

Ersilia Cruz
Middle School



Parent/Guardian & Student
Athletic Handbook
2022-2023

CHPA Athletic Department Mission

- Our mission is to create and foster a rigorous athletic program which complements a challenging academic program by teaching student athletes to enhance their physical, social, moral, and educational development of the whole person while being committed to excellence.

Goals

- Develop leadership, confidence, self-discipline, self-motivation, and a sense of commitment through individual and team achievements.
- Compete at a competitive level in activities through, planning, goal setting and teamwork.
- Ongoing development of coaches.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Engage in organized activities that generate unity, positive school spirit; and develop pride among students, faculty, and community.

ECMS Toro Athletic Program Overview

- Mascot: Toro
- Colors: Royal Blue, Gold, and Silver
- League: Pueblo County League
- Level: Middle School 6-8

SPORTS BY SEASON		
FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Football (PPAL)	Boys Basketball	Soccer (Pueblo Rangers Soccer Club)
Softball	Girls Basketball	Cheerleading
Girls Volleyball	Wrestling	
Cheerleading	Cheerleading	
Soccer (Pueblo Rangers Soccer Club)		

★ **SOCCER** is NOT an ECMS sanctioned sport. Please contact Pueblo Rangers to register for fall or spring soccer. Their website is <http://pueblorangers.net/clubsite/?p=18734> (Middle School Program Page)

★ **YOUTH FOOTBALL** is NOT an ECMS sanctioned sport. Please see Pueblo Police Athletic League to register for fall youth football. Their website is <https://pueblopal.org/content/1494/football-information> (Youth Football Registration Page)

Participation Guidelines

In order to participate students must submit the following on the ECMS Digital Platform prior to the first official day of practice for the sport season:

- Current Physical (Physical should not expire before the end of the sport season)
 - Physical History Form
 - Physical Evaluation Form
- ECMS Athletic Handbook Contract (signed by student athlete and Parent/guardian)
- ECMS/Pueblo School District 60 Athletic Event Driving Permission Form & Private Transportation Waiver
- Emergency Information Form
- Paid ECMS Sport Participation Fee

Eligibility Requirements

1. Student athletes must be enrolled in five or more classes to participate in athletics.
2. Semester grades will be based on percent. Anything below a 70% is an F.
3. If a student fails two or more classes, they are ineligible for nine weeks.
4. Students must pass 5 classes from previous nine weeks.
5. Weekly Eligibility Requirements:
 - Weekly eligibility checks will be conducted on **Thursdays**.
 - The first week if a student has two or more F's they will be placed on probation and will be eligible to play that week.
 - If a student has an F the following week in the same classes, the student will be ineligible to play that week. The student athlete must bring these grades up in order to participate the following week.
 - Student athletes who continue to get an F in the same class for three or more continuous weeks will also be considered ineligible to play until the grade is brought up.
 - Grades are checked week to week (Thursday to Thursday) and will not be checked on game days for eligibility.
 - Students must have their grades up and be eligible by the time the eligibility report is generated on Thursday of each week.
 - The eligibility report is shared with the necessary admin members and the coaches of the respective teams.

Athletic Fees

- All athletes are required to pay the following fee for participation:
 - Football – Contact PPAL
 - Soccer – Contact Pueblo Rangers
 - Softball - \$50.00
 - Volleyball - \$50.00
 - Boys & Girls Basketball \$50.00
 - Wrestling - \$50.00
 - Cheerleading – \$50.00 (Year Round)

Sport Physical

- It is required that all student athletes participating in interscholastic athletic programs shall have physicals prior to participation in practices and games. Physicals must be secured annually. Physicals are good for 365 days from the date of exam. (Physical can be scheduled with the CHPA Wellness Center)
- Physicals must be obtained by a licensed practitioner.
- Physicals must indicate the participant is cleared to participate in athletics.

ECMS Athletics Code of Conduct and Sportsmanship Expectations

ECMS highly values the safety and well-being of the Chavez Huerta Community. That is why it is a priority within our programs that all athletic participants and stakeholders follow the Code of Conduct outlined in the Chavez Huerta K12 Preparatory Academy Student Handbook as well as adhering to the following Athletics Code of Conduct and Sportsmanship Expectations:

For the good of the game please:

- Applaud superior play by both teams
- Do not address remarks to referees, opposing players or opposing fans. This does not apply where remarks convey genuine encouragement.
- Avoid remarks toward players when they make mistakes. If you are aware of the error, rest assured, that player is even more aware.

- Give consistent support to coaches, managers, and athletes whether winning or losing. Coaches are giving hundreds of hours of time and most are committed to their own continued improvement as a coach. In winning they deserve congratulations, in losing your encouragement.
- Avoid comments and gestures that express disagreements with referees call. Prolonged remarks or abusive disagreement with the referee's calls may result in an offense chargeable to your team's coach or manager. **Never** use foul language or obscene gestures.
- Please, cooperate immediately with any referees or coaches request.

Those who do not conduct themselves in the above manner are not welcome at ECMS athletic events. Individuals who persist in violating these standards can be asked to leave the playing area by the referee/administrator and play will be suspended until they do so. Failure to respond to such a request could result in forfeiture against the offending spectator's side.

Participation Rules and Expectations

1. EXPECTATION OF ATHLETES. Athletes are consistent in attendance, loyal to the school, coach, team, and willing to improve the program by (fundraising, community service, etc.) Athletes are goal oriented, motivated, and a team player. Athletes have respect for the program, coach, teammates, opponents, officials, crowd, the sport, and for themselves.
2. EXPECTATION OF PARENTS. Parents are to be active and involved, be willing to support the program emotionally, financially, and academically. Parents support program and policies governing the program to create outstanding student athletes. Parents will continue involvement with sportsmanship, the school and its policies.
3. BE ON TIME. Practice times are set by coaches. Each student-athlete is expected to be ready to practice at the specified time.
4. BE PREPARED. Each ECMS Athlete is given a uniform to wear for practice and games. The student-athlete is expected to wear their proper equipment that the coaching staff checks out to them. The student-athlete is responsible for their shoes and mouthpieces. Any lost, stolen, or damaged equipment will result in a fine for the full amount of the equipment both during and at the end of the season. Coaches and players will only be allowed on the field; family members will not be allowed. All practices will be closed to the public.
5. ELIGIBILITY. As a student-athlete at ECMS, your #1 priority will be succeeding in the classroom. If the student-athlete is having a problem in a class, we encourage the student-athlete to make arrangements with their teacher to get extra help before and after school with school tutors. The student-athlete will also need a note from the teacher excusing them for being late. (Refer to Eligibility Requirement section for all eligibility details.)
6. ABSENCES. Attending all practices and games are expected. Chronic absences from team activities may result in a meeting with the Coach, Athletic Director/Assistant Athletic Director, Parent(s)/Guardian and athlete placed on Athlete Improvement Contract. Any player who is injured during the season and cannot practice is expected to attend practice each day until he is cleared to participate. Injured players are still very much a part of the team and are still expected to follow the athletic department expectations.
7. ATHLETIC FEES. A flat fee of \$50.00 per sport. This must be paid in order to participate. There are NO refunds.
8. STUDENT CONDUCT. At ECMS we are establishing a strong and rich tradition as being the best schools. We expect our student-athletes to be model citizens on the field as well as in the classroom. We strive to have a first class program and let our actions speak louder than words. Drugs, alcohol, and tobacco of any kind will not be tolerated and anyone caught will be suspended and or dismissed from the team if deemed necessary by Coach, Athletic Director/Assistant Athletic Director, Principal and Executive Director. Profanity will not be tolerated! Any other discipline problems will be addressed by the head coach, athletic director/assistant

athletic director, and principal on a case by case basis. ECMS is establishing a tremendous reputation in the city, state, and country. Remember it is a great honor to be a Toro!

9. **COMMUNICATION CHAIN OF COMMAND.** 1. Players, 2. Coaches 4. Athletic Director/Assistant Athletic Director 5. Principal 6. Executive Director. It is very important that you understand the chain of command. Resolve conflict with teammates and coaches as quickly as possible and while following the “24-hour Rule”. Keep the avenues of communication open. An official complaint shall be any documented complaint by email. Complaints must be filed within 3 days of the incident, to the coach of the level involved and to the head coach. Appointments for communication are highly encouraged to allow for all parties involved to make the appropriate accommodations to meet in a timely manner.

Disciplinary Action

- Any student suspended, in or out of school, for violation of rules and regulations shall be ineligible to participate with their team in any way including practices, meetings, scrimmages, and contests until reinstated in school.
- **Benching:** Failure to adhere to the Athletic Handbook policies may result in an immediate benching. If an athlete is benched the athlete is still required to attend practices and games unless excused by the coach.
- **Suspension:** An athlete may be suspended from games/practices because of non-compliance of the Athletic Handbook.
- **Dismissal:** An athlete may be dismissed from the Team for the following reasons:
 - Excessive and detrimental behavior on the Team.
 - Conduct or attitude that is likely to bring the Team or team reputation in a negative influence (drugs, alcohol, tobacco of any sort including E-Cigarettes). Or any other detrimental behavior deemed inappropriate by the coach, athletic director/assistant athletic director, principal, or executive director.
 - Failure to adhere to athletic behavior contract, and insubordination.
- **Fundraisers:**
 - Fundraisers that are held will be allocated to the team raising the funds. All athletes on the squad will be required to participate.

Communication Standards

- **Communication you should expect from the coach**
 - Philosophy of the coach
 - Coach’s expectations of team members
 - Locations and times of practices and games
 - Team rules and guidelines
 - Disciplinary actions
- **Communication coaches expect from parents**
 - Notification in advance of any schedule conflict
 - Concerns expressed directly to the coach
 - Appropriate Concerns to discuss with coaches
 - The treatment of your son/daughter mentally and physically
 - Ways for parents to help student-athlete improvement
 - Questions concerning your student-athlete’s behavior, progress, and academics.
 - Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches
 - Playing time
 - Team Strategy, practice routines or any other team operations determined by the coaches.
 - Other student-athletes or coaches on the team.

- **Procedures for Concerns**

- Call to set an appointment
 - Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a game or practice. These can be emotional times for parents, players, and coaches. Meetings of this nature does not promote resolution. **It is expected for all issues to be given a 24 hour cooling down period.**
- Appointments may be arranged to include Coaches and Athletic Director/Assistant Athletic Director.

