

CHANGES TO 2008-2009 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

PAGE(S)	CHANGES
Page 1-3	<p>Physical Examination Section (Updated) – This section was updated to coincide with the information supplied on the sports physical packets which are being used for the 2008-2009 season. The PIAA requires that all sport physicals for the 2008-2009 school year must be dated after June 1, 2008.</p> <p>1. The PIAA (Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletics Association Inc.) requires ONE COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICAL EXAM BY AN AUTHORIZED MEDICAL EXAMINER (MD, DO, PAC, CRNP OR SNP), thereby eliminating the seasonal physical requirement. This physical must be dated after June 1, 2008 and will expire May 31, 2009.</p> <p>This positive change assures a more thorough examination that can be fulfilled through the individual’s annual medical exam by his/her family physician. Please note that ALL information for the comprehensive physical must be completed by the parent, student, and physician and Sections 1, 2 and 4 returned to the school district. Only wrestlers must also have to fill out Section 7. Please be sure to sign for ALL sports in which your son/daughter MAY compete during the 2008-2009 school season.</p> <p>Please refer to the “Sports Physical Frequently Asked Questions” attached to this letter for further clarification.</p> <p>Due to changes in this comprehensive physical form provided by the PIAA, athletes are responsible for obtaining their sports physical on their own. South Fayette School District <i>will not be providing sports physicals.</i> We encourage you to schedule a physical with your child’s primary care physician, who is most familiar with your child’s health history and immunization records. For your convenience, we have also included information (attached) of two local medical centers that offer physicals for high school athletes. Please note that physicals are mandatory for eligibility for all sports.</p> <p>Sports Physicals Frequently Asked Questions Section (Updated)</p> <p>1. How is the new physical requirement different from the one previously used?</p> <p>Under the previous system, student athletes were required to obtain a physical and it was good for one calendar year.</p> <p>Under the new system, a student can get one physical per school year and it</p>

counts for all of the sports they participate in. Example: A student who receives a physical in July, 2008 meets all medical requirements, except otherwise noted for injury (providing he/she indicates sports on the form), for the 2008-2009 school year. The physical must be dated after June 1, 2008.

2. What is different about the requirements for this physical compared to the previous system?

The new physical is expected to be a “comprehensive physical,” completed by the student athlete’s primary care physician, thereby creating a situation in which the student athlete’s personal medical history any other special conditions otherwise unknown by a school district physician can be taken into account. Physicals must be dated after June 1, 2008.

3. For what period of time is the comprehensive physical applicable?”

Under the new system the comprehensive physical is sufficient for the 2008-2009 school year only. All physicals must be after June 1, 2008.

4. Are there any circumstances that would require more than one physical or additional physician’s consent the 2008-2009 season?

Yes, under any combination of one or more of the following circumstances, the PIAA requires a physician re-certification:

- a. The student athlete suffers an illness or injury which prohibits participation in 25% or more of the regular season contests of the immediately preceding sports season
- b. The student athlete suffers an illness or injury which results in 10 or more days absent from school
- c. The student athlete suffers an illness or injury, which requires surgery.

Additionally, the school district may require a physician’s re-certification if the student athlete suffers an illness or injury outside of the season i.e. summer, club sports, etc. that debilitate him/her for a period of time. In the event that any combination of one or more of these circumstances occurs, the PIAA Re-Certification by Parent/Guardian as well as the PIAA Re-Certification by Physician must be completed.

5. By what date must the comprehensive physical exams be completed and information submitted?

The Athletic Office will be providing deadlines for submission of all forms. This information will also be posted on the school district website under athletics. (www.southfayette.org)

6. Section two contains a long list of sports. Does South Fayette offer all of these sports?

No. South Fayette School District offers the following sports:

	<p><i>(Listed alphabetically as on the PIAA form)</i></p> <p>Baseball (Spring) Basketball (Winter) Cross Country (Fall) Football (Fall) Golf (Fall) Soccer (Fall) – boys and girls – SFHS does not have a spring girls’ team Softball (Spring) Swimming and Diving Tennis – girls (Fall) w/Fort Cherry Tennis – boys (Spring) w/Fort Cherry Track & Field (Winter) Track & Field (Spring) Volleyball – Girls (Fall) Wrestling (Winter)</p> <p>7. What if I misplace the forms?</p> <p>Additional forms are available in the South Fayette High School Athletic Office or may be downloaded from the school district website: www.southfayette.org/athletics</p> <p>For any other questions or concerns, please contact the South Fayette High School Athletic Office at 412.221.4542 extension 240 or by email at demnyan@southfayette.org or farkas@southfayette.org.</p>
<p>Page 7</p>	<p>Addition under “Cutting Policy” - Added Item Number 3 in the “Procedure” Section</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an athlete is cut from a team at the final roster selection, typically the first Saturday of the season, he/she may try out for a second team if the following criteria are met: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The cut athlete must contact the coach of the team he/she is seeking to join and the head coach of the team must agree to accept the athlete onto the team. b. The athlete, the head coach of the team the athlete was cut by and head coach of the team the cut athlete is seeking to try out for must contact the Athletic Department regarding the situation no later than the Wednesday after the first Saturday of the season. Contact must include a document signed by the athlete and both head coaches indicating that the athlete was cut at the final roster selection and that the athlete is now being “received” by the coach of another sport. c. The athlete and parent must submit a Section 5 document (physical verification) before the athlete can try out for the second sport.

	d. The athlete must be practicing with the Athletic Department's approval no later than the Wednesday after the first Saturday of the season.
Page 11	Under Middle School Athletic Awards (Grades 7-9) Section - Deleted the following sentence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Grade 9 is included in the middle school athlete awards due to the wrestling co-op with Chartiers Valley.)
Page 23-24	Under "Sports at South Fayette" the following changes were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball (Girls) Middle School 7-8 Added statement "Season will start October 6, 2008" • Wrestling (Boys) Deleted statement "Cooperative Sport with Chartiers Valley at Chartiers Valley". Deleted the words "South Fayette" under Junior High 7-9.
Page 53	Guidelines for Coaches Participating in Clinics Sponsored by Outside Organizations (Document Attached)
Page 54	Procedures for Making a Donation to the South Fayette Athletic Department (Document Attached)