

RICE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL 2008-2009 Athletic Handbook



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This handbook is designed to provide students and parents with information about Rice athletics. Please read it carefully as your signature on the participation consent form indicates your understanding and acceptance of our policies. In order to participate in athletics this form must be filled out. It must be signed by both the student and his/her parent/guardian, and turned in to the coach/advisor prior to the first meeting or practice. Signing the consent form indicates parental permission, as well as confirming that the contents of this handbook have been read and understood by both the student and parent. The Participation Consent Form is available in the main office and athletic office, and can also be downloaded at www.ricehs.org

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

As a Roman Catholic school, Rice Memorial High School exists to guide its students toward the realization of their God-given potential. We understand and appreciate the importance of athletics in the overall education of student-athletes. Experiences teach values such as hard work, commitment, leadership, discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness, all within a framework that emphasizes sportsmanship and academic achievement. Participation contributes to the physical, emotional and social health of our students, and promotes a sense of unity and cooperation among athletes, the student body and the larger school community.

Rice Memorial has a tradition of successful athletic programs, and winning is a natural goal. Our teams will strive to win, but emphasis will be placed on effort, improvement, respect for coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials, and learning to win graciously and lose with dignity. Winning is emphasized more strongly at the varsity level, but never at the expense of healthy attitudes, values and perspective. At sub-varsity levels, winning remains a goal, but is subordinate to participation and skill development. Above all, we want our athletes to have a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

Rice Memorial High School promotes good sportsmanship among athletes and fans. We encourage students, parents and friends to attend games and support our teams, but we ask you to do so in a positive manner. Individuals who choose to berate opponents or officials, use vulgar language, or make derogatory comments may be asked to leave. Furthermore, please remember that negative comments about coaches, players, opponents, or officials, even in conversation in the stands, do nothing but undermine the coach and harm the team. We understand that contests can get emotional, and a poor call, a costly mistake, or a loss can be difficult to swallow. However, we ask you to keep high school sports in perspective, and to understand that players, coaches and officials do make mistakes. Yelling at them from the stands, or even sharing a negative opinion about the situation can only make matters worse. Please keep yourself under control at all times in the stands and represent our school and community with the dignity that you expect from our coaches and teams.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT TRAINING PHILOSOPHY

It is the overwhelming opinion of health educators and coaches that athletes perform best when they follow intelligent training rules. These rules include restrictions on tobacco, alcohol, and drugs. The coaches of Rice Memorial High School are concerned with the health habits of the student/athletes of this community, and are convinced that athletics and the use of these substances are not compatible.

Since participation in athletics at Rice Memorial High School is a privilege for each individual, it is important that students, parents, and interested persons are aware of the necessary rules and regulations. We believe that participation in athletics, both as a player and a student spectator, is a vital part of the student's educational experience.

The Athletic Department, in compliance with school policy, therefore prohibits the use/abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs of any form. The training rules also extend beyond school time, school grounds, and school functions. We, as a department, feel that abstinence should be a way of life in and out of school.

Definition of a violation:

“A violation of the Rice Memorial High School Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy is any drug or alcohol related incident, which occurs on school premises or at school, sponsored functions. It includes the purchase, use, possession of, or being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, dealing in alcohol or other drugs and the possession of devices specifically or reasonably associated with alcohol or drug use. This includes the refusal of a student to cooperate fully, or any other specific drug or alcohol related actions that, in the best judgment of school personnel who are familiar with the students normal behavior, impairs the normal functioning of a student.”

For purposes of the high school athletic program, the definition of a violation is expanded to include the out-of-school hours throughout a sports season. A court conviction involving alcohol and/or other drugs will constitute a violation of training rules.

All violators are to be reported to the athletic director. Coaches must report violations and are not to handle violations on an individual basis. In addition, the principal, dean of students, and members of the faculty have the responsibility to report violations promptly to the athletic director. Any person may report violations. Follow-up action may require the commitment of the individual(s) reporting the incident to participate in due process hearings.

All violations during the sport season are addressed for all individuals in the same manner; with fairness, firmness and in the best interest of the student and team involved. The sport season is defined as the first official practice to the last official practice/contest.

DUE PROCESS

The consequences and due process afforded the student/athlete for violation of the training rules of the Rice Memorial High School Athletic Department shall be consistent with school policy for alcohol and drug abuse, and will include the following conditions:

I. Violation:

A. Sale and /or distribution of alcohol and/or drugs.

Consequence:

Recommended expulsion from school and immediate dismissal from the team. There will be no practices or competition pending outcome of the investigation.

II. Violation:

The purchase, use, possession, being under the influence, possession of a reasonably related drug/alcohol device, participation in a related incident or refusal to cooperate with an investigation.

Consequence:

A. First Offense:

1. Suspension for a maximum of ten school days. If the suspension is for less than the maximum, upon returning to school the student may practice with an athletic team and participate in either extracurricular or co-curricular activity meetings but may not be a part of any public competition or performance for two weeks starting from the first day of the suspension.

Any student with a drug/alcohol violation within a calendar year will not be allowed to participate in any overnight trip or retreat sponsored by the school. Once a full calendar year has elapsed, any student with a drug/alcohol violation who wishes to participate in such a trip/retreat will be required to have had a reassessment by a drug and alcohol counselor within three months of the trip, and a determination will be made by the administration as to whether or not the student may participate.

Also within one calendar year, a student with a drug/alcohol violation will not be permitted to hold any school leadership position, including but not limited to class office, student council, campus ministry office, National Honor Society, or athletic team captain. Following the calendar year, the student may complete a drug/alcohol assessment if he/she wishes to hold such a position.

2. In cases where the administration determines that a violation of the Athletic Department Training Rules occurs outside of the normal school jurisdiction and upon a student's return to school following a suspension for violation of the Rice Drug and Alcohol Policy (A above), the following conditions apply:

A. A maximum two-week suspension from all athletic competition is in place, starting from the first day of the suspension.

B. The student/athlete shall not be allowed to dress in uniform for any games, travel to away games with the team, or be associated with the team at away contests or activities.

C. The athlete will be expected to participate in all scheduled practice sessions.

D. The athlete will also be required to participate in a socially rehabilitative program.

Failure to meet or to work toward meeting these requirements will result in immediate dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season, and will also prohibit the athlete from participating on any other athletic team, unless the obligation has been met.

B. Second Offense:

A second violation of the Rice Drug and Alcohol policy may result in immediate expulsion from the school.

If the administration determines an Athletic Department training rules violation occurs outside normal school jurisdiction, the student-athlete will receive a four-week suspension from all school related activities regardless of location. Suspensions levied in the spring with less than four weeks remaining in the current school year will carry forward to the fall.

C. Third Offense:

Immediate dismissal from participation in interscholastic athletics for one calendar year. Also, the student must once again complete the social rehabilitative program before he/she can compete on an athletic team during another sport season. However, individual extracurricular programs may develop rules and responsibilities with higher expectations.

In all cases including the violation of the school's Drug and Alcohol policy or the Athletic Department training rules, the student-athlete will be prohibited from holding a team leadership position for calendar year.

PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING DRUGS/SUPPLEMENTS

Healthy student-athletes do not need supplements. Our students are encouraged to maintain a healthy diet, lifestyle, and exercise regimen in order to optimize performance. Use of illegal performance enhancing substances such as anabolic steroids, diuretics, HGH, etc. is now included in our athletic training rules and will result in dismissal from the team. There are many other commercially available products (such as

creatine and other nutritional supplements) marketed for the purpose of enhancing athletic performance. We advise against use of these products – studies on their long-term effects are incomplete, and they may be detrimental to the health and performance of young student-athletes. And, they can be dangerous when used inappropriately. Our athletic training staff is knowledgeable about the use and dangers of these products and they are available to answer questions from students and parents.

CYBERIMAGE POLICY

Rice Memorial High School encourages safe and responsible student behavior with regard to internet use. We highly recommend our students avoid inappropriate use of public web sites such as Facebook, Myspace or YouTube. Any identifiable image, photo, video, or posted on-line conversation which implicates a student-athlete to have been in violation of our training rules, that is discovered on these or any other web-based site will be investigated immediately by school officials. Parents will be notified, and the student will be questioned. If the violation is substantiated, the consequences outlined under previously in the handbook may result.

CIVIL/CRIMINAL VIOLATION TRAINING RULES

A student participant who:

- is convicted of a misdemeanor other than a misdemeanor resulting from a motor vehicle offense which did not involve personal injury or careless and negligent driving;
- is charged with a felony for which probable cause has been determined, or convicted of a felony; or vandalizes school property or steals property on school district grounds.

May be subject to the following penalties:

- For the first offense occurring during a sports season, the student may be immediately dropped from the program for the remainder of the season.
- For a second offense during one school year, the student may be suspended from participation in any sport or activity for one calendar year.
- For a first offense that takes place outside of a sports season, but is discovered during the season, there will be no penalty. However, if the student violates training rules again during that school year, he/she will be suspended from participation in any sport or activity for one calendar year.

Please realize, by signing the student contract you are pledging your word that you will abide by these rules. You are committing to your team, your school, your parents, and to yourself, that you will not use tobacco, alcohol, or drugs while involved in athletics and/or student activities at Rice Memorial High School. Parents, you too, by signing the form are making a commitment that you understand and accept these rules, and that you will aid in their enforcement by reporting any violations you witness, even if it is your own child.

TEAM SELECTION AND PLAYING TIME

Athletics does provide an ideal forum for a young adult to experience first-hand some of life's greatest lessons. Learning opportunities stem not only from being a part of a team but also to disappointment realized when the team selection is different than what had been hoped for. In the essence of collegiality, fairness and due process, the following is Athletic Department protocol regarding team selection and playing time issues.

CUT POLICY

One of the most difficult and unpleasant tasks of coaching is making "cuts." Before deciding to be a candidate for any athletic team, you and your parents must be prepared to accept the possibility that you may not be selected. No one enjoys telling a student with the desire to play sports that he/she does not possess the necessary abilities to make the team, but in some activities it is essential to reduce the squad to a manageable size, particularly considering safety, fiscal resources, facilities, and coaching personnel. The

coach's decision regarding cuts is final. No candidate (including seniors and students who have played on the team previously) is guaranteed a roster spot on any team. You will improve your chances of making a team by reporting to practice on time, in shape, with all the necessary paperwork, and with a good attitude. If extenuating circumstances (vacation, etc.) will not allow you to attend all or part of tryouts, please contact the coach or the athletic department.

PLAYING TIME

Decisions regarding playing time are made by the coach in the best interests of the team. At sub-varsity levels, every effort will be made to get all students playing time, regardless of their ability, provided the coach determines they meet the following requirements:

- The student is in good mental and physical health, and playing will not place the student at unreasonable risk of injury.
- The student abides by all school, department and team rules.
- The student strives to "earn" playing time by consistently demonstrating good sportsmanship, respectful behavior toward teammates, coaches and officials, a positive attitude, and a strong work ethic.

At the varsity level winning is emphasized more strongly, and playing time is not guaranteed. Playing time is determined by the criteria listed above, as well as an individual's ability, and the team situation.

Students who have questions about their playing time should address them directly to the coach. Coaches are not required to discuss playing time with parents.

CAPTAINS

Being selected as a captain, either by the coach(es) or by one's peers, is a privilege and an honor. As such there are expectations for captains beyond that of regular team members. Captains are leaders and need to set examples in appropriate behavior both in and out of school. Captains should be at the forefront of following school policies, by garnering repeated detentions and disciplinary actions, a captain may lose his/her captaincy. Please, be the first to lead by example and the last to violate school and team standards.

COMMUNICATION OF ATHLETIC CONCERNS

This section is intended to help foster constructive communication between students, parents, coaches and administrators, ultimately for the benefit of the student. Involvement in extracurricular activities will allow your child to experience some of the most rewarding times of their lives. However, there will likely be times when things don't go as they wish, or they or their parents disagree with a coach. It is important that students and parents realize these difficult situations are as much a part of the learning process as are the good times. Our coaches work hard on behalf of their athletes. However, just as we recognize the challenges involved in parenting a high school student, we ask you to respect the fact that their decisions are often extremely difficult, and are made based on factors of which students and parents may not be aware. We strongly encourage the student, not the parents, to talk to the coach about any issues or concerns that may arise during the season. This is not only the most direct and productive means of communication, but also a valuable method of teaching responsibility. Furthermore, we encourage parents to communicate in a positive manner with their children, other students, and other parents, regarding participation in sports and activities. Negative conversations on the sidelines, criticism of coaches among parents or between parents and their children, and unsportsmanlike behavior in the stands have a detrimental affect on all involved, and can ultimately have a significant negative impact on the success and enjoyment experienced by individuals and the team. We are all in this together, and if we can all maintain the proper perspective on what high school sports are about, our students will have fun and will learn, regardless of their playing time or how many games they win.

We recognize that situations may arise where parents find it necessary to raise a concern, and we ask you to please adhere to the following communication guidelines.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways the parent can help the child to improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student-athletes

Protocol for registering concerns

1. The student-athlete meets with the coach first to discuss and attempt to resolve the problem.
2. If resolution is not reached, the parent/guardian will contact the coach to schedule a meeting with the coach, the athlete, and the parent.. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic office to assist with arranging a meeting.
3. If this meeting does not provide satisfactory resolution, call to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director. At this point a meeting will be scheduled that will include the Athletic Director, the Coach, the parent/guardian, AND the student-athlete.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A PRACTICE OR CONTEST. THESE CAN BE EMOTIONAL TIMES FOR BOTH PARTIES. MEETINGS OF THIS NATURE DO NOT PROMOTE RESOLUTION.

If a parent circumvents the above named procedures, the school reserves the right to take the following steps:

1. By written notice, the parent will be warned that they have not followed procedure and that their action is inappropriate.

If the first action is severe then, at the administration's discretion, the parent may also receive a "no contact" order banning the parent from any contact with players/team/coaching staff during all practices and games for the remainder of the season. In addition, one of the following two options may also be implemented:

2. If a second offense happens during the same academic year, the school may ban a parent from any home athletic contests for the remainder of the school year.
3. If a third offense occurs during the same academic year, the school may ban the parent and/or athlete from interscholastic contests/competition for the remainder of the school year. At the discretion of the Rice administration, this may be extended to include any future competitions at Rice.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR RICE STUDENTS

Any student who wishes to participate in co-curricular activities and/or interscholastic athletics must be enrolled as a full-time student and have passed five (5) classes the proceeding marking period. Passing grade is a 65. Eligibility for returning fall athletes will be determined by the final grades (not fourth quarter grades) earned by the student-athlete the previous year.

If a student falls below this criterion, a review will be made of the situation. Barring the presence of extenuating circumstances, the student will become ineligible until the progress report period of the subsequent quarter. At the coaches' discretion, the student-athlete may continue to practice with his/her team. If the student-athlete is passing ALL classes at this time, the student-athlete will regain eligibility to participate in co-curricular activities immediately.

The Athletic Director and the Principal will define extenuating circumstances. The Principal, or his/her designee, will provide a final determination on a case by case basis. The student will not be allowed to practice or participate in any co-curricular athletic game, contest, production or formal presentation activity during the period of ineligibility.

VERMONT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION ELIGIBILITY

VPA eligibility rules and activities apply to all activities, both athletic and non-athletic, sanctioned or sponsored by the Vermont Principals' Association. Waiver requests regarding undue hardships must be submitted through the school principal. The following VPA eligibility rules:

Contestants or participants must be bona fide students in their school. Students may only compete on school teams sponsored by their own school during the season;

In an activity season, players who have participated in practice or competition as a member of a school team shall not practice or compete as members of a non-school organized group in the same activity;

Transfer students are eligible at once, provided they were bona fide students in the school from which they transferred according to the definition above;

Participants must be under 19 years of age, except that a student whose 19th birthday occurs on or after August 1st, is eligible for all activities in the ensuing school year;

Students are ineligible if they have graduated from any course of study in a secondary school comparable to the Vermont system;

Students have four consecutive year (8 semesters) of eligibility. Attendance of 30 days of any semester will be regarded as a semester.

For a complete list of VPA rules and regulations, go to www.vpaonline.org

SUNDAY PRACTICE POLICY

We must remember that Sunday is the “day the Lord hath made” – it should be a day of worship and family time. We must always be aware of the mission of Rice Memorial.

With that said, it is understood, due to scheduling of gym and ice time in conjunction with Monday games, some Sunday practices are unavoidable. However, they must be an exception, not the rule. They may only take place during the late afternoon/evening hours, they are neither mandatory nor do they include any team other than one on the Varsity level. Communication regarding the practices must be clearly communicated with the parent/guardian, not just simply stated to the student-athlete.

STUDENT WELFARE GUIDELINES

Rice Memorial High School does NOT provide insurance for injuries related to athletic activities. Students are to be apprised of this situation and made aware of their need to purchase insurance.

If any injured player is taken to the doctor's office or to the hospital, the parents should be notified and requested to meet the player there. If at all possible, a staff member should accompany the athlete and remain on site until the parent(s) arrive.

The coach must file an “athletic injury report” with the Athletic Director, within 24 hours of the incident. Any injury which keeps a student from further practice or competition beyond the day of the injury, or that requires the care of a physician, will also require written permission from the trainer or physician before the athlete will be allowed to return to participation. This stipulation covers either practices or games.

Should a player suffer a head injury so as to exhibit signs or symptoms of a Concussion, a.k.a. Traumatic Brain Injury, that player must be symptom free for 24 hours prior to under going an assessment workout with the Rice Training staff for clearance. The player may not return to participation without clearance. Should a second concussion occur within 6 months, clearance from the player's physician and the Rice Training staff is necessary prior to participation. Multiple concussions within the period of a year may prohibit further participation in competitive athletics at Rice.

Under no circumstance should a player, coach, or parent, entice, coerce or threaten an athlete to return to competition following an injury without seeking advice from a trainer or physician.

Insurance

Physical examinations: Each athlete is required to have a physical examination before participation of any practice or game. One physical examination is necessary every two years. It is the parent's responsibility that all players complete this requirement prior to participation.

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Attend to needs of student--make comfortable, but DO NOT, under any circumstances move the athlete, especially, if he/she has lost consciousness.

If a trainer or physician is not available, call 911, U.V. M. 656 4444, or S.B.F.D. 658-1234.

Notify parents and request that they meet the player at Fletcher Allen or, if an away game, the local hospital.

A member of the coaching staff will accompany the player if at all reasonably possible.

Make a follow-up call to the parents and submit a written report to the Athletic Director.

TRAVEL

Whenever a school vehicle, chartered vehicle or rented vehicle is used for the transportation of students to an athletic contest, all students are to travel to and from the contest with the team. The only exception to this policy will be when written permission is obtained PRIOR to the departure from school, from the parents to ride home with them or another responsible adult. In no situation will athletes be allowed to ride home with other students when school transportation is being provided. This provision applies even if the student driver is 18 years of age or older.

Students are to be reminded that they are representing Rice and are expected to act as ladies and gentlemen. Their conduct should at all times represent Rice in the highest possible manner. In this light, coaches should recommend students dress in an appropriate manner when traveling. Coaches are directly responsible for the actions of Rice student athletes while visiting other schools. It is IMPERATIVE that the coach is the last individual from Rice to leave the locker room of the host school. Locker rooms should be left in neat, orderly condition with showers turned off. Should damage arise or incidents occur, notify the Athletic Director of the situation as soon as possible.

There is a behavior standard of maturity and respect all athletes are expected to uphold. All school rules and policies set forth in this document and the Student Handbook are in effect. Students and parents should therefore have a working knowledge of both the Student Handbook and the Athletic Department Handbook to clarify expectations and ramifications regarding athlete behavior.

If the school does not provide transportation, it is the responsibility of the parent to provide or arrange transportation to and from away contests. Rice cannot be held responsible for mishaps occurring en route to or from a game. In these cases, Rice assumes responsibility for athletes only after the coach arrives and ends after the coach leaves. The coach will not leave the site until all athletes have safely left the premises.

HAZING

Hazing is a form of harassment and will not be tolerated in conjunction with the Rice Memorial High School athletic/activities program. Hazing is defined as "a willful act, occurring on or off school grounds, directed against a player or prospective member of a school-sponsored team or group, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a player or prospective member for the purpose of initiation, admission into, or continued membership of any such team or group." Another definition is "any activity expected of someone joining a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers, regardless of the person's willingness to participate." If a student is in violation of "hazing," consequences may range from individual suspension from participation in the athletic/activities program for a period of time, to cancellation of an athletic schedule, depending upon the magnitude of the incident and number of students

involved. Consequences for hazing violations brought to the attention of the administration after the season may be applied to and/or include subsequent athletic/activities participation, athletic letter awards, or athletic/activities probation. The athletic/activities director and dean of students will determine consequences. There is also now a Vermont law making hazing a crime, and students should be aware that, in addition to the school penalties outlined above, they could face prosecution for engaging in hazing. Hazing incidents should be reported to a designated reporter, such as the Dean of Students or guidance counselor. For further clarification please review the Rice Memorial High School Student Handbook.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Certificate of Participation:

Given to all athletes on any team regardless of varsity, junior varsity or freshman status. All students regardless of class year are eligible.

Pins:

Pins, which attach to the varsity letter, are given to varsity letter winners. The pins signify the sport for which an athlete is receiving an award. A pin for that sport will accompany the first varsity letter in any sport.

Varsity Letter:

Indicative of participation in a varsity sport, letters are given to deserving candidates at the discretion of the coaches involved with each team. An individual who participates in more than one varsity sport will be given only one varsity letter. All who participate on the varsity level are eligible for a varsity letter and need not be in a particular class. A freshman is eligible for a varsity letter. Coaches should have their letter winning standards in writing and share those criteria with their athletes early in the season.

Senior Awards:

There is an award given to one outstanding senior on every varsity team. This award is chosen at the discretion of the coach. The Outstanding Athlete Award as well as the Outstanding Scholar-Athlete Award are awarded to seniors nominated by coaches and selected by an administrative committee.

TWO SPORT POLICY

Students may participate in two activities during a single sports season provided they fulfill the following criteria:

Both coaches of the athlete agree to allow the student to participate in their activity. There is a 100% agreement between the members of both teams involved. This shall be determined by secret ballot of both teams' total membership. If the secret ballot is not 100% in favor of the dual competition, then the athlete will not be allowed to do so.

The athlete **MUST** indicate in writing with a copy going to both coaches and the Athletic Director which team is their number one priority. Should a conflict arise, then the student **MUST** take part in the activity of the team given priority or not compete at all. There will be no opportunity to change priorities after the initial decision has been made. This decision will be irreversible. No exceptions allowed.

If an athlete is a member a high school team in concert with an outside team (AAU, Nordic, ODP, etc.) they must declare this to the coach the first day of practice. The student-athlete is expected that should a conflict between the two arise, they will be in attendance of the high school contest and not the outside activity.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR ATHLETES

For athletic and extracurricular participation, students must be present, in classes and not the nurse's office, for at least one-half day (four full periods) to be eligible to compete in an athletic contest. However, those students who, at any time during the day, sign out to go home because of illness, will be ineligible to compete in any athletic contest. If a practice or a game begins at or prior to 4:00pm then students may not leave campus prior to that practice or game. Exceptions to this attendance policy may be made when extenuating circumstances are present and with administrative approval.

An unexcused tardiness on the day following a contest will make that student ineligible to participate in any team activity, practice or contest, at the next scheduled function of that group, regardless of the day. In other words, if there is no activity, practice or contest on the day of the unexcused tardy, this policy will remain in effect the next time they meet.

Coaches will impose appropriate penalties for unexcused absences from team practices.

As a condition of membership on an athletic team, the student will hold himself/herself available to participate in any and all scheduled or rescheduled contests by his/her team.

A student's failure to abide by the attendance regulation may result in a game suspension.

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

All purchases of equipment, uniforms, supplies, etc. for use by Rice athletic teams must receive Athletic Director approval, regardless of who is paying for it (school, Boosters, athletes, coaches, etc.) This includes all warm-ups purchased by athletes.

Any design, logo, choice of colors, wording or placement thereof, must be in good taste and receive approval from the Athletic Director prior to the order being placed. If deemed inappropriate, athletes will be prohibited from wearing said item. We must always be aware that where our athletic teams go, they represent Rice Memorial.

EQUIPMENT

It is the responsibility of the student to return all school issued equipment, uniforms and supplies to the coach. Students who fail to do so will be billed for the value of any missing items. Failure to pay the bill could result in the withholding of report cards and/or diplomas, and the denial of future participation. It will not be the responsibility of the student to replace items that are damaged through normal wear and tear.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Rice Memorial High School is not responsible for students' personal property that is lost, stolen or damaged in association with participation in extracurricular activities. Participants in the athletic program can receive a lock from the Dean of Students for use in the locker room. We strongly urge students to lock up their belongings at all times, and to ask the coach to secure valuables and/or large amounts of money.