



Hettinger-Scranton Nighthawk Football



Welcome to Nighthawk Football! As student-athletes, you must be willing to accept high standards of behavior in the classroom, community and playing field. **Nighthawk Football players will be held accountable for all rules and regulations posted in the school student handbook, state rules specific to participation in athletics, as well as team standards which will set them apart as good citizens and men.** We firmly believe that our athletes have the responsibility to serve as leaders and positive role models for their peers. They should set an example of appropriate conduct and cooperation in our schools and towns.

To make this plan work; we will need the help, support, and trust of our parents and players. We realize that players are going to make mistakes. Our role as coaches will be to guide them to be more successful. As a player, you will be expected to go beyond the expectations of regular students. In addition to the rules and regulations posted in student and athletic handbooks, we will incorporate the traditional standards of Nighthawk Football concerning attendance, punctuality, maintenance of equipment/locker room and academics. Senior players on the team know the tradition of the program and will be called on to mentor the next generation.

Travel and Absences

With each school having to travel to practice, it is up to the athletes to be on time for the bus. Take it upon yourself to make sure all your fellow players know what the practice plan is.

A missed practice without contacting a coach will constitute an unexcused absence and result in discipline. Practices that are missed may come with extra conditioning. For your absence to be excused, you must provide a doctor's/dentist/family note or phone call for the absence. Family emergency, illness, or tragedy are excused, and any support you need will be given.

Gear and Maintenance

Your equipment will remain in your possession, and it is your responsibility to maintain it throughout the season. If you need fixes throughout the year, ask. During the season players are to clean their equipment as necessary to keep a clean and sanitary environment. You are responsible for replacing gear that has been lost or damaged outside of football activities.

Bullying, Hazing and Locker rooms

Bullying and hazing, in any form, is never allowed. Hazing can be considered harassment and often can be a legal violation. Stealing is a crime; if you steal from someone in the locker room, you will be legally accountable for the theft. All punishments will be left to the coach's discretion.

Player Expectations

1. Adhere to all school & team policies: Do what is right: follow the handbooks and traditions.
2. It takes no talent to be on time, give effort, follow directions, communicate, care for gear.
3. Be accountable to your teammates. Be a good teammate. Care for each other. Respect all.
4. Maintain a level of respect for teammates, coaches, opposing teams both online and in the real world. Be mindful of your social media conduct and what you put out for others to see.

Parent Expectations

1. Understand that when we correct your child, it is not personal. We are fixing the action with the best interest of the player and team in mind. We are all striving for improvement.
2. Please respect the choices coaches make. We do our best to create a successful team.
3. Criticize coaches privately. We will be happy to address issues **24 hours** after a game. This gives both sides time to cool off and gather thoughts. Your opinion is valued. Doing this in front of players and fans does nothing to help our program.
4. **Support your son.** They need you to stay positive and give constant encouragement. Even though sometimes they may not show it, they listen to you, and you influence them.
5. Arrange for timely pickup of your son. We don't always know exactly when we will be back from a road game, but most players have access to a phone to text updates.

We know that you want the very best for your child. We do too! We will always try to make the best decisions based on the knowledge we have acquired and hopefully achieve a balance between what is best for your child and the team. We want you to be involved, but it is crucial that you distance yourself in specific ways. Let the coaches coach, officials call the game, and the players play. Your role as a parent is to support your child, support our team, and stay positive.

We want your son to advocate for himself. They need to speak to us first about their concerns. This is typically the best growing experience a player can have during their career in high school. It encourages maturity and accountability. Our staff will be honest and positive with the player. We will also develop a plan of action to correct any concerns addressed.

Agreement

By signing my signature below, I now agree with the team rules and expectations. I know that when I take the field, I represent all those that came before me and those that will come after me. Now it is my time in the Nighthawk legacy. I vow that before I leave, history will remember me as a champion both on and off the field of play.

Player Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

--Please return the whole form signed and dated to Coach LeFebre by August 12th--