

Taconic Hills Athletics



Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is the Taconic Hills School District's philosophy on student athlete participation in sports? *We believe that athletics provides opportunities for growth in areas of responsibility, sportsmanship, integrity, leadership, and teamwork. Our coaches do their best to give all student athletes the opportunity to play on a sports team. However, there is never a guarantee of playing time and participation varies per team level. The main focus should be on being part of a team, no matter what your role, and supporting all to reach their fullest potential.*

2. What is required in order for my child to participate in a school sponsored sport? *The parent needs to register their child on Family ID for each sports season within 30 days of the first practice. The student athlete must have a current physical completed by their physician. Our school nurse will approve registrations after reviewing all health information.*

3. What is expected of my son or daughter if he or she joins a sports team?

Each student-athlete who joins a sports team is expected to demonstrate a certain level of commitment by attending all practices scheduled by the team's coach. Athletes are expected to participate to the fullest of their abilities while playing in a sportsmanlike manner.

4. Can a 7th or 8th grader play on a JV or Varsity team? *Yes but the student athlete must be approved through the athletic placement process. A parental permission form must be signed, a maturity rating must be completed by your physician, an evaluation must be completed by the coach and in most situations, the student athlete must pass 4 out of 5 parts of a physical fitness test. Contact the athletic director at least one month prior to the start of the season to begin the process and obtain the necessary documents.*

5. When is the fitness test for the athletic placement process given? *The test is typically given the last week of school for the fall season, the last week in October for the winter season and the last week in February for the spring season.*

6. Can a student athlete play in more than one sport during the same season?

Student-athletes are permitted to play on more than one sports team at a time with permission of each coach and provided that game schedules do not overlap. The student athlete must declare which sport is their main focus and in the event of a conflict, they must compete with that team. Student-athletes must complete the minimum number of practices required by NYSPHSAA for each sport

7. Can I drive my son or daughter to games? *Athletes must ride the bus with the team to the game location. Exceptions, due to extenuating circumstances, may be granted by administration or the athletic director.*

8. Does my son or daughter have to ride the bus after games? *No. Parents or legal guardians may sign out their child with the coach. Your child may also ride home with those adults listed in Family ID or if a note was provided for approval by administration or the Athletic Director 24 hours in advance. Without advance notice, we may not have the time to get the information to the coach. The coach cannot release your child to anyone without permission. Permission cannot be granted over the phone.*

9. My child is showing signs of a concussion. What do I do? *If the injury occurred during a game or practice, the coach will notify you and provide you with a report to give to your doctor. Your child should be examined by your physician or the ER asap. If diagnosed with a concussion, please ask your doctor when your child can begin return to play protocol. This is a 6 day process to gradually introduce your child safely back into activity.*

10. I disagree with the amount of playing time my child is receiving. How do I handle it? *Playing time is at the discretion of the coach. Encourage your child to speak with the coach and ask what he or she needs to improve upon.*

11. How do I find out about game cancellations? *You can subscribe to notifications from Schedule Galaxy for your child's team sport. Text message alerts will be sent home but these messages go to the primary contact listed in School tool. Announcements are made asap in school and in many cases, students will and should also notify their parents.*

12. Can I volunteer to be an assistant coach? *Parents may volunteer to keep score or stats. However, if you want to coach and attend practices, you must have*

a completed the coaching requirements set by the New York Education Department.

13. My child is not going to be in school. Can he or she still participate in practice or the game? *No, unless legally excused. For example, a student missed part of the school day due to a doctor's appointment. The student must provide a note from the doctor's office that he or she was seen to be legally excused. A note from mom or dad will not be accepted. Coming in late or staying home due to being tired or having a headache are examples of excuses that are not legal.*

14. Are parents and spectators allowed to approach the team bench during the game? *No. Spectators are to sit on the opposite side of the field or in the bleachers. If a game is on the turf, spectators are not allowed on the track or inside the fence. In the event of an injury, please do not run out onto the field. Let the coach and medical personnel access the situation. If a player is taken out of the game due to an injury and returns to the bench, we understand your concern. The coach will get hold of you in case of an emergency.*

15. Do sportsmanship rules apply to adults and spectators? *Yes. Chaperones, officials, athletic directors may approach you and ask you to leave the game site if you are not behaving in a sportsmanlike manner. In some cases, the official may suspend game play until the spectator is removed. Please abide by all rules and regulations at TH or an opposing school. Expectations are in place for good reason....to make sure that our athletes have a safe, positive, and supportive environment to play their game. We should all be positive role models for our student athletes.*