

# Lucy Beckham High School



## **Athletic Department Rules and Policies**

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## **I. The Privilege of Participation**

When you become a Lucy Beckham High School (LBHS) student-athlete you become a member of a family that carries with it an enormous amount of responsibility.

### **Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right.**

School officials may revoke a student's privilege of participation when they determine that the student's continued participation is not consistent with the high standards of conduct expected of all participants. Whenever a student violates this code of conduct, the student is subject to losing the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities.

## **II. Eligibility to Participate**

### **Academic Requirements**

1. An athlete must be a full-time student as determined by the State Department of Education. The student must be enrolled at LBHS or one of our feeder schools (Laing or Moultrie). SC High School League rules allow students residing in our attendance zone to compete (Charter or Magnet Schools). Home schooled students are given the same benefit. Specific eligibility criteria apply for these students. Contact the Athletic Director to explore these options.
2. A student who becomes 19 years of age prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> will not be eligible to compete in any athletic activities.
3. Once a student enters ninth grade, the student will have four successive years in which to participate provided they do not exceed the age requirement.
4. A student must have an overall passing average in addition to the following:
  - a. To be eligible for the first semester, a student must pass a minimum of 5 Carnegie Units toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least 2 units must be passed during the second semester or summer school.
  - b. To be eligible for the second semester, a student must meet one of the following:
    - i. If the student met the first semester requirements, they must pass the equivalent of 2 Carnegie Units or its equivalent during the first semester.
    - ii. If the student did not meet the first semester eligibility requirements, they must pass the equivalent of 2.5 Carnegie Units during the first semester.

**Transfer:** A transfer student is defined by the SC High School League as any student who did not attend school the previous year at LBHS or one of our feeder schools (Laing or Moultrie). If you are a transfer student, immediately contact the Athletic Director so that eligibility can be determined based on compliance with the SCHSL transfer rule.

**Residency:** A residency affidavit must be completed at the beginning of the year to ensure those who are to attend LBHS are verified before being able to participate in athletics.

**PlanetHS (BigTeams):** This is the method for completing all required athletic forms in order to participate in any school athletic program. Both students and parents will have to create accounts, then link them together in order to finish the forms. Students must use their student email to create their account. PlanetHS (BigTeams) registration must be completed by the parents and the student-athlete **before** the student-athlete is able to participate in tryouts or athletics.

## Instructions for Using PlanetHS/BigTeams

1. Go to [www.PlanetHS.com](http://www.PlanetHS.com) (BigTeams)
2. Parent and student sign up for separate accounts.
3. Log in to the parent account and click on the Athletic Forms tab, then click the drop down link, Athletic Participation.
4. Next click on the "link accounts" link.
5. Click link to Link Student Account and enter the student email address associated with your child's [planeths.com](http://planeths.com) (BigTeams) account.
6. Log out of the parent account and into the student [planeths.com](http://planeths.com) account. Open the student email used to sign up for [planeths.com](http://planeths.com) (BigTeams), click on the invitation link in the email from [planeths.com](http://planeths.com) (BigTeams). This will take the student back to [planeths.com](http://planeths.com)(BigTeams) where they can approve the link from the parent.
7. If you are unsuccessful, make sure the student is logged into [planeths.com](http://planeths.com) (BigTeams), follow steps 3-5 above, and approve the link (if the email doesn't take you directly to the approval link in [planeths.com](http://planeths.com)) (BigTeams).
8. Once accounts are linked, the parent and the student have access to the forms, fill in appropriate info and sign and submit forms. You must upload the physical exam form that was signed by the doctor and the birth certificate. All other forms are completed electronically.
9. You can also download the PlanetHS.com (BigTeams) app on your smartphone to sign up, submit, and upload required Athletics documents.
10. When both the student and parent sections of the forms are completed, your school athletic director will be able to check them to make sure everything complies with eligibility for participation.

Forms that are included on PlanetHS (BigTeams) that are required:

- **Physical Examination:** Sports physicals must be dated after April 1<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for the next school year. *For example, a physical dated April 1, 2023 makes the student-athlete eligible for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- **Birth Certificate:** Must be uploaded.
- **Emergency Medical Authorization:** Each athlete's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall complete this form giving permission for treatment by a physician or at a hospital when the parent(s)/guardian(s) are not available.
- **Insurance:** All athletes are required to purchase "Accident Insurance" as provided by CCSD to cover possible injuries sustained while playing a sport for LBHS. The fee is \$55 and can be paid on Revtrak at <https://lucybeckham.revtrak.net/>. This insurance will be purchased for each school year.
- **Code of Conduct:** A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the athletic department and school. The school administration, faculty, and coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program. The welfare of the student is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration. All students shall abide by a code of ethics which will earn them honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic activity program

affords. Any conduct which results in dishonor to the athlete, the team, the school, or the community will not be tolerated. Electronically signed and dated.

### **III. Basic Athletic Participation Policies:**

- **Equipment:** School issued equipment is the student's responsibility. The student is financially responsible for lost or damaged equipment.
- **Attendance:** Students must be in school the day of a game or practice to participate. The students are required to be at practice to participate in games. A pattern of unexcused absences from school or practice may result in dismissal from the team.
- Students who quit a sport midseason will not be allowed to join another team or try-out for another sport until the former season has ended.
- Students will not be permitted to participate in another "school sanctioned" sport while their current "school sanctioned" sport is still in season. There will be a separate tryout for those athletes.

### **IV. Code of Conduct for all Student Athletes**

An extracurricular athletic activity often entails activities of public interest, visibility, and focus of attention. Students who take part in such activities, in effect, serve as special ambassadors of Lucy Beckham High School. Consequently, the behavior of those students who choose to participate in these activities draws such public interest and attention that it is unique in its capacity to elevate or diminish CCSD and LBHS standing in the public mind. Strong public education programs cannot exist without strong public support. Therefore, all students participating in extracurricular activities who are charged by law enforcement authorities with criminal conduct or who engage in other acts of "gross misbehavior", e.g.

- (A) possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances at school or at school-sponsored activities,
- (B) acts of disrespect to a teacher or other school authority,
- (C) acts of cruelty or violence either physical or emotional,
- (D) use of profane or vulgar language shall,

at the discretion of the principal, be subject to suspension and/or possible exclusion from participation in extracurricular activities.

**Ethics Rule:** Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to disruption of school, theft, vandalism, disrespect, cheating, dishonesty, or violation of the law tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the program and will not be tolerated.

**Social Media:** Lucy Beckham High School Athletic Department recognizes a student-athletes' right to participate in social media, however, student-athletes will be responsible for anything that appears under your profiles. Presence on social media is a representation of the athlete, the team, LBHS and CCSD. The guidelines that govern student actions while on and off school grounds will also apply to profiles and posts on the internet and social media applications. The student could be held responsible for anything that is deemed improper or unacceptable behavior according to school policies governing student conduct and behavior.

**Hazing and Bullying:** Lucy Beckham High School has a zero-tolerance policy on hazing and bullying. This includes initiation rituals, sexual harassment and any activity/behavior which serves to humiliate, demean, and devalue the worth of another individual or student-athlete. The protection of every

individual's basic rights and the provision of a safe and non-threatening environment are essential. LBHS prohibits hazing, bullying or team bonding activities that subject students to mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule.

**Training Rules and Regulations:** The student-athlete who uses tobacco, alcohol, illegal or non-prescribed drugs, or any type of mood-altering substance found in legal over-the-counter products, jeopardizes team morale, team reputation and team success as well as does physical harm to themselves. Students must decide for themselves whether or not they want to participate in our athletic programs. Students who wish to participate must make a commitment. A large part of this commitment is following a simple set of training rules.

*The rules regarding the use of tobacco, vaping, alcohol and/or drugs are in effect all year – in and out of season, 24/7, 365 days a year.*

*These violations will affect an athlete's IN-SEASON (begins the first day of practice and concludes with the last day of practice) and OUT-OF-SEASON (covers all other periods of the school year and summer months) ability to participate and compete.*

**For any of the incidences mentioned above, the following offenses will be assigned. Depending on the severity of the infraction, the Principal, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director can increase the penalties.**

- **1st Offense:** The student shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities for not less than five (5) consecutive school days. If the offense involves use or possession of a controlled substance, the student is referred to the CCSD ADAPT program and must complete the program. If, at any point, the student fails to follow all rules and regulations for attendance and participation in the program, he/she will immediately become ineligible to participate in any activity until the program is fully and successfully completed.
- **2nd Offense:** The student shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. If the second offense occurs with less than nine (9) weeks remaining in the school year, the principal may extend the extracurricular suspension period to include the first nine (9) weeks grading period of the ensuing school year.

**Felony Criminal Charges:** Charges of 700 criminal offenses brought by law enforcement shall result in immediate ineligibility from all extracurricular activities for a calendar year from the date of the charge. If a student is found not guilty of such charges, he/she shall be eligible, following review by the principal, for immediate reinstatement. If a charge brought forth by law enforcement is of high and serious nature, but may not be classified as a felony, the charge may be determined, by review of the principal, to be treated just as a felony for purposes of this rule. Any violation of this rule under a court ordered penalty or performance obligation (i.e. pre-trial intervention) of some kind would render the student ineligible, as the rule should apply, until the court order has been fully satisfied.

**Alternative Placement:** If a student is suspended, placed at an alternative program such as TPA or Daniel Jenkins (virtual or face-to-face), excluded from the regular school setting, or expelled from the school district, the student is not eligible to be on any school district property other than the location specified to obtain educational services as outlined in placement documentation. The student is not eligible to attend events on any district properties; therefore, the student is not eligible to participate in extracurricular activities including out-of-season workouts during the suspension, alternative placement, exclusion, or expulsion period.