



2007-08 School Year

## **Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Athletic Recruiting**

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<b>For:</b>	A student who transfers attendance to your school at any time during his/her high school career after having begun the 9th grade in another school, regardless of whether the transfer occurs during the school year or during the summer period between school years.
<b>Action:</b>	Must be read and signed in the presence of a notary public by the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), as well as the principal and athletic director of the school to which the student transfers.
<b>Due date:</b>	Must be received in the FHSAA Office <b>BEFORE</b> the student is permitted to represent your school in interscholastic athletic competition.
<b>Required by:</b>	FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting.
<b>Purpose:</b>	To heighten the awareness of and compliance with rules prohibiting athletic recruiting on the part of student-athletes, their parents/guardians, and member schools.

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### **TO: STUDENT-ATHLETE**

This school that you have chosen to attend is a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA). The FHSAA has rules that prohibit a member school from making any effort to encourage or entice a student to attend there for athletic purposes. This is called athletic recruiting, and it is not permitted on the high school level. The Florida Legislature, in fact, has directed the FHSAA to “adopt bylaws that specifically prohibit the recruiting of students for athletic purposes.”

What follows is an explanation of athletic recruiting rules and the penalties for violating them. You and your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must read this document and declare that you were not recruited to attend the school for athletic purposes by signing the attached “Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Athletic Recruiting” in the presence of a notary public. The school’s principal, athletic director and head coach of the sport in which you participate must do the same. The signed affidavit must be submitted to the FHSAA Office before the school can permit you to participate in interscholastic athletic competition.

Please read this information carefully. Sign the affidavit truthfully and honestly. Do not sign the affidavit if you have any questions about these rules or believe that a violation of these rules may have occurred. Instead, contact the FHSAA Office by phone at (352) 372-9551 ext. 110 or by email at [compliance@fhsaa.org](mailto:compliance@fhsaa.org). Violations of athletic recruiting rules can and do result in severe penalties for the school and the student-athlete. Making an inaccurate statement by signing the affidavit when you know you should not will only make these penalties worse for all involved if violations are later determined to have occurred.

### **What is athletic recruiting?**

Athletic recruiting is any attempt by any employee or athletic department staff member of an FHSAA member school, or a representative of the school’s athletic interests, to pressure, urge or entice a student who does not attend that school to transfer his/her attendance there for the purpose of athletic participation. This occurs when the school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school’s athletic interests makes improper contact with the student or a member of his/her family in an effort to pressure or urge the student to go to that school OR promises, offers or gives the student an impermissible benefit in an effort to entice the student to go to that school.

### **Who is “a representative of the school’s athletic interests”?**

Any person, business or organization that participates in, assists with, and/or promotes a school’s athletic program is considered to be a representative of the school’s athletic interests. This includes, but is not limited to:

- A student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program (for example a student manager);
- The parents or other family members of a student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program;

- Relatives of a coach or other member of the athletic department staff;
- A volunteer worker in the school or athletic program;
- A booster club or member of a booster club;
- Anyone who contributes to the school's athletic department or its booster club; or
- Anyone else who is involved in promoting the school's athletic program.

**What is improper contact with a student who does not attend a school?**

Any contact or communication of any kind with a student who does not attend a particular school, or a member of the student's family, in attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to transfer attendance to that school for athletic reasons is improper. The improper contact can either be in person, through written or electronic means such as letters, flyers, emails or text messages, or through a third person relaying the message.

Did someone talk you into transferring to this school to play athletics? Did someone urge you to transfer to this school to play athletics? If so, you may have been athletically recruited.

**What is an impermissible benefit?**

An impermissible benefit is any benefit that is promised, offered or given to a student or a member of his/her family to entice the student to attend a school to participate in athletics or is given to a student-athlete who already attends the school, but is not offered or generally made available to all students who apply to or attend the school.

Did someone promise, offer or give you anything more than what any other student who attends this school is generally promised, offered or given that caused you to decide to transfer to this school? If so, it probably is an impermissible benefit.

**What are the penalties for violations of athletic recruiting rules by a member school?**

A member school that violates athletic recruiting rules will be assessed one or more of the following penalties:

- A public reprimand;
- A financial penalty;
- Forfeiture of all contests and awards won in which the student who was athletically recruited or received an impermissible benefit participated or contributed;
- One or more forms of probation (administrative, restrictive or suspension) for one or more years;
- Prohibition against participating in certain competitions, including state playoffs, for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- Prohibition against participating in any competitions for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- Restricted membership for one or more years during which some or all of the school's membership privileges are restricted or denied; and
- Expulsion from membership in the FHSAA.

**What are the penalties for a student who is found to have been athletically recruited or receives an impermissible benefit?**

A student who is athletically recruited or receives an impermissible benefit will be ineligible for athletic competition for one or more years at the school where the violation occurred, and may be declared ineligible for athletic competition at all FHSAA member schools for one or more years.



# Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Athletic Recruiting



Obtain all applicable signatures before a notary public and submit to the FHSAA Office before allowing this student to represent your school in interscholastic athletic competition.

We, the undersigned, being sworn, certify that the following statements are true:

1. Student *{full legal name}* \_\_\_\_\_ (“THIS STUDENT”), who was born on *{date}* \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_, and who is in the *{number}* \_\_\_\_\_th grade, transferred from *{school last attended}* \_\_\_\_\_ to *{school now attended}* \_\_\_\_\_

(“THIS SCHOOL”), on *{date of enrollment}* \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_. THIS STUDENT has previously attended *{list all other schools attended since beginning 9th grade}* \_\_\_\_\_.

2. I have read and understand the definition of athletic recruiting, including the explanation of the terms “representatives of the school’s athletic interests”, “improper contact” and “impermissible benefit”.

3. No employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of THIS SCHOOL, or any person or organization acting on their behalf, has had communication, directly or indirectly, through intermediaries, or otherwise with THIS STUDENT or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice THIS STUDENT to transfer attendance to THIS SCHOOL for the purpose of participation in interscholastic athletics.

4. No employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of THIS SCHOOL, or any person or organization acting on their behalf, is giving, has given, or has offered or promised to give, directly or indirectly, through intermediaries, or otherwise any impermissible benefit to THIS STUDENT or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice THIS STUDENT to transfer attendance to THIS SCHOOL for the purpose of participation in interscholastic athletics.

**I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the statements made in this affidavit and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.** I further understand that the penalties for knowingly making a false statement may subject THIS SCHOOL to fines, forfeitures, probations and possible expulsion from membership in the FHSAA, and may subject THIS STUDENT to a loss of athletic eligibility.

### FOR STUDENT/PARENT(S)/LEGAL GUARDIAN(S):

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of student / Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of student

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/legal guardian / Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/legal guardian

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/legal guardian / Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/legal guardian

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed before me on *{date}* \_\_\_\_\_.

[Notary Seal:]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Notary

NOTARY PUBLIC  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

### FOR SCHOOL:

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of principal / Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of principal

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of athletic director / Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of athletic director

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to or affirmed before me on *{date}* \_\_\_\_\_.

[Notary Seal:]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Notary

NOTARY PUBLIC  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.