

## Success Academy Network Clubs and Teams Handbook

Dear Families,

Welcome to Success Academy Network Clubs and Teams!

We are excited for your scholar to join a Network Club or Team during the 2019-2020 school year! These scholars are part of a highly selective group of scholars at Success Academy. Members are selected based on their talent and ability to compete or perform with the best scholars across all of our elementary and middle schools. We are so very proud that your scholar was selected and is participating in a Network Club or Team and we celebrate with you in their achievement.

Given the selection criteria, participating on a Network Team is a privilege and a commitment; scholars must meet the behavioral, academic, and culture expectations set by the school to remain eligible for club participation. We need your support to ensure that your scholar is reaching his or her greatest scholar talent potential in their given team.

Please read the standard network team commitment expectations below to ensure that your scholar is prepared to join us this school year. These team-specific expectations are identified in separate sections throughout this handbook.

### Your Commitment

We want our club participants to get the most enjoyment possible from participating in our elite clubs. We believe that a large part of this enjoyment is participating in all club-related activities. Therefore, all club participants must fully adhere to the eligibility criteria below. Scholars and families will be required to have a meeting with their school principal and club teacher/coach regarding their eligibility after three eligibility infractions per semester (ES) or trimester (MS). If a fourth infraction occurs in any of the following requirements, the scholar will no longer be able to participate in the Club. In order to maintain participation in the club, the following should occur:

Behavior Expectations:

- No more than one suspension
- Demonstrate excellent sportsmanship and effort

Culture Expectations:

- No more than three of the following:
  - Unexcused absences (Excused absences include religious holidays, illness with doctor's note, and tutoring)
  - Unexcused tardies
  - Late pickups

Academic Expectations:

- ES: Maintain 95% completion on homework/reading log
- MS: Maintain 80% GPA

**Network Team and Network Club Eligibility Requirements for Participation in Travel Events**

We believe that a scholar's ability to excel within one of our competing Network Teams is not only based on their exceptional talent but also on their ability to demonstrate adherence to the Success Academy Academic and Culture performance. This is especially important for our scholars that have to travel for club competitions or performances. The following are the eligibility requirements for participation in club travel events. Exceptions may be granted based on scholar circumstances at the discretion of the Athletics Manager and Athletic Director.

Academic Performance

- 80% GPA or higher

Culture Performance

- 95% homework/reading log completion
- Three or fewer unexcused absences and/or tardies
- No more than one one-day suspension

**Team or Club Specific Expectations: Network Athletics Teams**

The following sections apply only to Network Athletics Teams.

**Practice, Game, and Tournament Expectations**

**Practice (or, "Training Session") Expectations**

*Arrival*

Players must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to their training session or game to use the bathroom, change, and mentally prepare.

*Early Arrival*

Players must not arrive and be left unaccompanied by a parent/guardian prior to the beginning of the session. Should a player arrive early for practice, they must be supervised by an adult until their practice starts and the coach begins providing supervision.

*Late Arrivals*

Players that are less than 15 minutes late will join the training session or game after the warm up. Players that are more than 15 minutes late will not be allowed to participate and will observe the practice or game from the sidelines.

Please also note that if your scholar is running late, you must text your designated coach with your estimated time of arrival. Parents/guardians should not call their coach during training sessions. Coaches are not able to take any phone calls while coaching unless it is an emergency.

**Games**

*Arrival*

Players must arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the kick off time of any game, unless otherwise stated by the coach. This time is allocated for players to use the bathroom, change, and mentally prepare.

#### *Early Arrival*

Players must not arrive and be left unaccompanied by a parent/guardian prior to the beginning of a game. Should a player arrive early to a game, they must be supervised by an adult until the warm up begins and the coach begins providing supervision.

#### *Late Arrivals*

Players that arrive later than the allocated arrival time will not participate in the first half of the game. Players that fail to arrive prior to the kick off of the game will not be allowed to participate and will observe the game from the sidelines with the substitutes.

Please also note that if your scholar is running late, you must text your designated coach with your estimated time of arrival. Parents/guardians should not call their coach during training sessions. Coaches are not able to take any phone calls while coaching unless it is an emergency.

### **Tournaments**

#### *Arrival*

Players must arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the kick off time of the first game, unless otherwise stated by the coach. This time is allocated for players to use the bathroom, change, and mentally prepare.

#### *Early Arrival*

Players must not arrive and be left unaccompanied by a parent/guardian prior to the beginning of a tournament. Should a player arrive early to a game, they must be supervised by an adult until the warm up begins and the coach begins providing supervision.

#### *Late Arrivals*

Players that arrive later than the allocated arrival time for the team will not participate in the first half of the first tournament game. Players that fail to arrive prior to the kick off the of first game will not be allowed to participate in the entirety of the tournament and will observe the games from the sidelines with the substitutes.

Please also note that if your scholar is running late, you must text your designated coach with your estimated time of arrival. Parents/guardians should not call their coach during training sessions. Coaches are not able to take any phone calls while coaching unless it is an emergency.

### **Uniforms, Training Gear, and Meals**

#### *Uniform*

Scholars must have the full provided SA uniform at all training sessions and games. Players will not be allowed to practice or play in any uniform articles not provided by our Network programs.

#### *Jewelry*

Out of concern for all scholars' safety, scholars are not allowed to wear jewelry during practices, games, competitions, or performances. If a scholar has any jewelry on during a session, a coach/teacher will ask the scholar to remove it and address the issue with a parent/guardian at dismissal.

### *Glasses*

We encourage scholars needing corrective vision to consider prescription sports goggles or contacts, if age appropriate.

### *Meals, Snacks, and Beverages*

- A healthy meal should be eaten a minimum 1.5 hours prior to the start of activity.
- Your scholar should bring a light, healthy snack with them in case they need to eat it before the practice (minimum 15 minutes prior). Junk food is not allowed and will be discarded. We recommend one of the following:
  - Banana, orange, grapes or sliced melon
  - Granola bar or protein bar (no nuts)
  - Carrot sticks and celery sticks
  - Dried fruit or ½ jelly sandwich
- Water is mandatory for each practice. Sugary drinks are not allowed and may not be consumed. Gatorade and Vitamin Water are allowed only as a supplement, not as a substitution for water.

### **Practice Visitation for Network Athletic Teams**

All indoor training sessions are closed and no parents/guardians are allowed to be in the gym/playing space. Parents/guardians are welcome to briefly check on the session, but are not allowed to stay more than three minutes.

### **Competition and Tournament Day Expectations**

We want our club participants to gain as much experience as they can through their participation in competitions and tournaments. These experiences are invaluable in terms of building a scholar's competitive skill set. We have designed our competition and tournament day expectations to maximize the enjoyment of your scholar of the entire team.

### **Athletic Teams**

The following are the competition day expectations for our athletes:

- Playing time may be more or less than that of another player on the team and will be determined by the Head Coach. Playing time is based on attendance at training sessions and games, player attitude, player commitment level and playing ability. SA Network Teams guarantee 100% playing time at every training session unless there are behavior/safety issues.

The following are the competition day expectations for our parents:

- From the beginning of warm up to the final whistle and a debrief, players are with the coach and should not be interacting with parents/guardians or spectators unless instructed by the coach.
- If there is an injury, players will be examined by the medical crew (if applicable) or their coach. Parents/guardians may not enter the field nor the team-assigned area.
- Parents/guardians should wait 24 hours following the game to address any non-urgent concerns with the coach.

### **Moving Between Teams**

The SA Network component is highly selective and the spot on the team is earned. In addition to commitment, behavior and academic performance, players are assessed on their skill, effort, and rate of development. Coaches reserve the right to move players back to their school team if it is determined that the Network Team is not the most appropriate place for that player's development. Program Manager and Network Coach will meet with the family prior to this decision.

## External Clubs

- Players are not allowed to participate on any other external competitive team. If the player is found to be participating in any other program at any time of the year, they will be asked to stop participating immediately. If the player continues playing, they will be removed from the SA Network Team and will not be invited back. We must enforce this policy to avoid confusing conflicts of training philosophy and player burnout.
- Supplemental training may be allowed on a case by case basis. Players may engage in supplemental training but only with the written permission of their Network Coach and Program Manager. SA Athletic Department may or may not grant such a request. If the supplemental training is not cleared by their Network Coach/Program Manager, and the family decides to engage in this type of training, SA Athletic Department reserves the right to remove player off the team and the program.

## Internal Success Academy Clubs

Players are allowed to participate in any Success Academy offered club if it does not interfere with the Network Team schedule. Attendance rules will still apply and missing sessions due to other activities will be viewed as unexcused. Conflicts with selective special events (i.e. national tournaments) held by other SA programs will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

## Age Appropriate Play Policy

SA Athletic Department strongly supports the approach that kids play at their age appropriate level and believes that most players in the program will develop better at their age appropriate level. However, we recognize that some players may be physically, technically and psychologically ready for the next age level within the club's competitive team structure. During the annual selection process, the Program Manager, along with the coaching staff for each applicable age group, will evaluate all players that have potential to be moved up an age level and make a determination. Players that are approved to play up at the next age level are approved for one year only and will be re-evaluated at the end of the year to ensure appropriate age group placement.

Exceptions to Age Appropriate Policy:

- After the selection process, if a team is still not full and needs additional players, the coach may consider younger players for their team **only** if the age appropriate team is full. These players can only be considered with the approval of the Program Manager.

## Team or Club Specific Expectations: Network Music Clubs

The following sections apply only to Network Music Clubs, which include Network Chorus and Network Band.

### Uniforms

#### *Uniform*

SA Network Music members will receive a SA Music polo shirt. Scholars will wear this polo shirt with navy bottoms and black shoes for formal events, and with jeans and sneakers for casual events. The formality of the event will be communicated in advance to scholars and families by the SA Network Club teacher(s).

### **Parent Volunteers for Network Music Clubs**

Parent volunteers may be needed from time to time to chaperone our scholars at performances. Volunteering for a Network Music event provides parents with the opportunity to see their scholars in action as well as to meet other parents within the club.

### **Performance Participation Commitment**

#### *Network Chorus*

Scholars will be asked to perform in a variety of performances throughout the year. Some of these performances may include:

- Winter Concert (December)
- Performing Arts Showcase (February)
- Spring Concert (May)
- Music in the Parks Competition ( June)

We will provide these dates with families as soon as they are scheduled. Scholars must attend all performances.

#### *Network Band*

Scholars will be asked to perform in a variety of performances throughout the year. We will provide these dates with families as soon as they are scheduled. Scholars must attend all performances.

### **Team or Club Specific Expectations: Network Dance Team**

The following sections apply only to the Network Dance Team.

#### **Uniforms**

##### *Uniform*

Performance and practice attire will be communicated in advance. As a general rule, attire should allow for movement (e.g. no denim).

##### *Jewelry*

Out of concern for all scholars' safety, scholars are not allowed to wear jewelry during practices, games, competitions, or performances. If a scholar has any jewelry on during a session, a coach/teacher will ask the scholar to remove it and address the issue with a parent/guardian at dismissal.

##### *Glasses*

We encourage scholars needing corrective vision to consider prescription sports goggles or contacts, if age appropriate.

### **Parent Volunteers for Network Dance Team**

Parent volunteers may be needed from time to time to chaperone our scholars at performances. Volunteering for Network Dance Team events provides parents with the opportunity to see their scholars in action as well as to meet other parents within the club.

### **Performance Participation Commitment**

Scholars will be asked to perform in a variety of performances throughout the year. Some of these performances may include:

- Winter Concert (December)

- Performing Arts Showcase (February)
- Spring Concert (May)
- Music in the Parks Competition ( June)

We will provide these dates with families as soon as they are scheduled. Scholars must attend all performances.

### **Closing**

We are incredibly excited to have your scholar join a Network Team or Club. We look forward to working with you, your scholar, and our coaches in further developing your scholar's already exceptional talent through their participation in our network scholar talent programs.