner. The proposals are reviewed individually and approved by the Service Learning Co-Coordinators. Season of Service Learning Proposal Forms are available on the BB&N Community Service website as well as in the Service Learning Co-Coordinators' offices.

#### *Math Team*

The Math Team meets after school two times per week during the fall and winter seasons. Students can participate in the Math Team for either the fall or winter season and must take two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season.

#### *Robotics Team*

The Robotics Team meets daily during the fall trimester. Students who wish to participate on the Robotics Team are exempt from the athletics requirement for the fall season.

### **All-School Coaching Guide**

BB&N draws its coaches from the faculty as well as from off-campus. We expect our coaches to present themselves in a manner that will earn the respect of players and spectators. We want our coaches to model the same standards of behavior and sportsmanship that we expect from our students. The expectation of each coach is that they are sensitive to the needs of individual students while keeping the goals and interests of the team and School in mind.

The coach is the key contact person for your child's athletic program. Questions and messages regarding games, equipment, absences, or lateness should all be directed to the coach. Direct communication between athletes and their coaches fosters a greater sense of student responsibility and independence than

having parents act as go-betweens. A list of Head Coaches and their email information is provided at the end of this handbook. That list also will be provided to families through an information letter sent prior to each athletic season.

### **Upper School Conflict Resolution Policy for Athletics**

1. The athlete should discuss the issue within the team; the team leader might facilitate this. The team leader might also offer to go with the athlete in conflict to the coach.
2. An athlete and coach should attempt to resolve any issues.
3. If the conflict cannot be resolved between the athlete and coach, the athlete should make an appointment to meet with the Director of Athletics.
4. If the problem is still unresolved, then the parent should contact the coach.
5. Only when the problem cannot be resolved with the coach should the parent contact the Director of Athletics.
6. These are the steps to be followed for conflict resolution:
  - a. Athlete – Captain/Team Leader
  - b. Athlete – Coach
  - c. Athlete – Director of Athletics
  - d. Parent – Coach
  - e. Parent – Director of Athletics

*\*Topics that will not be discussed include the following: Playing time, discussions about other student athletes, and game strategies.*

*Situations in Incommunicado - In the event that there is a serious conflict or communication inability between two parties, the process would proceed to the next level.*

### **Upper School Policy for the Addition and/or Deletion of Teams**

Adding or deleting teams at BB&N should be a thoughtful and thorough process. Therefore, creating a committee to conduct a purposeful study of such requests is vital. The Athletic Director is the chair of the committee, which is composed of adults from athletics, the upper school and middle school academic offices, and a representative from the CFO's office.

*Please note the steps below.*

1. The committee will review the following criteria for decision-making. They include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Substantial stakeholder interest
  - b. Budget implications
  - c. Facility implications
  - d. Transportation implications
  - e. Other resource implications
  - f. Impact to other BB&N teams
  - g. Impact to the Independent School League (ISL)
2. Consult with others, as needed, such as the Finance/Business Manager, opposing schools and greater community to gather more information.
3. After weighing the implications, make the appropriate recommendation to the Head of School for the final decision.

### **Athletic Health and Safety Policies 2019-2010**

**Health Requirements:**

The following items are required in order to participate in athletics:

1. Completion of All necessary online student health forms and an annual physical exam.
2. Completion of baseline ImPact concussion test.
3. Completion of online Pre-Participation Exam Form (PPE).

**Communication:**

In order to ensure a safe environment for your child, medical information relevant to the student’s health and safety is communicated to school staff on a “need to know” basis, as determined by the Athletic Trainers and School Nurses.

Certified athletic trainers are present at all on-campus contests and practices, with effective access to peripheral fields. Parents are required to report all injuries, illnesses, and/or other health conditions to the Athletic Training Staff / or Campus Nurses as soon as possible. Athletic Trainers will work in conjunction with campus nurses and outside health care professionals to ensure optimal care for your child.

When enlisting private health services, please ask your health care provider to provide in writing: a diagnosis, treatment plan, and clear parameters for return to activity. Student athletes cannot return to team practice or play without this information. Athletes must also have a minimum of one BB&N team practice supervised by our Athletic Training Staff before returning to game play.

BB&N Athletic Trainers will notify parents of any significant athletic injury or if a student athlete may need further evaluation or monitoring.

All parents and spectators must remain off all playing surfaces during practices and games. In the event of a significant injury, parents will be notified on the sidelines whenever possible.

If you have questions, concerns or information regarding your child’s health or injury status, please do not hesitate to contact the Athletic Training Staff.

Please use the following link to access the School’s Life Threatening Allergy Policy on page 8 of the [All School Handbook](#).

**Head Injury Policy:** Please refer to the Student Health and Wellness Policies on page 6 of the [All School Handbook](#).

**Mouth Guard Policy:**

Mouth guards are a required and mandatory piece of equipment for all students grades 5-12 when participating in Field Hockey, Boys’ & Girls’ Ice Hockey, Boys’ & Girls’ Lacrosse. It will also be mandatory for 5th and 6th Grade Floor Hockey and Free Skate. Mouth guards are available at the Athletic Center, or at local Sporting Goods Stores. Please note that students will not be allowed to participate in athletics without a properly fitted mouth guard.

**Medical Waivers:**

If your child is unable to participate in athletics due to extended illness or injury, please submit medical documentation to the Athletic Training Staff from the treating physician including; diagnosis, period of time, and plan of care. Medical Waiver information will be communicated to school staff on a “need to know” basis.

### **ISL Statement Regarding Drugs, Medication or Food Supplements**

The schools in the ISL agree that school personnel and coaches should not dispense any drug, medication, or food supplement except with extreme caution and in accordance with policies developed in consultation with parents, health-care professionals, and senior administrative personnel of the school.

Use of any drug, medication, or food supplement in a way not prescribed by the manufacturer should not be authorized or encouraged by school personnel and coaches. Even natural substances in unnatural amounts may have negative short-term or long-term health effects.

In order to minimize health and safety risks to student/athletes, maintain ethical standards, and reduce liability risks, school personnel and coaches should never supply, recommend, or permit the use of any drug, medication, or food supplement solely for performance-enhancing purposes.

### **Anti-Hazing Policy**

Hazing refers to any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or any other person. Copies of legislation regarding hazing are distributed annually to all Upper School students. Incidents of hazing must be reported to law enforcement officials. A link to the School’s Anti-Hazing policy can be found on page 14 of the [All School Handbook](#).

### **Additional Information**

A link to the School’s Harassment policy can be found on page 13 of the [All School Handbook](#).

[Click here](#) to view the School’s Anti-Bullying policy.

A link to the School’s Child Abuse policy can be found on page 13 of the [All School Handbook](#).

**Web Site:** BB&N’s website ([www.bbns.org](http://www.bbns.org)) has a specific section dedicated to the Athletic Program. The web site includes permanent information as well as data which is continually updated, such as:

- Team schedules
- Team results
- Weekly practice schedules
- Directions to away games
- Links to opponent web pages

### **Parking**

- Students are not allowed to park in the Athletic Center parking lot at any time. Students who choose to do so will be towed.
- Parents should park only in clearly marked Athletic Center and Upper School lot spaces.
- No parking on the hill or in front of the Forbes House without a designated sticker.
- No parking in the handicapped spaces without a handicapped parking placard.

- No standing or stopping in the Athletic Center Parking Lot, or along the driveway.
- No parking on Greenough Boulevard; Buses only.

### **Program Contact Information**

For questions about a program, the primary contact is listed below. Coaches can be reached via email.

#### **Fall**

Football	Varsity	Mike Willey	<a href="mailto:mwilley@bbns.org">mwilley@bbns.org</a>
Boys' Soccer	Varsity	Jesse Sarzana '93	<a href="mailto:jsarzana@bbns.org">jsarzana@bbns.org</a>
Girls' Soccer	Varsity	Graeme Blackman '10	<a href="mailto:gblackman@bbns.org">gblackman@bbns.org</a>
Field Hockey	Varsity	Jaye Locke	<a href="mailto:jlocke@bbns.org">jlocke@bbns.org</a>
Volleyball	Varsity	Jeff Emenaker	<a href="mailto:jemenaker@att.net">jemenaker@att.net</a>
X-Country	Varsity	Charlie O'Rourke	<a href="mailto:corourke@bbns.org">corourke@bbns.org</a>

#### **Winter**

Boys' Hockey	Varsity	Anthony Moccia '10	<a href="mailto:amoccia@bbns.org">amoccia@bbns.org</a>
Girls' Hockey	Varsity	Ed Bourget '96	<a href="mailto:ebourget@bbns.org">ebourget@bbns.org</a>
Boys' Basketball	Varsity	Al Myles	<a href="mailto:amyles@bbns.org">amyles@bbns.org</a>
Girls' Basketball	Varsity	Kindyll Dorsey	<a href="mailto:kdorsey@bbns.org">kdorsey@bbns.org</a>
Wrestling	Varsity	Henri Kasdon	<a href="mailto:hkasdon@bbns.org">hkasdon@bbns.org</a>
Fencing	Varsity	David Sach	<a href="mailto:davidsach@bostonfencingclub.org">davidsach@bostonfencingclub.org</a>
Squash	Varsity	Chessin Gerrin	<a href="mailto:chessin@infinitumsquash.com">chessin@infinitumsquash.com</a>

#### **Spring**

Baseball	Varsity	Craig McLaughlin	<a href="mailto:cmclaughlin@bbns.org">cmclaughlin@bbns.org</a>
Softball	Varsity	Paige Kemezis	<a href="mailto:pkemezis@bbns.org">pkemezis@bbns.org</a>
		Beth McNamara	<a href="mailto:bmcnamara@bbns.org">bmcnamara@bbns.org</a>
Boys' Lacrosse	Varsity	Rory Morton '81	<a href="mailto:rmorton@bbns.org">rmorton@bbns.org</a>
		Mike Derrenberger	<a href="mailto:mderrenberger@bbns.org">mderrenberger@bbns.org</a>
Girls' Lacrosse	Varsity	Sydney Thomas	<a href="mailto:stthomas81993@yahoo.com">stthomas81993@yahoo.com</a>
Boys' Crew	Varsity	Adam Holland	<a href="mailto:aholland@bbns.org">aholland@bbns.org</a>
Girls' Crew	Varsity	John Cotter	<a href="mailto:jcotter@bbns.org">jcotter@bbns.org</a>
Boys' Tennis	Varsity	Joe Finelli	<a href="mailto:finelli.joe@gmail.com">finelli.joe@gmail.com</a>
Girls' Tennis	Varsity	Carrie Closuit	<a href="mailto:carrieclosuit@gmail.com">carrieclosuit@gmail.com</a>
Sailing	Varsity	Judith Krimski	<a href="mailto:jkrimski@bbns.org">jkrimski@bbns.org</a>
Golf	Varsity	Keaghan Kelley	<a href="mailto:kkelley@bbns.org">kkelley@bbns.org</a>

### **BB&N's Athletic Fields**

#### **On Campus:**

- Franke Field — Gerry's Landing Campus
- Nichols Field — Gerry's Landing Campus
- Shady Hill Field – next to Franke Field

#### **Off Campus:**

- Buckingham Field — Fresh Pond Parkway between Huron Avenue and the Concord Rotary
- Boathouse — Directly across Gerry's Landing Road from the Upper School.



*\*Varsity Races are held between Weeks Footbridge and Magazine Beach – Riverside Boat Club. Sub-varsity races are held up river between Northeastern Boathouse and Eliot Bridge*

-Boston Fencing Club — 100 Holton St., Brighton, MA

-Central Rock Gym — 74 Acton St., Watertown, MA

-Charlestown Navy Yard — The sailing team sails at the Courageous Sailing Center.

-Fresh Pond Reservoir —

*\*Cross Country races are held along the path. Entrance is on Fresh Pond Parkway, the first left just beyond Huron Avenue traveling outbound toward Arlington.*

-Harvard Murr Center — 65 N. Harvard St., Boston, MA