



## **Creekview Jr Grizzlies Football Program Rules and Expectations**



### **Creekview Jr Grizzlies Mission**

Our mission is to promote interest, participation, and excitement in youth football activities within the Creekview High School district, promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, encourage fellowship, demand discipline, and champion honesty, loyalty and courage. We do this in our effort to help our Jr Grizzly players be active, productive members of our community. We seek to accomplish this by providing a program that stresses excellence in the classroom and values a strong competitive drive on the football field, in academic and in life.

### **Jr Grizzlies Goals**

Our goal is to provide each player with the instruction to build the skills and fundamentals to play the game of football. To Assure, to as great an extent as possible, a safe environment, both physically and emotionally, in which each player is encouraged to grow at their own rate. Teach and model sportsmanship and to respect the game of football. We will strive to teach the meaning of being part of a team, working together to compete at as high a level as possible, and to teach our young athletes to strive to do the best they can every chance they get. All this while teaching the high school philosophy for offense and defense to prepare them for entering the high school program and to help strengthen the high school program.

### **Eligibility**

#### **Grades and Academics**

Class work and homework come before athletics. Students must be performing satisfactorily in the classroom before they will be allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities. Participating in sports activities is a privilege that is earned through dedication that starts in the classroom. Students that are not perform according to their abilities in the classroom do not have time to focus on extra curricular activities or sports. Students that show a negative attitude, poor behavior, or less than full effort do not represent Creekview as a Jr Grizzly Football Player. Participation will be allowed as long as grades, attitude, conduct and effort warrant. This will be monitored and enforced in cooperation between parents and the coaches of each team. Georgia Board of Education Rule 160-5-1.18, Competitive Interscholastic Activities, will be the model we will follow. Consequences can be in the form of extra conditioning activities up to and including dismissal from the team and program.

Copies of Progress Reports and Report Cards shall be submitted to the Team Mom/Dad during the season as report cards come out. Grades may be tracked weekly with progress reports. A player failing to provide required documentation may not be allowed to participate in any games until said documentation is received

#### **School Suspension**

Any player that is suspended from school will also be suspended from participation. Players' return to the team will be coordinated between the parents and the coach. Consequences can be in the form of extra conditioning activities up to and including dismissal from the team and program.

#### **Illegal drug/substance use**

Any player found to be involved with the use of any form of tobacco or illegal use any drugs will

IMMEDIATELY be removed from the program.

### **Requirements for Participation**

- Reside in Creekview District
- Meet Grade Eligibility (No Pass-No Play Rule)
- Current Physical – Will not participate until this is completed.
- League and County registration forms must be complete
- Sports Fees paid
- Attend Parent meetings (Mandatory)
- Attend concussion Awareness Seminar
- Signed Participation agreement

### **Age Restrictions**

6<sup>th</sup> grade team – Must be in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and can not reach age 13 before August 1 of the Fall season

7<sup>th</sup> grade team - Must be in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and can not reach age 14 before August 1 of the Fall season

8<sup>th</sup> grade team - Must be in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and can not reach age 15 before August 1 of the Fall season

### **Expectations**

#### **Grizzly Time**

Grizzly time is 15 minutes before standard time. This means if practice is at 6:30, players need to be at the field and ready to go by 6:15. This is the same expectation the varsity players have.

#### **Practice Expectations**

Players are expected to participate in all scheduled practices. Players should arrive to practice location at least 15 minutes prior (Grizzly Time) to the scheduled start time to ensure they are ready to begin practice on time. It is the player's responsibility to make sure the coach is notified of any absence or if the player is going to be late. Each team will have a designated coach, usually the head coach, as the contact person. That coach will make his contact information available to the players at the beginning of the season. The player should notify the coach via text message, email, or phone call as early as possible. The player not only hurts the team by missing or being late to practices, but they will be missing critical instructions and preparations for the week. Excessive absences' will put a player behind and may not be able to catch up with the rest of the team. Practices are to be considered as 'on schedule' no matter the weather conditions, until you are notified otherwise. Practices will rarely be called before scheduled practice time; usually the decision will be made at the field based on the most current local conditions. Consequences for not notifying the coach can be in the form of extra conditioning activities, missed game time, and could go up to dismissal from the team and program, if it becomes excessive and a distraction from the teams progress.

#### **Game Expectations**

Players are expected to attend ALL scheduled games. Players should expect to arrive at least 1 hour and 15 minutes prior to game start time unless otherwise informed by the head coach. Please make sure you are aware of away locations prior to the final practice of the week. Team moms will send out directions to games at least 24 hours prior to an away game. Football requires commitment from every player and every player's family. From late July until mid November, Football takes priority over all other sports. If a player is unable to attend a game, the player is expected to notify the head coach at least 1 week prior to the game so that adjustments can be made during that week's preparation for the game. Disciplinary action can be administered for missing the game.

Consequences for not notifying the coach can be in the form of extra conditioning activities,

missed game time, and could go up to dismissal from the team and program, if it becomes excessive and a distraction from the teams progress. If the player does not notify the coach before missing a game, they will automatically sit out the following game in addition to the normal consequences.

### **Player Behavior Expectations**

Players are to treat other teammates, schoolmates, parents, teachers, coaches and referees with respect at all times. Jr Grizzly football players are representatives of the Creekview community, and student-athletes. Student athletes are leaders in the classroom as well as on the field and out in the community. Any player to be found acting in a disrespectful, unsportsmanlike, or an inappropriate nature at practice, at school or at home will be removed from practice or game and will be given additional condition drills. Attitudes and actions can negatively affect the success of a team. Coaches, players, and parents put too much time into the football season for it to be impacted by negative actions or attitudes of a few players.

Consequences can be in the form of extra conditioning activities up to and including dismissal from the team and program.

### **Parent and Fan Behavior Expectations**

Parents are expected be role models for your players. Parents are expected to support the coaching staff and team moms. It is essential for the success of the program for all parents, coaches and administrators to be on the same page. Football season requires a major commitment from everyone involved in order to be successful. Coaches are volunteers and should be respected for the time and effort they put into each team. EVERY coach has been interviewed and makes decisions to put the TEAM in the best position possible to be successful. Player's attitudes and efforts are greatly impacted by parental attitudes and support. Parents are expected to communicate with the coaching staff in the correct time and place. A 24-hour rule will be in place for any complaints. If a parent feels like they need to discuss an issue directly with a coach, they must wait 24 hours between the event and when they bring it to the Head coach's attention. At that point it will be the Head coach's responsibility to address the coach involved and get back to the parents. Under NO circumstance will 'playing time' be addressed with the parents. Player positions need to be discussed between player and coach. Any parent found to be acting in a disrespectful, negative manner, or not adhering to the 24 hour rule and communication path, may be asked to leave the team activity. Continued actions can result in the dismissal of the player/family from further team activities, practices, and or games as decided by the governing executive board of the Jr Grizzly Football program.

### **Playing Time Expectations**

Players will be granted playing time under the discretion of the coaching staff. There is no minimum play rule. Not only are we teaching the general football philosophies of the High School program, we are also helping to teach responsibility that will be expected of these players as they prepare for the step up to the high school program. If a player is concerned or has questions about their playing time, the PLAYER must approach the coaches in person to discuss the concern. Under no circumstance will parents be part of this discussion. If parents are concerned with their child's playing time, they are to discuss it with their child and then have their child approach the coaches, if necessary. It is the goal of every coach to teach as many kids as possible as much as possible. To help increase the playing time, each team will participate in varsity games on Saturday and Junior Varsity games on a week night. The Junior Varsity games are intended for the players that are new or need more game time experience to get more confidence in their playing skills. Players are allowed to play up to 6 quarters of football per week.

### **Conflict/Complaint resolution Process**

Athletics demand coaches to make many judgment calls during the course of a practice, game and season. The Jr Grizzly Football Program understands that there may sometimes be disagreements with decisions that have been made. Therefore, the following is the process that is set in place to make sure all complaints or conflicts are handled consistently and equitably.

1. If a parent has a complaint they will first adhere to the 24-hour rule and then discuss with the teams head coach. The situation will then be discussed with the head coach, position coach (if needed), player AND parent. Most team situations will be resolved with this first simple communication step.
2. If no resolution results from step1, the parent or coach will contact the Jr Grizzly Football Director or Vice President – Football Operations. The results of step 1 will be discussed before progressing. Under no circumstances will anything happen if step 1 was not followed. If step 1 was taken and no resolution, a meeting will be coordinated with the Jr Grizzlies Football Director or Executive board member, the coach(s), and the parent. The Jr Grizzlies Football Director/executive board member will have the final say to resolve the issue.

This process is in place to make sure all complaints are handled consistently and equitably. All meetings will be by appointment ONLY. Under no circumstances will coaches meet with a disgruntled parent immediately before, during or after a practice, game or team activity. This is considered inappropriate unacceptable behavior and will have consequences already detailed.

## **THE PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT**

The support of parents/guardians is essential to the success of any Middle School program. This support, however, should be of the off-field variety in such activities as fund-raising, promotion, equipment maintenance, team sponsorship and other volunteer activities.

Creekview Jr Grizzlies Football (CJGF) and the GMSAA (Georgia Middle School Athletic Assoc) are comprised entirely of volunteers. Coaches, administrators and other volunteers spend hundreds of hours of their time in the off-season as well as during the season to provide a football program for your children.

Well-meaning parents can cause unwarranted problems if they are not familiar with the policies and philosophies of the youth football association. CJGF has rules concerning the conduct of parents. Below is the code of conduct for CJGF parents/guardians to follow.

- 1) Parents/guardians should clearly understand that the aim of youth sports is to teach their children teamwork, good sportsmanship, fair play and a love for the sport.
- 2) Parents/guardians should understand that alcohol and the use of drugs at practices or games are strictly prohibited.
- 3) Parents/guardians should insist on a safe and healthy environment for their children to practice and compete.
  - a) Parents must stay in the areas designated by the local association during all practice sessions. Parents (except parent- coaches) are never allowed on the practice field during practice unless authorized by the coaching staff.
  - b) Parents are not allowed on the sidelines or playing field at the games. All spectators must remain in the stands. Only players, coaches, and appointed association officials may be on the sidelines or track in the front of the stands during the games, unless authorized by the coaching or administration staff.
- 4) Parents/guardians should encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
  - a) Youth football is not professional football. Parents should cheer hard and loud for their team, but your fan support must be kept in the proper perspective and always in good taste.
  - b) Unsportsmanlike conduct in the stands during games is prohibited and can result in penalties to the team / head coach on the field as well as possible expulsion from future events.
  - c) Derogatory statements towards CJGF Coaches, Directors and volunteers will not be tolerated. Any verbal or physical abuse may result in expulsion from all CJGF events at the discretion of the CJGF Board.
  - d) Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, etc.) Parents and players agree not to directly or indirectly send, reply with, issue, or post any negative or derogatory statement, opinion or observation regarding the CJGF program. This includes,

but is not limited to, any coach, player, official, board member, administrator, or volunteer in the CJGF program, as well as the high school program. Anyone violating this policy is subject to disciplinary action including up to removal from the program. Anyone removed from the program under this policy will not receive a refund.

e) A football game is a highly complex event requiring many different roles. Since CJGF is a volunteer organization, parents/guardians must meet the required number of volunteer hours to provide a successful middle school program.

## **Student-Parent Agreement for Participation**

Participation in extra-curricular activities is both a privilege and a responsibility. It is a privilege to develop your athletic skills with classmates in an organized setting. It is a responsibility to represent Creekview and our Community with your best sportsmanship and appearance.

The following are rules required of each athlete participating in the JR Grizzly Football Program:

1. Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
2. Be a positive representative of Creekview at all times.
3. Show that you can accept winning or losing in a gracious manner.
4. Do not use vulgar language.
5. Respect parents, coaches, teammates, and game officials.
6. Read and FULLY understand the rules and regulations outlined in this handbook

Student Athlete Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The following are rules required of each parent of an athlete participating in the Jr Grizzly Football Program:

1. Demonstrate good sportsmanship and be a role model to your student athlete
2. Maintain a positive attitude
3. Communicate in the designated communication process
4. Do not direct any negative comments to the game officials, coaches, or players during a game.
5. Read and FULLY understand the rules and regulations outlined in this handbook and the Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Creekview Junior Grizzly Football  
PARTICIPANT WITHDRAWAL FORM**

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY:**

If you decide to withdraw your child from the program, you must submit a written withdrawal request to the CJGF Treasurer, JJ Stewart, via email at [treasurer@gojrgrizzly.net](mailto:treasurer@gojrgrizzly.net) or US mail to: 111 Grandmar Chase, Canton, GA 30115

All withdrawals must be postmarked by the date listed below. Creekview Junior Grizzly Football is not responsible for misdirected email or other forms of mailing. No verbal withdrawals from Jr Grizzly Football will be accepted.

No refunds are issued prior to the return of equipment and uniforms. Players have ten (10) days after their written withdrawal notice to return all equipment and uniforms or they will forfeit their \$450.00 deposit check. After all equipment and uniforms are returned, then a refund will be issued minus the fee below.

Withdrawal per child:

Withdrawal requests received prior to **September 1st** will receive a refund minus a **\$75 non-refundable registration fee**.

**NO REFUNDS will be provided for any player who withdraws after September 1st**

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I have read and agree to the above Withdrawal and Refund policy regarding my child.

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_