# **Oswego East Girls Track and Field Attendance & Tardy Policy**

PHILOSOPHY: We strongly believe that success in Track, as in any endeavor, is dependent on consistent effort and commitment to long-term term goals. Participation in high school athletics is not a right but a privilege; while we support all athletes, regardless of ability level, we feel that to earn the privilege of being on the team, all members must be willing to make an equivalent sacrifice. While we encourage the development of well-rounded individuals, we also recognize that the value of athletics cannot be truly realized if the athlete is unable to make a full commitment to her sport. This may require that athletes have to make some difficult choices, but the team will derive strength from the shared sense of sacrifice that all individual members are making.

Please contact the coaching staff as soon as you are aware of an upcoming absence. We encourage the athletes to communicate with the coaches regarding any potential conflicts. For an absence to be excused, the PARENT must contact Coach Aister via email or voicemail. The coaches reserve the right to consequence athletes as seen fit for the situation and circumstances. Multiple unexcused tardies and absences may result in dismissal from the team.

### **Excused Absence:**

A situation that is uncontrollable and/or unpreventable. Examples include:

- Illness
- Family Emergency
- Observance of Religious Holiday
- Meeting with a teacher for academic reasons (however, athlete is to report directly to practice, with a pass from the teacher)

## Who to Contact:

Coach Aister 630-636-2307 eaister@sd308.org

## **Provisional Absence:**

A situation that may be understandable, but should be limited throughout the course of the season. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- SAT/ACT test prep courses and/or Driver's Education courses
- Band or orchestra concert
- Vacations and family celebrations (weddings, bar mitzvahs, anniversary parties, etc.)
- Orthodontist/Dental/Doctor appointments (please try to schedule around practice)
- College Visits

#### **Unexcused Absence:**

A situation that could be prevented. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Oversleeping/forgetting/being unaware
- Haircut/style appointments, etc
- Birthday parties, concerts, or professional/college sporting events
- Extended Prom Weekend/Senior Skip Days
- Practice for another sport, club, or activity (for example, missing practice for 'government club' is unexcused)
- An absence is considered UNEXCUSED unless it has been communicated from PARENT to COACH

#### **Tardies:**

Athletes are expected to be at all practices and competitions on time, including those early in the morning, on weekends, and during Spring Break. Weekday practices begin at 2:50 pm on the track (with Wednesdays at 3:45 pm). Students arriving after this time should have a pass from a teacher. Weekend practices will begin at 8:00 or 9:00 am. Times are indicated on the calendar. If there are changes, they will be communicated at practice as well as Twitter (@runningOEHS) and Remind (Text @oetrack to 81010). Any student arriving after the scheduled practice time who does not have a pass will be considered tardy.

#### **Honor Clause:**

We realize that life happens, and conflicts arise. At all times, we expect our athletes to be honest and clear when it comes to communication with the coaches and team. We expect our athletes to advocate for themselves and to communicate any conflicts. We look to the parents to validate these issues with a simple phone call or email sent to Coach Aister prior to the absence. If this communication does not take place, the coaching staff reserves the right to suspend or terminate an athlete's position on the team.