



'Together Everyone Achieves More'

Menlo School Athletics

Parent-Student Handbook 2025-2026

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Table of Contents

Mission statement	3
About Menlo Athletics	3
Physical Education Requirements	5
Upper School	5
Middle School	5
Athletics Team Information	7
Start dates - Upper School	7
Practices	7
Equipment and uniforms	7
Eligibility Policy	8
Grades	8
Playing time	8
Roster size/cuts	8
Commitment & Quitting Policy	9
Participation in sports - concurrent seasons	10
Placing a Freshman on Varsity	10
Postseason Competition	10
May Term Trip Policy in Regards to Athletics	10
Transportation and travel	11
Upper School	11
Supervision after games – Middle School	11
Definitions and Regulations Concerning Offseason Activities	12
Sportsmanship	12
Game Ejection Policy	13
Code of Ethics for Students and Parents	13
Guidelines for taking photographs, recording Athletics events	14
Team Parents	14
Optional Apparel Orders	14

Table of Contents, cont.

Student-Athlete Advisory Board (SAAB)	14
Awards and Celebrations	15
Upper School Awards	15
Block Letters	15
League Awards	15
Academic Awards	16
Parent-Student Responsibilities	16
Positive Coaching Alliance	16
Parent-Student Pledge	16
Athlete-Parent-Coach-Director of Athletics Communication	17
Parental Procedure for Communicating Concerns	18
Undue Influence	18
Menlo School Undue Influence Policy	18
Transfer and Gap Year Rules	19
Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)	19
Menlo Athletics Sports Performance	19-21
Mission Statement & Program Overview	19
Training Sessions	20
Weight Room Rules	21
Menlo Athletics Sports Medicine Policies & Procedures Handbook	23-42
Table of contents	23
Insurance Policy	41
Frequently Asked Questions	42
Interscholastic Upper School Team Information	45
Fall Schedule & Information	45
Winter Schedule & Information	46
Spring Schedule & Information	47
Middle School Team and Class Information	48
Department Staff contacts	52

Athletics Department Mission Statement

Menlo School Athletics complements the school's rigorous college preparatory program with an extensive offering of highly competitive team sports, providing students the opportunity to develop mind, body and character for themselves, their teams and their school. For the novice to the college-bound athlete, Menlo offers unparalleled opportunity and excellence. Athletes, coaches, parents and staff work together to follow the principles:

Pursue Excellence

- Embrace and celebrate competitive excellence while taking responsibility for meeting the highest standards in both academics and athletics.
- Develop a growth mindset, build resiliency, and commit to continual improvement.
- Find joy in the process.

Celebrate Team

- Develop a sense of commitment to purposes larger than yourself.
- Cherish the legacy you're inheriting and recognize that it is a privilege to play sports at Menlo School.
- Recognize that everyone on the team is valuable, and treat them accordingly.

Honor the Game

- Perform as ethical, responsible, and engaged members of ever-wider communities.
- Celebrate and honor your team, officials, opponents, school, fans and sport.
- Strive to compete at your highest level possible.

Uphold Strong Values

- Exhibit courage, appreciate inclusiveness and diversity, and commit to moral behavior.
- Act with integrity.
- Lead responsibly, with humility, honor, fairness, honesty, virtue, and character.

About Menlo Athletics

Upper School

Menlo School has a long and proud athletic tradition. The Upper School offers 22 sports with teams at the varsity, junior varsity and freshman levels.

Most Menlo teams compete in the West Bay Athletic League (WBAL), a group of private schools located from San Jose to San Francisco. Football and baseball compete in the Peninsula Athletic

League (PAL), a group of 25 San Mateo County schools - 17 of which are public schools and eight supplemental from Atherton to Daly City. Boys' lacrosse, boys' water polo and girls' water polo compete in the West Catholic Athletic League (WCAL). The WBAL, PAL and WCAL are each governed by the [Central Coast Section](#) (CCS), an organization overseeing eight leagues and 152 schools stretching from King City in the south to San Francisco in the north. The Central Coast Section is one of 10 sections under the umbrella of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF).

For postseason play, regardless of school size, teams are typically placed in divisions determined by competitive equity. There are up to six divisions represented in the section. For most sports, the top teams are placed in the Open Division and the other divisions (I-V) are bracketed based on team strength.

All teams have a section postseason (Central Coast), and most have regional (NorCal) and state playoffs as well.

Middle School

Aligning with Menlo School's Mission and Menlo Middle School's Habits of Heart and Mind, Middle School Athletics functions as an integral part of the curriculum, and to promote sound learning and strong character. The School fosters a supportive environment for all students to compete on athletic teams to develop character traits, communication skills and critical thinking skills that are important to personal growth and success. Winning is important, but it is not everything. Students compete for the love of the game and the desire to learn and reach their full potential. Through guidance and inspiration, we provide opportunities for student-athletes to hone their talents, develop leadership and teamwork skills and understand the power of sportsmanship.

Menlo School competes in the West Bay Athletic Middle School League (WBAL). The League sponsors four seasons of competition.

- Fall - Flag Football, Water Polo, Cross Country and Girls' Lacrosse.
- Early Winter - Boys' Basketball and Girls' Soccer.
- Late Winter - Girls' Basketball, Boys' Soccer and Golf.
- Spring - Baseball, Girls' Volleyball, Water Polo, Tennis, Boys' Lacrosse, Track & Field.
- Classes Subject To Change - Wellness.

Physical Education Requirements

Upper School

Each student is required to earn four credits of Physical Education to graduate. To fulfill the requirement, each freshman must complete the Freshman Wellness Program (taken during freshman seminar) and, during the remainder of their time at Menlo, must earn a total of three more credits in the following ways:

- Play for an interscholastic team (one season = one credit provided the student finishes the season on the roster)
- Enroll in a wellness program (yoga, fitness, weight-lifting) offered by Menlo as an after-school program in the athletic center. Students must complete 36 hours to earn 1 PE credit.
- Enroll in dance, given during the regular school day. Students receive one credit for each semester class, but that credit cannot be used simultaneously to fulfill a Creative Arts requirement.
- Participation in outside sports that Menlo does not offer (i.e., crew, gymnastics, etc.) must be approved by the Director of Athletics and may count for up to two credits. The other two credits must be completed on the Menlo campus - one being the freshman wellness rotation. Students must complete 36 hours to receive 1 PE credit. Contact the Director of Athletics for details regarding outside activity credit before beginning any non-Menlo program.

Middle School

Athletics is considered an integral part of every student's education at Menlo School. Each Middle School student is required to participate daily in either physical education (PE) classes or as a member of an interscholastic or intramural athletic team.

Each Middle School student is required to participate in a Physical Education (PE) class and/or interscholastic team. All PE/team practices are scheduled during the academic day. 6th grade has PE from 1:05-2:10 pm. 7th/8th grade have PE from 2:15-3:20 pm. All practices are on campus.

Physical Education Classes

Menlo Middle School Athletics offer classes (subject to change) during each season for students who are indifferent about the competitive sports offered. Tennis is offered all four seasons with competition in the spring season. Aquatics is offered in all four seasons. Golf is offered as a class in the late winter with League Tournaments in the fall and spring seasons.

Interscholastic Sports

Menlo Middle School Athletics has a no-cut policy. Our goal is to educate, prepare and build confidence in our student-athletes to ensure they have fun, compete hard, learn life skills and make

friends. The League offers “A” and “B” levels to all grade levels to support athletic ability. All levels require commitment, coachability, communication and school spirit to be successful. The “A” team has a stronger emphasis on competition and for those student-athletes with a deeper passion for the sport and a desire to compete in the Upper School and beyond.

Season Timeline

Fall Season: September - October

Early Winter Season: October - December

Late Winter Season: January - March

Spring Season: March - May

Late Spring Season: May - June

Practices

Team practices are during the academic day. 6th grade has PE from 1:05-2:10 pm. 7th/8th grade have PE from 2:15-3:20 pm. All practices are on campus.

Equipment

Menlo Middle School Athletics provides equipment and team uniforms. Each sport might require personal equipment such as (shin guards, mouth guards, etc.) Coaches will communicate what equipment is required.

Uniform Return

Menlo Middle School Athletics provides team uniforms. Uniforms must be cleaned and returned to coaching staff promptly at the conclusion of the season. Student-athletes are responsible for returning their school issued uniforms.

Technology Usage

The MS Technology Acceptable Use Policy For Students in the Middle Handbook applies to the Menlo Middle School Athletics. All cell phones must be locked in lockers once you arrive on campus. The teacher may ask to see your device at any time. You may not use your device after 8:00 am unless you have a teacher’s permission.

- First major offense: Device is confiscated and turned in to the front office for pick up at the end of the school day.
- Second major offense: Device is confiscated and the Advocate notifies parents.
- Third major offense: Device is confiscated and the Advocate has a conversation with the parents about the plan moving forward.
- More than 3 offenses: Assistant Director determines a course of action as a disciplinary case.

Upper School Athletics Team Information

Athletics Opening Day 2025 for all sports: August 21, 3:15 pm-4:00 pm in the Athletic Center. Opening Day is a kickoff to our 2025-26 campaign for all Upper School student-athletes, coaches and staff.

Start Dates – Upper School

An organized practice is attended by a coach and players, and one in which the coach directs, instructs and drills the players and/or the team. In the 2025-2026 school year, practices will not begin before these start dates: (please see individual team pages on the Menlo Web site for more details).

Fall Sports – August 8, 2025 (football August 4)

Winter Sports – November 3, 2025

Spring Sports – February 2, 2026

Practices

Length of practice: Classes are dismissed at 3:00 pm, and athletic practices typically begin at 3:30 pm. Practices may not exceed three hours in length, and on double days, no more than four hours of practice are allowed on a single day. There is to be no more than 18 hours of practice time per week. Double days may not be held on consecutive days, per CCS rules.

Sundays: Sunday practices are forbidden by the CIF. No practices, conditioning or team meetings of any kind, including individual workouts with coaches, are to be held on Sundays.

Lockers

Athletes who wish to use a locker to store their athletic equipment may obtain one at any time during the school year. Athletes must get a lock from the Athletics office, then choose a locker in the appropriate locker room. Athletes should always secure their personal belongings and equipment in a locked locker. All gym lockers must be cleaned out by June 1.

Equipment and Uniform Return

The School will issue equipment and uniforms for the athletes' use during the season. These items must be cleaned and returned to the coach promptly at the end of the season. Athletes are responsible for turning in their uniforms, and will need to reimburse the school for any uniforms lost or unreturned by a date set by head coaches.

Eligibility

A student is scholastically eligible to participate in the Menlo School interscholastic athletic program if:

- The student is enrolled in at least 20 semester hours of work (each class is five semester hours).
- The student has passed at least 20 semester hours of work at the completion of the previous grading period, with the exception of incoming freshmen.
- The student is maintaining progress toward meeting Menlo's graduation requirements.
- The student carries at least a 2.0-grade point average,
- Any student who has more than one D, or any Fs, at the end of a marking period may become ineligible for participation in interscholastic sports. Eligibility can be reinstated at the end of the next marking period or at the discretion of the Upper School Assistant Director.

Grades and Consequences

Failure to meet the minimum standard at the end of the grading period will make a student ineligible for the next grading period. An ineligible student may not compete in contests. Participation in practice will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Athletics and Dean of Students. To be removed from ineligibility status, a student must achieve the minimum standard for the next grading period.

Playing Time

Due to the competitive nature of high school sports, playing time is not guaranteed in the Upper School. Athletes who are more skilled and who show a high degree of effort and commitment are likely to get more playing time. In Middle School, players are expected to play and will play in all events.

Middle School

The Menlo Middle School Athletic Director works closely with the Middle School Grade Team Leads, Registrar, Administrators and Counselor in support of student-athletes. Participation in PE and team games will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Middle School Athletic Director and Middle School Administrators. PE is a pass/fail course.

Cutting from Teams

Menlo offers 45 programs in 22 sports – some of which are no-cut sports, and open to those students willing to put the time, energy and commitment forth to become a contributing teammate. Every year, more than 80 percent of Menlo’s student body participates in athletics.

Efforts will be made to not cut freshmen, however, there is a limit to a number of players on a team. The School wants to honor a high quality of experience, and roster size will be at the discretion of the Athletics Department. Coaches will announce a date on which teams will be formed. Coaches will communicate with players on their status.

Commitment and Quitting a Team

A high level of commitment is expected from our student-athletes. Please contact the Director of Athletics, Middle School Athletic Director or Head Coach when signing up for a sport if you have any questions regarding commitment to a specific team.

Upper School

Joining a team is a commitment. Our staff understands that students are involved in a wide range of activities and community service on top of their academics. Outside activities need to be scheduled around school games and practices.

Quitting a team disqualifies that athlete from participating on any other team for the remainder of the school year, and the athlete will miss the subsequent sports season of the sport they quit. This policy also applies to team members removed for disciplinary reasons, however, the consequence will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Athletes are granted an initial 10-day trial, after which they may elect to try out for a different team. This trial period covers only the first 10 days of the practice schedule and can be used once per season. Students must finish the season on the active roster in order to receive P.E. credit. If a player decides to quit a team, they must talk with the Director of Athletics.

Middle School

The Athletic Director turns in rosters to the league immediately after sign-ups. All practices are during the school day. Students need to be at all practices unless they are ill or have a pre-approved academic meeting with a teacher. Students should plan to attend all scheduled games. Club practices and outside activities need to be scheduled around school games. If there is a reason a student has to miss a game, it needs to be approved by the coach and Athletic Director. There may be consequences for missing a game or practice, which may include sitting for a game or part of a game. If a student misses multiple games, there will be a meeting with the Athletic Director and coach.

The Middle School Athletic Director and coaches determine team size. The size of any squad

may fluctuate to accommodate a unique situation and to benefit the majority of students. Rosters will be determined after an evaluation period. Every effort will be made to offer each student an opportunity to play on a team. Coaches are encouraged to have individual meetings with athletes prior to selecting teams to inform students where they stand with regard to skill, relative to other team members, and what position they will hold on the squad.

Participation in Sports - Concurrent Seasons

Student-athletes are not allowed to play two sports for Menlo School in concurrent seasons. One of the main reasons high school sports exist is to teach student-athletes about commitment. Dividing time and energy between interscholastic sports in the same season would compromise that commitment and the principle of Team First. In addition, students would miss additional time from school if they were to compete in both sports.

Placing a Freshman on Varsity

In some cases, a freshman may be chosen to play on a varsity team. In order for freshmen to play up, he or she must be taking five classes, and be in good academic standing. If a varsity coach decides a freshman could make the varsity team and be a contributing member, the head coach of the program will petition the Director of Athletics for the student to “play up.” The Director of Athletics will confer with the Dean of Freshmen Transition to determine whether the student could thrive in the varsity environment. If approved, the coach will discuss the move with parents and students and the student’s Advocate will be notified.

Note: Due to the physical nature of the sport, this policy also applies to sophomores playing varsity football.

Postseason Competition

On occasion, a varsity head coach may request that a sub-varsity player moves up to the varsity team for postseason play. Head coaches must consult with the Director of Athletics to determine whether a move is in the best interest of the team involved, and, more importantly, in the best interest of the student.

The coach will discuss this honor with the athlete, clearly explaining the role the athlete will play on varsity during the postseason. It is department practice that if an athlete intends to participate in another sport the following season then they must move on to that sport. Coaches may petition the Director of Athletics for an exception to this rule.

May Term Trip Policy in Regards to Athletics

In-season varsity athletes will not be allowed to go on overnight trips for May Term. Athletes playing at the varsity level have made a commitment to their sport, their teammates and their

league, and they are expected to honor that commitment throughout the season. Additionally, attendance in any classes that meet off-campus, must be approved by the Director of Athletics.

Sub-varsity athletes will generally be allowed to go on trips, as long as there will be enough team members left to field a team and compete safely, however, all sub-varsity student-athletes must petition and receive approval from the Director of Athletics.

Middle School

Grades and Disciplinary

The Menlo Middle School Athletic Director works closely with the Middle School Grade Team Leads, Registrar, Administrators and Counselor in support of student-athletes. Participation in PE and team games will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Middle School Athletic Director and Middle School Administrators. PE is a pass/fail course.

Playing Time

Playing time, and team placement, is not determined by which club, private coach, academy, travel team, etc a student-athlete participates in outside of school. Our coaches do their best to provide adequate playing time for each student-athlete.

Commitment to Athletics and Academics

The Menlo Middle School Athletics season expects student-athletes to be committed to the League season. Each team has a minimum of six games. Coaches will share the game schedule in advance. We understand life happens (injury, illness, family matters, etc), but timely communication is expected.

The Athletic Director will submit the WBAL League's Commitment Form at the beginning of each season. All practices are during the school day. Students should be at all practices unless medically and/or athletically excused or if a parent has excused them from the school day. Students are expected to attend all scheduled games. The Middle School Athletic Department requests that you prioritize Menlo Athletics during the season. If there is a reason a student has to miss a game, it needs to be communicated with the coaching staff and Athletic Director in advance. There may be consequences for missing practices, games and/or expressing poor behavior. Teams will be formed by the number of students interested and skill level at the conclusion of the evaluation period.

Switching of Sports

The Athletic Director will email the students via their Menlo email address to register for their sport each season. The student will have 1 week to complete the form. If the form is not completed at the deadline, the Athletic Director will place the student in the sport that will benefit them. After the deadline, students cannot switch sports unless there is a medical reason (conversation with the Nurses Office) and/or at the discretion of the Athletic Director. If a sport does not have enough student-athletes registered, the Athletic Director will notify the student and secure placement on another team. Students will register for only 1 sport per season. The only sports that allow students to

join outside their original PE selection competitions are Cross Country, Track and Field and Swim. The League sponsors a Golf tournament in the fall and in the spring.

Transportation and travel

Upper School

Transportation will be provided. On some occasions – during a school break or a local game over the weekend – students and families will provide their own transportation. Long-distance travel is minimal and often limited to one trip at the start of the season. Games might require students to miss class time. Every effort is made to keep time away from class to a minimum. If a student is injured, and not participating in the competition, the student must get permission from the Director of Athletics and Dean of Students to leave class early to attend. Generally, teams play two to three contests per school week (Monday through Saturday). It is the student's responsibility to let teachers know in advance when they will miss class, and to make up any work missed.

Varsity teams are encouraged to take one overnight trip per season to foster team building and to offer a range of competition. Financial aid through the [Jay Ward Athletic Endowment Fund](#) is available to cover costs for families for whom it is a hardship. All school policies are in effect on overnight trips, and a behavioral contract must be signed prior to departure. Athletes who commit to a team are also committing to any overnight trip scheduled and the costs associated with travel, unless discussed with the Head Coach prior to the start of the season. Families needing financial assistance, may contact [Rose Garza](#) in the Admissions and Financial Aid Office.

Middle School

Menlo will provide transportation to all weekday away games that start before 5:00 pm. Buses will depart from campus and return immediately at the conclusion of the game. Games that start at 5:00 pm, or later, will require transportation by parents, guardians, friends, etc. Menlo will help provide resources for students who do not have transportation to and from games.

Supervision after games – Middle School

Parents are welcome to take their child home from the away game after the game is complete. Parents must email the coaching staff and Athletic Director in advance. Students are welcome to go home with another family, if and only if, the parents/guardians inform the coaching staff and Athletic Director in advance. The Menlo Library is open until 7:00 pm for students.

Definitions and Regulations Concerning Offseason Activities

Practice: An organized practice is one attended by a coach and players and one during which the coach directs, instructs and drills the player, players or the team. According to CIF, CCS and league rules, offseason practices may only take place during the summer (in 2025 from June 7-July 26).

Open Facilities: At “open facilities” (gymnasium, fields, batting cage, etc.), coaches from the sport the students are playing may be present to supervise, but are not allowed to instruct or coach. Facilities may not be used if it will interfere with an in-season sport.

Offseason League: Menlo teams will not participate in any offseason leagues during the school year. Menlo coaches may not encourage participation in such leagues over participation on a Menlo team.

Club Teams: According to CIF regulations, student-athletes may not play on outside club teams of the same sport concurrently as their Menlo sport.

Weight/Conditioning Programs: Coaches encourage athletes to maintain a strength and conditioning program during the offseason. Programs will be developed by the Menlo Director of Sports Performance and Wellness. The Menlo weight room is available for individual workouts with the strength and conditioning coach or head trainer present. Formal programs that are required and supervised by members of the coaching staff during the offseason must follow CIF regulations.

Sportsmanship

Menlo School is a member of the Central Coast Section of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF). All members of the CIF/CCS are committed to providing a sportsmanlike environment for students, coaches, officials and spectators. To that end, the CIF/CCS and Menlo School have adopted the following guidelines:

- School staff, coaches, players and parents are expected to demonstrate sportsmanship at all times.
- Coaches, players and spectators will respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
- The following behavior is unacceptable at all contests: Negative comments toward the opponent, obscene cheers or gestures, acts intended to disrupt the opponent (cheer for Menlo, don't jeer the opponent), negative signs, artificial noisemakers (whistles, air

horns, clappers, bells, etc.), complaints about officials' calls (verbal or gestural).

Game Ejection Policy

Per CCS rules, any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike behavior will be disqualified from participating for a minimum of one contest, taking effect at the next contest. They will also need to complete the NFHS Sportsmanship online course and their parents will be contacted. In addition, the Dean of Students will review the incident, a process that may result in further disciplinary action. Any player ejected from a CCS playoff contest because of flagrant misconduct or unsportsmanlike behavior will be excluded from participating in the remainder of those playoffs.

Code of Ethics for Students and Parents

It is the duty of all concerned with the Menlo Athletics program to exemplify the highest ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play. Both athletes and parents are expected to respect the integrity and judgment of officials and coaches and to show courtesy to visiting teams. Both athletes and parents are expected to recognize that an athletic contest is a game, the purpose of which is to promote the physical and social development of the individual athletes. Please respect and abide by the guidelines for behavior described in the following code of ethics for athletes and parents.

Athletes' code

- Embrace the highest ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
- Show courtesy and respect to teams, officials, teammates, coaches at all times.
- Understand thoroughly the rules of the game and uphold them.
- Refrain from the use of language that degrades, baits or intimidates others.
- Treat the coach with respect and discourage fans, fellow students and parents from undermining the coach's authority.
- Represent yourself, your parents, your school and the community with proper conduct at all times, on or off the playing field.
- Dedicate yourself to being a scholar-athlete. Be aware that nothing worthwhile is accomplished without hard work and a sincere desire to succeed. This means making a commitment to attend all practices, games and team meetings and being willing to sacrifice your own desires for the good of the team.

Parents' code

- Embrace the highest ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
- Show courtesy and respect to visiting teams, officials and coaches at all times.
- Support the coaching staff at Menlo at all times. Refrain from undermining their

authority or criticizing them in public, and approach coaches in private to discuss concerns or suggestions related only to your child.

- Refrain from entering onto the field or court, standing on the sidelines, or yelling instructions to the coach or players from the bleachers.
- Make every effort to stay informed about athletic schedules and events.

Guidelines for taking photographs, recording Athletics events

The School welcomes photographers who want to record memories of the teams. These are a set of guidelines established solely with the safety of the players, officiating crew and photographers in mind.

Keep your distance and be aware. Please keep in mind whether, as a photographer, you are interfering with the field of play, and determine whether you can move quickly and adequately enough should the action come your way.

Please avoid the use of flash, which can temporarily blind or affect the vision of players on the floor or field, jeopardizing their safety. Even when it seems the moment is stationary, such as the first of two free throws, a flash can be a distraction to players, officials.

Team Parents

The Menlo School Parents' Association (MSPA) and Athletics Department have established a set of guidelines concerning the role and duties of team parents. Please visit the [team parent guide](#) for complete details of resources and responsibilities.

Optional apparel orders

A team store may be set up with BSN through which parents can purchase additional optional Menlo team gear for themselves or the student. This gear must follow Menlo's branding guidelines. The coach and the Director of Athletics must approve all apparel orders and designs. All required team gear will be provided by Menlo.

Knights Leadership Council (KLC)

The Knights Leadership Council is a group of student-athlete leaders nominated to represent various grade levels and sports that meets with the goal of becoming strong leaders on their respective teams and in the community. The KLC meets with Menlo Athletic Administrators, participates in workshops, discusses leadership, accountability, team relations, as well as providing input to help evaluate and create Athletic Department policies.

Awards and Celebrations

Upper School

Team Celebrations

Teams will designate a date for a team banquet to honor the players and coaches of each team from that season. At this year-end banquet, coaches will recognize players for their contributions to the program.

Upper School Awards

Letters, patches and participation bars can all be obtained from the Athletics office. Letterman jackets may be ordered through [Goetz Bros](#) or [neffjacketshop.com](#)

Letters: The purpose of a block letter is to signify that a student has been a member of a varsity team, and has fulfilled all requirements necessary to be a member of that team. Athletes will receive their letter after completion of their first varsity year in any sport. Students receive one varsity letter, regardless of the number of sports in which they participate.

Sports patches and Participation Bars: Patches specify which varsity sport(s) an athlete has participated in. Athletes get a patch for each sport they have played. Bars signify the number of years an athlete has lettered in a particular sport. Athletes receive a bar each time they letter on a varsity team.

Certificates: These recognize everyone who has participated in a sport at Menlo. Athletes who successfully complete a season (varsity, junior varsity, frosh-soph, or freshman) receive a certificate recognizing their participation at the end-of-season celebration.

Team awards: Individual awards may be given in recognition of outstanding achievement and team commitment. Each coach sets different criteria for determining whether to give awards and who shall receive them.

League Awards

The West Bay Athletic League, Peninsula Athletic League and West Catholic Athletic League choose all-league teams for all varsity sports. In some sports, such as golf and track & field, end-of-year meets or tournaments determine the all-league team. The all-league selection process allows coaches to nominate players from their own team, briefly present their stats and make a case for those players making an all-league team. All coaches in the league then vote

for first and second teams and in some sports, honorable mention(coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players).

Academic Awards

Individual awards: The CCS does not recognize individual student-athletes. They do offer scholarship opportunities based on athletic and academic performance, and community service. Check the CCS website (www.cifccs.org) under awards for more details.

Section/state/national awards: Many publications and groups give awards such as all-county, all-state or all-America. Menlo School, the CCS and the CIF do not sanction any of these awards. Be wary of a group or organization that asks for money in order for your athlete to be named to a “team.”

Parent-Student Responsibilities

Menlo School is dedicated to creating a positive sports culture for students, coaches, parents, officials and administrators.

Menlo School Parent-Student-Athlete pledge

Menlo School expects a positive environment for both athletes and coaches. Parents and student-athletes are expected to adhere to the following guidelines. Please read the following pledge before the school year. Your electronic signature confirms that you and your student(s) have read and approved the handbook and confirms that you and your student(s) will adhere to all guidelines of the pledge.

- We pledge to be on time to all practices and games. We understand that by being late or missing practice, athletes may be put at risk by not having adequate time for warm-up and preparation. We will give the coach ample notice of any excused absences (i.e., teacher help session). This shows respect for both the coach and teammates.
- We pledge to use positive encouragement to fill the emotional tank of our student-athletes. Athletes do their best when their emotional tank is full. We understand that less than 1% of youth sports participants receive college scholarships and the top three reasons students play sports are to have fun, make friends and learn new skills. We understand the game is for the players and will keep sports in proper perspective.
- We pledge to reinforce the ELM Tree of Mastery (E for Effort, L for Learning and M for bouncing back from Mistakes). Winners are people who continue to learn and improve,

make a maximum effort and do not let mistakes, or fear of making mistakes, stop them. We understand people are born with different abilities and the true measure is not how one student-athlete compares to others but how he/she is doing in comparison to the concept of “best self.”

- We pledge to Honor the Game. We understand the importance of setting a good example for all student-athletes. No matter what others may do, we will show respect for all involved in the game, including coaches, players, opponents, opposing fans and officials. We understand that officials make mistakes, and even if we feel a mistake has been made, we will Honor the Game and be silent.
- I pledge to refrain from yelling instructions to my child. I understand this is the job of the coach. I understand games are chaotic times for student-athletes trying to deal with fast-paced action and respond to opponents, teammates and coaches. I will limit my comments during the game to encouraging my child and players for both teams.
- We pledge to refrain from making negative comments about the coach and other members of the team. We understand this negatively influences the motivation and the overall experience of everyone involved with the team.
- We pledge to abide by the CCS sportsmanship policy, which prohibits artificial noisemakers, body painting (except for faces), bare chests (shirts must remain on), negative signs, berating an opponent’s mascot or players or complaining verbally or with gestures at officials’ calls. We understand we should only cheer for our team or for opponents’ exceptional plays and never against a team or individual.

Athlete-Parent-Coach-Director of Athletics Communication

Open communication is the foundation of the relationship among student-athletes, parents, coaches, and the Director of Athletics. Here are guidelines to help foster this communication.

Communication Parents Expect from Coaches:

- Team philosophy
- Team and individual expectations
- Team rules
- Procedures to follow when an athlete is injured or sick
- Ways to help the child improve

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

- Notification of any illness or injuries that will cause the athlete to miss a practice or game
- Treatment of your child, emotionally and physically
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child’s behavior

- Any personal issues that you feel may influence your child's performance or well-being.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coach

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Other members of the team

Parental Procedure for Communicating Concerns

- Have your child take the responsibility to speak to the coach about any concerns. It is important we teach students to advocate for themselves and to communicate with adults in a mature manner.
- If you believe your child's conversation with the coach did not help reach a resolution, then you should meet with the coach directly.
- If the issue still has not been resolved, arrange an appointment with the Director of Athletics. Some situations may require a conference with the coach, athlete and parent in order to reach a solution.
- Please do not attempt to confront a coach 24 hours before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both parents and coaches. Meetings of this nature rarely promote resolution.

Undue Influence

The CIF recruiting rule applies to all Menlo personnel and sports representatives. As stated in CIF, CCS and WBAL Bylaws, Menlo School will: Avoid exerting undue influence on a pupil's decision to enroll in an athletic program at a public or private secondary educational institution.

Menlo School Undue Influence Policy

- No one associated with Menlo School may approach a student or his/her parents, either directly or through a third party (teacher, coach, etc.), for the purpose of inducing that student to attend Menlo School in order to participate in athletics.
- Prospective students or their parents/representatives should contact the Menlo School Admissions Office, not coaches or athletic administrators, to discuss the application, admission, financial aid, etc. Menlo School coaches or staff who may be contacted in this way should direct the person to the Admissions Office.
- The Director of Athletics is only available to provide general information about Menlo School's sports offerings and athletic program philosophy. Information on our programs can be found on the Menlo School website.
- Menlo School coaches, athletic staff or other school representatives are not to discuss

team membership, playing time, etc., with prospective students or their parents/representatives.

- Menlo School does not provide athletic scholarships.
- No middle-school-age individual or team may be invited or given discounted admission to Menlo School athletic contests. These may be extended only to entire classes or school student bodies.
- Menlo School does not target specific individual students for an invitation to sport camps. Menlo School sports camps are open to the general public.
- No middle-school student may participate in open gyms, practices, workouts or other athletic activities with Menlo Upper School students during the regular school year.

Transfer and Gap Year Rules

The CIF transfer rule sets limitations on interscholastic athletics eligibility for students who have transferred schools or have opted for a gap year. Details can be found on the Student Eligibility page of the CCS website at www.cifccs.org. Any student that has transferred into Menlo who wants to play sports, must establish their eligibility before playing contests. Notify the Athletic Director and the Athletic Director will initiate paperwork with the CCS to determine the athlete's eligibility.

Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)

A student is governed by CIF amateur rules when the student participates in CIF competition. A student who violates CIF amateur or award rules shall be ineligible for CIF competition in that sport until appeal and reinstatement as an amateur by the Federated Council. A student can benefit from their name, image or likeness. However, they are not allowed to wear a school team uniform or any identifying school insignia while appearing in any advertisement, promotional activity or endorsement for any commercial product or service. They are not to lend their name and team affiliation for purposes of commercial endorsement. This provision is not intended to restrict the right of any student to participate in a commercial endorsement provided there is no school team or school affiliation. Before signing NIL deals, please see the Director of Athletics for clarification.

Menlo Sports Performance

The Menlo Sports Performance Department is committed to the development of its student athletes with the goals of helping them maximize athletic potential, build character and develop a foundation for a healthy lifestyle.

Mission Statement

The Menlo Sports Performance program seeks to provide an atmosphere in which athletes can grow physically, mentally, and emotionally, while enjoying a supportive, and diverse environment. Furthermore, athletes are given the opportunity to learn and demonstrate sportsmanship, teamwork, responsibility, and integrity.

Program Overview

Menlo Sports Performance is a leader in student-athlete development. Menlo Sports Performance provides an integrated approach to performance training principles centered around sustainable long-term athletic development. We cultivate a challenging and engaging training environment where athletes and coaches collaborate to continually pursue a high standard of high-level training. We build self-confidence, encourage critical-thinking, and develop important life-skills.

Movement literacy is the foundation of all programming to assist with quality strength and power development. Performance coaches manage appropriate exercise progressions and planning, supported by evidence-based research and the use of technology recognized world-wide. Attention to stress management and recovery principles including nutrition, hydration, and sleep hygiene is threaded into the fabric of Menlo School's practice.

Program Goals

- Resistance of injury
- Improve athletic performance, focused on the following components:
 - Build a strong foundation of movement
 - Improve strength and power
 - Improve speed, agility and sport specific conditioning
 - Improve balance, stability, flexibility and mobility
- Improve mental and physical self esteem
 - Build mental toughness, discipline and accountability

Weight Room Location

The Foster Family Strength and Conditioning Center is located in The Athletic Center.

Training Sessions

The Menlo weight room is not an “open gym”. All training sessions (individual or team) are to be scheduled ahead of time with the sports performance staff. All sessions must be supervised by one of the sports performance coaches on staff. Training sessions, both in- and off-season, are structured by the sports performance staff based on the needs of the athlete and the demands of their sport.

In-Season Training

In-season athletes train with their respective team. In-season training days and time will be determined by the head coach of each team and the sports performance staff at the start of the season. Absences from team training sessions will be handled on a team-to-team basis, and consequences of a missed training will be determined by the head coaches and assigned strength coach before training sessions start.

Off-Season Training

Menlo Sports Performance offers voluntary off-season training opportunities for any athletes not currently participating in a sport. Off-season training is offered year-round, including during the summer. During this time, student-athletes have the opportunity to train with athletes from other sports allowing them to build relationships, camaraderie and culture across athletics as a whole. Athletes are encouraged to participate in the Menlo strength off-season program as it makes for a smoother transition into their sport season. Off-season training schedules vary season to season. If athletes are not able to attend the given days or times, they can contact the sports performance coaches to schedule time to lift during lunch or afternoon free periods. Days and times for each season will be updated on the Menlo Sports Performance tab of the Menlo Athletics website, posted outside the Foster Family Strength and Conditioning Center and communicated with coaches and athletes prior to the start of training. All communication, information and scheduling updates in regards to Menlo Sports Performance will be available on the Menlo Sports Performance Team App. Team App sign up information will be communicated with all coaches and athletes. If you have questions, please contact the head sports performance coach (see below for contact information).

School Breaks and Holidays

The weight room is typically open over school breaks with limited hours. Days and times vary depending on the break and time of year. Weight room sessions over break are considered “open weight room”. These sessions are still structured by the sports performance coaches, but athletes can attend at any time during the time allotted on the given day (ie. open weight room 10:00 am-noon, athletes can come any time during those two hours). Weight room schedules for breaks will be communicated with athletes and coaches in advance and posted on the Menlo Sports Performance web page or its social media account.

Weight Room Rules

1. No cell phones
2. No airpods or wireless headphones - if your coach needs to communicate with you, you need to be able to hear them.
3. Music must not have explicit words, themes.
4. All equipment used during lift sessions must be properly cleaned and put away before exiting the weightroom.
5. Do not remove any equipment from the weight room unless you have the sport performance coach's permission.
6. There is zero tolerance for horseplay or violent behavior.
7. If unsure about a certain exercise, always ask for clarification.
8. The use of clips is required once there is more than one plate on the bar.
9. Spotters must be used when necessary.
10. A Sports Performance coach should be notified of any injury *before* the lift session begins in order to make the necessary modifications if needed.
11. No outside personal training is permitted in the Menlo weight room (Exception: any alumni participating in collegiate athletics may use the facility and will be allowed to follow the program given to them by their collegiate strength and conditioning coach. Alumni athletes *must* schedule a time with a sport performance coach in advance and are still required to have supervision at all times.)
12. Come ready to work!

Weight Room Emergency Action Plan: In case of an emergency, sport performance coaches will follow the EAP established by the Athletic Training Staff listed on final page.

Middle School Sports Performance

At Menlo School, we believe that athletic development should start early with training that is safe, smart, and tailored to growing bodies. Our Middle School Sports Performance program helps student-athletes build strength, improve coordination, and boost confidence while learning proper techniques and healthy habits. Even at a young age, acquiring these skills offers significant benefits – it can help prevent injuries and develop healthy muscles and bones. The emphasis is always on the student-athlete experience and improving fundamentals in a supportive environment.

Our approach emphasizes long-term growth and focuses on improving movement quality. We prioritize education and steady progress, recognizing that proper training and athletic development take time. Whether you're preparing for upper school sports or simply enjoy being active, this program establishes a strong foundation for a healthy and successful athletic future.

Key Program Elements

Integrated into PE Curriculum: Sports Performance is incorporated into the Physical Education curriculum and team practices during the school day. This ensures that 100% of middle school students participate as part of their normal schedule, providing everyone with the benefits of a safe, team-oriented training environment.

Weight Room & Speed Training: Students engage in developmentally appropriate strength and speed training. Sessions are crafted to be engaging, educational, and supportive, ensuring that all students feel confident and successful.

Sports Science Monitoring: Force plates and velocity-based training systems are seamlessly integrated into sessions to track and monitor physical performance metrics over time. This data-informed approach enables us to celebrate progress and reinforce a commitment to long-term development.

Middle School Health

Any student required to be excused from PE due to illness or injury requires a written note from the student's primary physician describing their limitations and duration of the required time off. Any communication regarding illness and injury should go through the Nurses Office. Coaches, and Coach Benay, are not authorized to excuse students from PE for these reasons. A parent must provide the Nurses Office with a written note from the student's primary physician describing their limitations and duration of the required time off. The nurses can be reached at nurse@menloschool.org. The Nurses Office will communicate directly with coaches and the Athletic Director regarding any such instance.

Menlo Athletics Sports Medicine Policies and Procedures handbook

Mission statement	24
Athletic Healthcare Team	24
Confidentiality compliance statement (HIPAA)	25
Health information and pre-participation requirements	26
Sports and event coverage	26
Athletic training room procedures	27
Administration of medication policy	28
Concussion management policy & protocol	30
Environmental considerations & policies	31
Steroid and performance-enhancing supplements policy	37-38
Emergency action plans	39
References	43

Sports Medicine Mission Statement

Menlo School's sports medicine program provides injury prevention, care, treatment and management services to student-athletes. Menlo's program consistently strives to be a leader in the field of sports medicine and works to establish itself as a model of excellence using current, evidence-based practices.

The goal is to provide prompt care for athletic injuries, enable injured student-athletes to return to play as soon as safely possible and promote overall health and wellness.

Menlo works in conjunction with the strength and conditioning program, coaches, athletics support staff, school administration, physicians, allied healthcare professionals, and local colleges and universities to provide the best possible care and rehabilitation for student-athletes.

Athletic Healthcare Team (AHCT)

The goal of the AHCT is to provide effective delivery of health care and sports medicine services to Menlo athletes through a comprehensive, team approach.

The Athletic Healthcare Team consists of (but is not limited to) Menlo athletic trainers, team physicians (Stanford Orthopedic Physicians), school nurses and counselors, concussion specialists, local EMTs/paramedics and school administration.

Job description and responsibilities

- Counsels and advises athletes, coaches, and staff on matters pertaining to condition, diet, rest, exercise, reconditioning, and other similar health issues through individual conferences and/or group clinics;
- Works cooperatively with coaches in selecting protective athletic equipment and gear and in checking it for safety'
- Responsible for training and supervising athletic training students through San Jose State University as an approved clinical coordinator;
- Attends practices and contests on school and non-school days as directed by the Head Athletic Trainer;
- Covers all scheduled games according to the priorities set by the Head Athletic Trainer or Athletic Director;
- Oversees the taping, stretching and treatment of athletes prior to practices and competitions;

- Prevents and cares for athletic injuries sustained at practice sessions and contests and performs first aid, CPR, and emergency procedures when needed;
- Maintains the final decision whether an injured athlete may continue in a practice session or game when present;
- Provides post-practice and competition care and/or treatment;
- Advises, formulates, and monitors rehabilitation protocols;
- Familiar with Menlo's emergency action plan at all venues;
- Ensures that the proper preventive and safety measures are taken before transportation of injured athletes to physician or hospital by approved conveyance;
- Notifies the parents and appropriate Menlo School personnel directly of any athlete taken to a physician and/or hospital in any emergency;
- Carries out the order of a physician in regards to treatment after injury is diagnosed; Does not allow any athlete to play or practice unless he or she has written approval by a physician;
- Works cooperatively with and under the direction of the head Athletic Trainer and Team Physicians in respect to:
 - Rehabilitation procedures for athletic injuries
 - Operation of therapeutic devices and equipment
 - Fitting and assisting protective equipment and other devices
 - Referral to doctors or hospital emergency room.
- Experienced in and has the ability and skill to use ultrasound, electrical stimulation, and other modalities under the supervision of Menlo's team physician;
- Responsible for the organization, inventory, and requisition of all training room supplies during the school year;
- Prepare and submit a budget of medical supplies and equipment needed for the coming school year;
- Keeps accurate records of all athletic injuries, incident date, appropriate evaluation, initial treatment, complete accident forms, physician's recommendations and release dates, if applicable, while maintaining strict confidentiality of medical records.

Confidentiality Compliance Statement (HIPAA)

In accordance with federal legislation concerning personal health information, Menlo School is required by law to maintain confidentiality of all individually identifiable health information. All records containing an athlete's protected health information are secure and remain confidential. Information is shared within Menlo School only for legitimate educational purposes to benefit the student.

Health records and Pre-participation Statement

Our health information provider is a simple and secure online software platform that we use to collect and track student-athlete medical forms, records and other vital documents. In addition, the system allows Menlo, and our coaches, emergency access to vital health information in the event of an emergency.

An introduction letter is sent to each parent at the beginning of the school year directing them to access all the medical documents necessary to participate in Menlo athletics.

Pre-Participation Requirements

All of the following are housed under the athlete's health record,

- A physical performed by an M.D. or D.O. PA or NP, and dated after June 1
- A sport injury risk and consent waiver signed by both parents or guardians,
- State-mandated concussion information form,
- State-mandated sudden cardiac arrest information form,
- State-mandated opioid information form,
- Menlo Athletics parent-student handbook,
- Menlo head injury management program,
- A medical release /consent to treat and confidentiality statement signed by both parents or guardians

Sports and Event Coverage

Activity Coverage

All coaches are required to give the AT a minimum of 24 hours advance notification when changing the date, time, or location of a scheduled game or practice. Changes or notifications made after the specified time frame may result in limited or no coverage, depending on availability.

Practice Coverage

An AT will be on site for most scheduled practices. One AT will either be in the athletic training room, providing treatment for those athletes who are unable to participate or if multiple events are occurring at the same time the AT's will be located at the venue with the highest risk sport(s).

Game Coverage

An AT will be on-site for most scheduled home games when possible. At least one AT will be located in the athletic training room or at the venue with the highest risk of injury.

Travel Coverage

ATs will travel with JV and varsity football for competitions. Other sports will be given a medical kit and a treatment plan for that team during travel. All teams that make it to the CIF post-season may request the AT to travel with them as well as any trips scheduled during breaks. Coverage for these events will depend on availability.

Off-Season Sport Coverage

The Sports Medicine team will not cover off-season sports outside of normal training room hours. Coaches and players should be aware of this and plan off-season training during normal training room hours.

Off-season sports are encouraged to check in with the AT to communicate any injuries sustained by athletes. Off-season athletes are encouraged to check-in when injured to receive an evaluation.

Non-Menlo sponsored event coverage

Due to liability, the AT will not cover any non-Menlo event. This includes summer leagues, club events, or games that occur outside of that program's normal season of sport (per CIF definitions and guidelines). This includes events that occur during normal operating hours while Menlo-sponsored events are occurring simultaneously.

Athletic Training Room Procedures

Athletic Training Room Hours

The athletic training room will be available to all upper school student-athletes from noon to 7:00 pm (subject to change based on game schedule). In-season evaluations will take priority. The athletic training room will only be open on Saturdays for most scheduled practices and competitions, closing 15 minutes after the competition/practice ends.

New injury evaluations should be done during lunch or scheduled during an afternoon free period when possible. Student-athletes should NOT leave/skip class to come to the athletic training room.

Athletic Training Clinic Rules

- The Athletic Training Room is a medical facility and should be treated as such. All athletes are expected to observe the policies and rules of the training room. No

coaches or administrators will allow athletes into the athletic training room without direct supervision.

- No equipment or supplies in the athletic training room may be utilized or taken from the room by any team, coach, or athlete without permission from the AT.
- Cussing, swearing, or foul language will not be tolerated.
- Appropriate attire must be worn at all times. Shorts and T-shirts should be worn for evaluation and treatments.
- No cleats, or shoes with grass and/or mud, are to be worn in the athletic training room.
- Backpacks/ball bags, sticks, etc. should be left in the locker room and should not be brought into ATR.

Reporting Injuries

- It is important to report all injuries to the AT. Often things that seem minor at that particular time may not be, and can lead to bigger problems, so please report injuries as soon as they happen. Please DO NOT wait a week or so to see somebody, this can lead to missed time at practices and events.
- Athletes must report all injuries to their coach and the athletic trainer as soon as possible. The athletic trainer will determine if participation is appropriate. Athletes should not simply decide not to go to practice because they are hurt.
- Any athlete unable to complete a practice due to injury will be required to obtain clearance from the athletic trainer or a physician to return to practice or games.
- An injured athlete is still considered a part of the team and expected to be present at games and practices unless released by the coach. Players unable to compete due to an injury will be given alternate conditioning and rehabilitative activities. Appropriate clothing for practice must be worn in the training room.
- Athletes are expected to be at practice on time, regardless of their need to see the athletic trainer. Athletes should plan ahead and report to the training room early. Injury evaluation and treatment may be scheduled during lunch and/or free periods. If an athlete requires extensive treatment, the athletic trainer will communicate to the coach why the athlete was late and any practice restrictions.
- Athletes should report all dangerous conditions and/or broken equipment to the appropriate coach immediately. Safety equipment (i.e., helmets, pads) that is not functioning properly may not be used. Athletes should check their equipment daily.

Referrals, Physician Appointments, and Return to Play

Any student-athlete who is injured and treated by a physician or allied health care professional and under their care must provide a note from that health care provider before

they will be allowed to return to athletic participation. The note needs to be given to the Athletic Trainer, who will then contact the Head Coach to inform the coach of the status of the student-athlete. The Head Coach will be informed of any restrictions that would limit full participation, special taping/ bracing, or other considerations that need to be addressed before participation can be resumed. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to obtain and provide this note to the Athletic Trainer before they will be allowed to return to play. If Menlo ATs deem it unsafe for a student-athlete to return to participation, even with a physician clearance note, athletic trainers will seek direction from their supervising physician(s).

Documentation

All injuries, and any subsequent treatment performed, must be documented using an electronic medical record. Any athletic injury that is severe enough to warrant the Emergency Action Plan protocol to be administered, or suspected concussion will be communicated with the Health Office.

Administration of Medicine Policy

It is against California law for any coach or fellow student to dispense medications to an athlete. An athlete needing medication may visit the school nurse during school hours, or the athlete's parent, if present, may dispense the medication. Athletic Training staff members may also dispense medications if said medicine is approved on the parent over-the-counter medication list.

MRSA and Skin Infection Prevention Policy

MRSA Prevention

MSRA (Staph infection) Prevention According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, staphylococcus aureus (staph) are bacteria carried on the skin or in the nose of 25-35 percent of healthy people. Most times, staph does not cause illness or infection, but in rare cases, serious infection does occur. Staph infections can be difficult to treat because the bacteria have become resistant to common antibiotics. One resistant form of the staph is methicillin-resistant staphylococcus (MRSA). MRSA is easily transmitted through body-to-body contact from an infected wound to an open wound on another person. The condition can also be transmitted from an object (towel, shared equipment or soap) that has come in contact with the infection then used by another person where it contacts a wound. The bacterium is not carried through the air, nor is it found in dirt, mud or grass. It cannot live on artificial turf. The signs of MRSA can be confused with a "common" infection, a pimple, an insect bite or a previous abrasion. Signs include reddening of the area, fever, increased skin temperature at the site of infection or it might appear to be a skin lesion with a pustule, carbuncle or a boil. These conditions must be referred to a physician immediately.

Actions to prevent infections:

- Keep hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and warm water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer routinely.
- Shower immediately following any physical activity.
- Avoid whirlpools or common tubs. Individuals with open wounds, scrapes or scratches can easily infect others in this environment.
- Avoid sharing towels, razors and daily athletic gear.
- Properly wash athletic gear and towels after each use.
- Maintain clean facilities and equipment.
- Administer or seek proper first aid (cleanse the wound, antibiotic and band-aids).
- Care and cover skin lesions appropriately before participation.
- Inform or refer to appropriate health care professionals for all active skin lesions and lesions that do not respond to initial therapy.

Source: NATA official statement on MRSA and the CDC

Concussion Management Policy & Protocol

Menlo School believes that the health and safety of our students are of paramount importance. Menlo School has been a leader in the management and treatment of concussions in middle and high school student-athletes in the Bay Area and around the country. The concussion management program was implemented to ensure our students not only return to the classroom safely but to athletic competition safely as well.

CIF Concussion Information

Parents or guardians, as well as student-athletes, must sign the concussion information sheet as it pertains to AB25, which requires school districts to immediately remove an athlete from a school-sponsored athletic activity if he or she is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury.

Assembly Bill 2127 is an addendum to AB25 which requires a step-wise return-to-play protocol, requires a clearance after a head injury by a licensed physician trained in the management and care of concussion; and limits full-contact football practice to two 90-minute sessions per week.

The purposes of this statement are to help educate parents and athletes about head injuries, to define the signs and symptoms of a concussion, and finally to clarify our protocol by which we determine if and when an athlete may return to normal athletic activity.

Concussions can occur in any sport, but are more prevalent in contact sports. Individuals who suffer a concussion may display the following signs and symptoms following an incident:

- Disorientation
- Confusion
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Amnesia
- Headaches
- Disrupted hand-eye movements
- Loss of consciousness
- Blurred or double vision
- Increased fatigue, altered sleep patterns

If a student demonstrates any sign or symptom of a concussion after receiving a direct or indirect blow to the head, the athletic trainer - or school nurse for the middle school - will contact the parent or guardian, and the student will be removed from athletic activity until a licensed physician trained in the care and management of head injuries in accordance of AB 2127 gives him or her written clearance.

Additionally, the student will not be allowed to participate in athletic practices or events until they achieve an acceptable score on their Sway Medical testing, and exhibit no further symptoms after a stepwise return-to-play protocol is completed.

If an athlete sustains more than one concussion in a calendar year, they will not be allowed to return to participation in sports until evaluated by a neurologist or concussion specialist. Remember it's better to miss one game than miss the whole season.

Environmental Conditions

Exertional Heat Illness Policy & Procedures

Activity in hot or humid environments can easily cause a number of heat-related illnesses. Heat illness can occur in anyone at any time. The signs and symptoms listed below usually do not occur in a stepwise manner and can change rapidly depending on the person, situation, and activity. All signs and symptoms should be treated as serious and help sought in a timely manner.

Heat Exhaustion

Prolonged sweating, dehydration, and inability to sustain adequate cardiac output

Symptoms

Excessive thirst, dry mouth, weight loss, fatigue, weakness, mental fatigue, low urine volume, slightly elevated body temperature

Treatment

1. Move the individual to a cool/shaded area and remove excess clothing
2. Elevate legs to promote venous return
3. Cool the individual with fans, rotating ice towels, or ice bags
4. Provide oral fluids for rehydration

Heat Stroke

Sudden thermoregulatory failure

Symptoms

Abrupt onset; nervous system abnormalities: headache, dizziness, fatigue; flushed skin; rapid pulse rate; increased respiration rate; relatively normal blood pressure; rapid rise in body temperature (103°F+)

Treatment

1. Remove all equipment and excess clothing.
2. Cool the athlete as quickly as possible within 30 minutes via whole body ice water immersion (place them in a tub with ice and water approximately 35–58°F); stir the water and add ice throughout the cooling process.
3. If immersion is not possible (no tub, no water supply), take the athlete to a shaded, cool area. Use rotating cold, wet towels to cover as much of body surface as possible.
4. Maintain airway, breathing and circulation.
5. After cooling has been initiated, activate the Emergency Action Plan. Monitor vital signs such as heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, monitor CNS status.

Daily Monitoring of Environmental Conditions

The protocol calls for the determination of environmental conditions at the practice/contest site using the Perry Weather website/app. Restrictions are automatically sent to all users as well as “all clear” announcements.

Athletic department personnel should do the following when risk level rises:

Cat 3	Cat 2	Cat 1	Activity Guidelines
< 82.0°F <27.8°C	< 79.7°F <26.5°C	< 76.1°F <24.5°C	Normal Activities – Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 3 min each during the workout.
82.2 - 86.9°F 27.9-30.5°C	79.9 - 84.6°F 26.6-29.2°C	76.3 - 81.0°F 24.6-27.2°C	Use discretion for intense or prolonged exercise; Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 min each.
87.1 - 90.0°F 30.6-32.2°C	84.7 - 87.6°F 29.3-30.9°C	81.1 - 84.0°F 27.3-28.9°C	Maximum practice time is 2 h. <u>For Football:</u> players are restricted to helmet, shoulder pads, and shorts during practice. If the WBGT rises to this level during practice, players may continue to work out wearing football pants without changing to shorts. <u>For All Sports:</u> Provide at least four separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 min each.
90.1 - 91.9°F 32.2-33.3°C	87.8 - 89.6°F 31.0-32.0°C	84.2 - 86.0°F 29.0-30.0°C	Maximum practice time is 1 h. <u>For Football:</u> No protective equipment may be worn during practice, and there may be no conditioning activities. <u>For All Sports:</u> There must be 20 min of rest breaks distributed throughout the hour of practice.
≥ 92.1°F ≥ 33.4°C	≥ 89.8°F ≥32.1°C	≥ 86.2°F ≥30.1°C	No outdoor workouts. Delay practice until a cooler WBGT is reached.

Heat Acclimatization Policy

A proper heat acclimation program is essential to preventing heat-related illnesses. Menlo School has developed a heat acclimation protocol and procedure in the event of heat illness, heat-related cramping, and heatstroke. All Menlo student-athletes are required to undergo an annual physical performed by a licensed physician (MD or DO). The exam should identify predisposing factors that may increase a participant’s risk of heat-related illnesses. These include, but are not limited to, medication and supplement use, cardiac disease, history of sickle cell trait, and previous heat injury.

The heat-acclimatization period is defined as the initial 14 days of preseason practice. The goal of this acclimation period is to enhance the body’s heat tolerance abilities and to exercise safely and effectively in warm to hot climates. Days in which athletes do not practice due to a scheduled rest day, injury or illness do not count toward the heat-acclimatization period. A practice is defined as the period of time a student-athlete engages in a

coach-supervised physical activity. Each individual practice will last no longer than 3 hours in duration in which warm-up, stretching and cool-down activities are included in this practice session.

The following will be Menlo's heat-acclimatization protocol:

1. Days 1 through 5 of the heat-acclimatization period consist of the first 5 days of formal practice. There is only to be 1 practice per day during the first 5 days of practice with total practice time not to exceed 2 hours.
2. If a practice is interrupted by inclement weather or heat restrictions, the practice should recommence once conditions are deemed safe. After the initial 5 days of practice the total practice time should not exceed 4 hours in any 1 day.
3. During days 1–3 of the heat-acclimatization period, in sports requiring helmets or shoulder pads, a helmet should be the only protective equipment permitted. During days 4–5, only helmets and shoulder pads should be worn. Beginning on day 6, all protective equipment may be worn and full contact may begin.
 - a. Football only: On days 3–5, contact with blocking sleds and tackling dummies may be initiated.
4. Full-contact sports: 100 percent live-contact drills should begin no earlier than day 6.
5. Double-practice days must be followed by a single practice day. On single-practice days, 1 walk-through is permitted, separated from the practice by at least 3 hours of continuous rest. When a double practice day is followed by a rest day, another double practice day is permitted after the rest day.
6. On a double-practice day, neither practice should exceed 2 hours in duration, and student-athletes should not participate in more than 5 total hours of practice. Warm-up, stretching, cool-down, walkthrough, conditioning, meetings, film, and weight-room activities are included as part of the practice time. The 2 practices should be separated by at least 3 continuous hours in a cool environment.

Thunder and Lightning Policy

While we rarely have lightning storms in Northern California, we must be aware of the dangers of participating in outdoor athletic activities during thunderstorms.

In accordance with the "National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Lightning Safety for Athletics and Recreation" (Journal of Athletic Training 2000; 35(4): 471–477), the certified athletic trainer will adhere to the following protocol:

1. When applicable, the Head Athletic Trainer will monitor threatening weather and make recommendations to the Director of Athletics to remove teams or individuals from athletic sites or events. This emergency plan includes spectators and participants should hazardous weather occur during a competition or practice event. In the event

of the Head Athletic Trainer's absence, the Director of Athletics, Dean of Students will make the final decision.

2. Should a lightning watch be put into effect, no athletic events may occur outside. All student-athletes must remain in a safe structure or location. These sites are defined as any building normally occupied or frequently used by people. Avoid using shower facilities for safe shelter and DO NOT USE the showers or plumbing facilities during a storm.

Flash-to-Bang Method

1. Begin counting on the lightning strike and stop counting when the associated thunder is heard.
2. Divide the number (in seconds) by 5 to determine the distance (in miles) to the lightning flash. For example: If the time in seconds between the lightning being spotted and the thunder is heard is equal to 30, divide that by 5 to get 6 ($30/5= 6$). Therefore the lightning is approximately 6 miles away.
3. Any F-B time less than 30 seconds, all outdoor athletic facilities should be evacuated and people should be directed to a safe shelter nearby.
4. Once activities have been suspended, there will be at least a 30-minute wait after the last sound of thunder or lightning flash before resuming an activity or returning outdoors. Each time lightning is observed or thunder is heard, the 30-minute clock will be reset.

Air Quality Policy and Procedures

The negative effects of air pollution on human health are well known, with studies showing that children and teens are among those who are at greater risk from the effects of air and particle pollution. With an increase in wildfires in California and the resulting drifting smoke to our campus, Menlo School has drafted this air quality policy as a guideline to assist administration, faculty, staff, coaches, students, parents and athletes in making the best decisions regarding air quality and particle pollution by using the best evidence-based guidelines available.

Exercising in poor quality air can have adverse effects on the heart, blood vessels, and lungs. Air pollution has also been shown to not only worsen asthma symptoms but cause new cases of asthma in athletes exercising in poor air quality. Particle pollution is linked to a number of health problems, including coughing, wheezing, reduced lung function, asthma attacks, heart attacks and strokes.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is an index used for reporting daily air quality and the dangers of air pollution to the public. The guidelines for school-wide outside activities, including practices and games, will be determined by the AQI level from on-campus air sensors.

- AQI levels in the good level (0 to 50) are considered satisfactory and air quality poses little to no risk to individuals. No actions will be taken on curtailing activities of any kind due to air quality.
- AQI levels in the moderate level (51-100) can cause students who are unusually sensitive to air pollution to have some symptoms, however, for most individuals, it is a good day to be active outside. *Students who do develop symptoms, such as coughing, wheezing, difficulty breathing, and chest tightness should be allowed to rest, and if able, should be allowed a less intense activity, or be allowed to go indoors, or use quick-relief medicine as prescribed. If symptoms do not improve, the School Nurse and Security should be notified immediately.
- When the AQI is unhealthy for sensitive groups (101 to 150), it is okay to be outside, especially for short activities such as recess or PE. Longer activities such as athletic practices need to take more breaks and do less intensive activities. Athletes with breathing-related issues will be excused from conditioning or any strenuous activity. Students with asthma should follow their asthma action plans and keep their quick-relief medicine handy. Those students who may be adversely affected to air pollution and develop symptoms, see above*.
- If the AQI falls in the unhealthy range (151 to 200), 'shelter in place' will be instituted and communicated campus-wide. During a shelter in place, students and staff may move freely inside buildings, and teaching and work will continue. Outside recess and all outdoor activities, including athletic practices and games, will be canceled or held indoors (on a case-by-case basis). All indoor and outdoor conditioning will be canceled. Indoor teams will modify the practice to limit exertion. Staff will be instructed to close doors, windows, and vents. Classroom/building heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems will be shut down to prevent exposure to the outside air and pilot lights will be turned off. 'Shelter in place' may be modified depending on the air quality level, the distance between buildings, and other factors. Those students who may be adversely affected to air pollution and develop symptoms, see above*. The administration will consider closing the school at any point after the AQI goes above 150
- When the AQI is in the very unhealthy range (201-300), 'shelter in place' will continue with recommendations as above. Those students who are adversely affected should consider staying home, or wearing a mask during the school day. Inside athletic activities will be canceled. Administrators will consider school closure. Those students who may be adversely affected to the air pollution and develop symptoms, see above*.

- AQI's reported to be in the hazardous range (above 300), 'shelter in place' will continue with recommendations as above. Everyone should wear masks, not just those with a history of respiratory conditions. Those students with a history of asthma or other respiratory illnesses should stay home. Those students who may be adversely affected to air pollution and develop symptoms, see above*.

Decisions for cancellations of athletic events due to poor air quality will be made no later than noon on school days and no less than two hours prior to practice on non-school days. Prior to any decisions, the Menlo School Nurse, Dean of Students, Director of Athletics, The Head Athletic Trainer and Director of Sports Medicine will all be consulted prior to a formal decision announced to the coaches, students and Menlo community.

Teams who have practice cancelled due to poor air quality may wish to take their team to another area where the AQI is more favorable for outdoor practices. Additionally, outdoor teams may have the option of having a modified indoor practice depending on court availability. Requests for transporting a team out of the area will be handled on a case-by-case basis and only approved by the Director of Athletics.

Steroid and Performance-Enhancing Supplements Policy

To safeguard the health and safety of our students, Menlo School endorses sound nutritional practices, specifically the guidelines issued by the USDA. Additionally, consistent with CIF regulations, Menlo School prohibits the use, possession, sale or distribution of all dietary, nutritional and/or performance-enhancing supplements other than those listed below. Students who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action and will be referred to the Dean of Students.

The School may waive its prohibition of a supplement if the School:

- receives written approval from the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student-athlete AND their primary care physician; authorizing the use of the specified supplement;
- approves the use of the supplement

Permitted Nutritional Substances

Using the guidelines of the NCAA Committee on Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports as a standard, Menlo School allows students to use the following nutritional substances:

- Vitamins and minerals following USDA guidelines
- Energy bars
- Calorie-replacement drinks
- Electrolyte-replacement drinks

As a condition of membership in the CIF, all schools shall adopt policies prohibiting the use and abuse of androgenic/anabolic steroids. All member schools shall have participating students and their parents or legal guardian/caregiver agree that the athlete will not use steroids without the written prescription of a fully licensed physician (as recognized by the AMA) to treat a medical condition (Article 5, Bylaw 524).

The participating student-athlete hereby agrees that they shall not use androgenic/anabolic steroids without the written prescription of a fully licensed physician (as recognized by the AMA) to treat a medical condition. The student-athlete also recognizes that, under CIF Bylaw 200.D., there could be penalties for false or fraudulent information. The student-athlete and parent understand Menlo School's policy regarding the use of illegal drugs as stated above and understand that punishment will be enforced following violation of these rules.

Menlo School Athletics Emergency Action Plan

Medical emergency situations may arise at any time during sporting events. Quick and efficient action must be taken in order to provide the best care of the student-athletes. The development and implementation of an emergency-action plan will help ensure that the best care will be provided.

As emergencies may occur at any time and during any activity, all school-activities Workers, including non-Athletics staff) must be prepared. Schools have a duty to develop an emergency plan that may be implemented immediately when necessary and provide appropriate standards of emergency care to all sports participants. As athletics injuries may occur at any time and during any activity, the Sports Medicine team must be prepared. Through careful pre-participation physical screenings, adequate medical coverage, safe practices, updated emergency equipment, etc, some potential emergencies may be averted. However, accidents and injuries are inherent with sports participation, and proper preparation on the part of the Sports Medicine team should enable each emergency situation to be managed appropriately.



Menlo School Athletics Emergency Action Plan

3. Responders Responsibilities

**If a responder is not present the next responder assumes their duties.*

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active EMS by calling 911 • Call Menlo Security |
| 2. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stabilize the athlete and provide primary first aid to the best of your ability until the athletic trainer or EMS arrives. • DO NOT MOVE the athlete |
| 3. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Retrieval • AED, First Aid kit, etc. |
| 4. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the safety of other athletes/spectators and keep them calm. |

Emergency contacts

Title	Contact	Phone No.
Head Athletic Trainer	Aubrey Fennell	650-542-1955
Assistant Athletic Trainer	Stephanie Green	650-787-4483
School Nurse	Joan Barada & Laurel Marks	650-743-1400
Director of Athletics	Earl Koberlein	650-279-6700
Assistant Athletic Director	Buffie Ward	650-575-1382
Middle School Athletic Director	Benay Weintraub	901-574-0105
Middle School Assistant AD	King Christian	650-799-6785
Head of Security	Mustapha Moutri	650-766-0295

Local Hospitals, Emergency Rooms

Stanford Children’s Hospital ER	Kaiser-Redwood City ER	Sequoia Hospital
2.9 miles	3.9 miles	3.8 miles
900 Quarry Road Palo Alto 94304	1100 Veterans Blvd. Redwood City 94063	170 Alameda de las Pulgas Redwood City 94062
650-723-5111	510-752-1130	650-369-5811

AED locations



30-Johnson Family Athletic Center

15- Gates Pool

F1- Cartan Field

F2-Wunderlich Field

4. Venue Information and Campus Map

Location	Directions	Primary AED	Secondary AED
Cartan Stadium/Track	26 Alejandra Ave, Atherton CA 94027 Enter Cartan parking lot. Continue all the way down the parking lot security will escort EMS to through gate to field.	Cartan	Gates Pool
Gates Family Pool	1000 El Camino Real, Atherton CA 94027 Enter from Menlo College Loop Entrance, continue toward Haynes Prim Pavillion (gym) where security will escort EMS to pool	Gates Pool	Wunderlich
Baseball Field	30 Alejandra Ave, Atherton CA 94027 Meet Security in Cartan parking lot where they will escort EMS to field	Cartan	Wunderlich
Wunderlich Tennis Courts	75 Alejandra Ave, Atherton CA 94027	Wunderlich	Gates
Cartan Tennis Courts	26 Alejandra Ave, Atherton CA 94027 From El Camino, take Alejandra Ave and turn right to enter Cartan parking lot	Wunderlich	Gates Pool
Johnson Family Athletics Center	50 Valparaiso Ave, Atherton CA 94027 Enter Menlo School Loop, Security will escort EMS to Gym	Lower or Upper level AED	Lower or Upper level AED

* If the athletic trainer is present for practice/competition the mobile AED unit will become the primary AED

Policy of Special Scenarios

a. Seizures

Definition and Cause	Presenting Symptoms	Protocol
Changes in behavior that occur after an episode of abnormal electrical activity in the brain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptoms occur suddenly: Brief blackout followed by a period of confusion. • Drooling or frothing at the mouth • Eye movements • Grunting and snorting • Loss of bladder or bowel control • Shaking of the entire body • Tasting a bitter or metallic flavor • Teeth clenching • Temporary stop in breathing • Uncontrollable muscle spasms, twitching limbs • Symptoms may stop after a few seconds or minutes, or continue for up to 15 minutes. They rarely continue longer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event an athlete suffers from a grand mal seizure due to injury, it is policy not to restrain the athlete. • If the athlete vomits, turn them to the side to allow the airway to drain. All provisions should be made to protect the athlete's head and allow open access to the airway, but no restraining of the athlete should be used. • Do not place anything in the athlete's mouth. • Follow seizure action plan in app • If first- time seizure activate EMS

b. Asthma attack

Definition and Cause	Presenting Symptoms	Protocol
<p>Airway inflammation, narrowing and swelling, causing extra mucus production, with difficulty breathing</p> <p>Exposure to allergens: tree, grass or weed pollen, dust mites, cockroaches, animal dander, smoke or chemical fumes, and strong odors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airway inflammation, narrowing and swelling, causing extra mucus production, with difficulty breathing. • Exposure to allergens: tree, grass or weed pollen, dust mites, cockroaches, animal dander, smoke or chemical fumes, and strong odors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the athlete from activity immediately • Encourage the athlete to relax and control their breathing. If necessary coach the athlete in performing controlled breathing exercises • Follow asthma action plan found in app

c. Anaphylactic shock

Definition and Cause	Presenting Symptoms	Protocol
A severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole-body: fainting, lightheadedness, low blood pressure, dizziness, or flushing • Respiratory: difficulty breathing, rapid breathing, shortness of breath, or wheezing • Skin: hives, swelling under the skin, blue skin from poor circulation, or rashes • Gastrointestinal: nausea or vomiting • Also common: fast heart rate, feeling of impending doom, itching, tongue swelling, difficulty swallowing, facial swelling, confusion, nasal congestion, or impaired voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately activate the EAP • Monitor the athlete's vitals (heart rate, blood pressure, and breathing rate) while ensuring the athlete's airway and circulation are not compromised • Follow anaphylaxis action plan found in app. • Assist the athlete in administering an epinephrine pen, if trained and available. If the athlete has a prescribed epinephrine pen and can administer themselves, allow them to do so. • Do not administer any foods or fluids to the athlete for fear of choking.

References

1. [National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Preparticipation Physical Examinations and Disqualifying Condition](#)
2. [National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Management of Sport Concussion](#)
3. [National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Exertional Heat Illnesses](#)
4. [National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Lightning Safety for Athletics and Recreation](#)
5. National Athletic Trainers' Association. "Interassociation Recommendations for Developing a Plan to Recognize and Refer Student-Athletes With Psychological Concerns at the Secondary School Level: A Consensus Statement." [Journal Of Athletic Training](#), 2015;50(3):231-249.
6. [NATA Asthma Position Statement](#)
7. [National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Emergency Planning in Athletics](#)

Insurance Policy

Menlo School carries student accident insurance. The coverage is called an excess policy because it may provide payment for costs (up to \$50,000.00 total lifetime maximum, per covered person, per accident) incurred that are over and above payments made by the primary insurance carried by the parent/guardian of a Menlo student. Menlo School urges and expects that all families carry medical insurance for their children who are students at the school.

The following are some key provisions of the Menlo Student Accident Insurance Policy:

- The claim for benefits must arise from a Menlo-sponsored activity.
- The policy may pay only those costs that are not reimbursed by the health insurance policy carried by the parent/guardian of the injured student.
- The policy may only pay a portion of the costs not reimbursed by the health insurance carried by the parent/guardian of the injured student.
- Reimbursed costs paid under the Menlo policy are determined by and at the sole discretion of the Menlo Student Accident insurance carrier. Menlo School has absolutely no control over or influence on the carrier's decision. Parents cannot and should not assume that any payment will be made under this policy.
- A claim for reimbursement must be reported within 31 days of the date the accident occurs. Claim forms are available from Menlo's Head Athletic Trainer.
- Subject to policy terms and conditions, the claim must be reported within 90 days of the date of the accident and only costs incurred within 365 days of the accident are eligible for coverage.
- In making this coverage available, Menlo assumes no liability for medical conditions being treated or for any costs not covered by the primary insurer for the Menlo student. And, again, the School does not make or influence decisions of any insurance carrier as to eligibility for or payment of benefits.

Participation in certain school activities, including athletics, involves the risk of injury or worse. Menlo parents and students assume those risks. A student should not participate in the activity if they and/or their parents are not comfortable with this fact.

Frequently Asked Questions

When must medical release and parental permission and supplemental Athletics forms for Upper School be submitted?

All students must have a physical examination form and all supplemental forms on file via August Schools before beginning practice for their sport.

What forms do I need to complete prior to trying out for a sport at Menlo?

All of the following are housed under the athlete's health record:

- A physical performed by an M.D. or D.O. and dated after June 1.
- A sport injury risk and consent waiver signed by both parents or guardians
- State-mandated concussion information form
- State-mandated sudden cardiac arrest information form
- Menlo Athletics parent-student handbook
- Menlo head injury management program
- An updated vital health record with at least four emergency contacts with one of the four contacts residing outside of the area
- A medical release and confidentiality statement signed by both parents/guardians

What if I'm injured and am referred out to a specialist or my pediatrician?

If Menlo athletic trainers deem a referral is necessary, then return with a note from the treating physician with a diagnosis and treatment so they may provide the best support.

Can I drive my child to and from games or allow them to get a ride after the game?

Athletes may be released to their parents following the game only if the coach is informed directly. Athletes are not allowed to depart with another parent unless the coach has received prior written notification from their parent(s).

Parents planning to drive teams to and from a Menlo event must be cleared by the Menlo transportation department by showing proof of insurance and sign a release that the Menlo transportation department can share with the California Department of Motor Vehicles. Please contact [Megan Leonard](#) to arrange clearance. On occasion, students may drive themselves provided there is a proof of insurance and permission form on file with the Head Athletic Trainer. Students are not allowed to drive other students to games.

If my child misses school, can they participate in a game or practice?

A student must attend at least two classes on the day of the competition in order to be eligible to participate in a competition or practice. A student who misses a full day of classes is not permitted to be present at the competition. There are some exceptions, and those must be

approved by the Dean of Students and the Director of Athletics.

How can my child best balance Creative Arts and Athletics events?

Menlo Athletics challenges its student-athletes to make a commitment. However, the Athletics Department encourages participation in other school activities. The Athletics Department recognizes its role as part of the total educational environment for the student.

Therefore, athletes certainly may participate in other activities. However, they must be prepared to balance their involvement in other school activities, especially those which might require a significant time commitment of their own, with their obligation to the team. The higher the level of play (freshman to frosh-soph or JV to varsity), the greater the importance for the player to be with their team for practices and contests. The athlete must be able to recognize the need to fulfill the obligations of that season-long commitment before making any other commitment.

How do I pay for the extra expenses that occur each season?

Menlo realizes that playing an interscholastic sport can force a family to incur added expenses, such as equipment, apparel and team travel. Every effort is made to keep these added costs down, and Menlo has removed team fees for all sports. If families are in need of financial assistance, there are funds available through the [Jay Ward Athletic Endowment Fund](#). Submit forms to Rose Garza rose.garza@menloschool.org in the Admissions Financial Aid Office.

How do I find out the latest updates on key dates, schedules and rainouts?

Check the team app, run by team parents, which alerts students, families of changes, the Menlo School Athletics website and Twitter/X feed @MenloKnights

How do I make sure that my student doesn't fall behind academically during their athletic season?

A significant time commitment is required to be a high school athlete. Student-athletes will occasionally have to miss class. With more than three-quarters of the student body participating in interscholastic sports each year, the faculty knows very well how to work with our student-athletes. Students need to plan and let teachers know well in advance when they are going to miss class. Students should use tutorials in order to meet with teachers when they have to miss class, and should use sessions during free periods, lunch or before school to meet with teachers or take tests.

Interscholastic Team Information 2025-2026

All dates and times subject to change

Fall

Sport	Head coach	Start date	Practice sites
Cross country	TBD	Aug. 8 3:30pm	Cartan track
Flag football	Noah Lubarsky	Aug. 8 3:30 pm	Wunderlich Field
Football	Todd Smith	(summer session begins June 8, 2:45 pm)	Cartan field
Golf - girls	Mark Madayag	Aug.8 3:30 pm	Baylands GL
Tennis - girls	Francis Sargeant	Aug. 8 (varsity) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Aug. 14 (JV) 9:00 am-12:00 pm	Wunderlich Courts
Volleyball	Tony Holland	Aug. 8 (varsity) 9:00 am-11:30 am and 3:30-5:30 pm Aug. 15 (JV/FR) noon	Athletic Center
Water polo - boys	Jack Bowen	Aug. 12 2:00-4:00 pm (varsity) Aug. 15 12:00 pm (JV)	Gates Pool
Water polo - girls	Laura Reynolds	Aug. 8 9:00-11:00 am	Gates Pool

Fall Holidays/Non-school days

Sept. 1 – Labor Day

Oct. 3 – Fall Holiday

Oct. 27 – Fall Holiday

Nov. 24-28 – Thanksgiving Break

Although there are no classes, these holidays, in addition to Saturdays, MAY REQUIRE ATHLETE ATTENDANCE for practices, games, or tournaments. Please check with individual coaches about their particular schedule and commitment policy.

Winter

Sport	Head Coach	Start dates	Practice sites
Basketball - boys	Ben Batory	Nov. 3	Athletic Center
Basketball - girls	Ryan Cooper	Nov. 3	Athletic Center
Soccer - boys	Daniel Hicker	Nov. 3	Wunderlich/Cartan fields
Soccer - girls	Ross Ireland	Nov. 3	Wunderlich/Cartan fields

Winter Holidays/Non-school days

Nov. 24-28 – Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 22-Jan.2 – Holiday Break

Jan. 19 – MLK Holiday

Feb. 16-20 – Mid Winter Break

Spring

Sport	Head coach	Start date	Practice sites
Baseball	David Trujillo	Feb. 2, 202	Cartan field
Golf - boys	Mark Madayag	Feb. 2, 2026	Off-campus
Lacrosse - boys	Blake Kim	Feb. 2, 2026	Cartan/Wunderlich fields
Lacrosse - girls	Parnika Patel	Feb. 2, 2026	Cartan field
Swimming	Simon Cassidy	Feb. 2, 2026	Gates Pool
Tennis - boys	Francis Sargeant	Feb. 2, 2026	Wunderlich (V); Cartan (JV)
Track & field	TBD	Feb. 2, 2026	Cartan track

Spring Holiday/Non-school days

Feb. 16- 20 – Mid Winter Break

March 2 – Professional Development Day

April 6 -10 - Spring Break

April 6 - Spring Holiday

May 26 – Memorial Day

Although there are no classes, these holidays, in addition to Saturdays, MAY REQUIRE ATHLETE ATTENDANCE for practices, games, or tournaments. Please check with individual coaches about their particular schedule and commitment policy.

Middle School - Competing Schools

West Bay Athletic League

Bay Division	Skyline Division
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Castilleja● Crystal Springs School● Harker School● The King's Academy● Menlo● Pinewood● Priory● Sacred Heart School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Episcopal Day School● Girls Middle School● Highlands Christian● Keys● Nueva● Redeemer Lutheran● Woodland

Athletics Staff Directory 2025-2026

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