

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Haddonfield Crew Club, Inc. ("HCC") is a new and growing club. Positive, energetic commitment from all parents is as essential as the commitment expected and given by the athletes and coaches. In order to promote and grow, the Club, athletes, parents and the Haddonfield community need to recognize the value of becoming a member of the HCC. To achieve this, all of these groups need to believe in the positive gains of their efforts. If adjustments need to be made so that all athletes feel they have had a fair chance to compete, if race entries need to be reevaluated to give the athletes a competitive chance, then we agree to acknowledge that these are baby steps that are indicative of a program in its infancy. The key to our future as a strong and enduring program is to let the program grow in energy and enthusiasm, and not to extinguish hopes and expectations by selling unrealistic goals or standards.

## **II. HCC BOARD POLICIES**

Members of the Board of Directors the HCC (the "Board") are elected to represent all members of the crew club equally. Therefore, members of the Board who have an issue with their student athlete that comes before the Board will excuse themselves from any vote that occurs related to their individual child/athlete.

HCC Board members will support the team in public and with other crew parents regardless of their current like or dislike of the club, the coaches, other Board members, policies, or the results of the races.

Discussions that are held in Board meetings will be held in strict confidence by the respective Board Members and not discussed with other members or athletes. However, a Board Member may explain his/her position on issues to other crew parents without reference to the Board's discussions on that issue.

## **III. DISCIPLINE POLICIES**

1. When the coaches see unacceptable behavior of an athlete that requires disciplinary action, the following procedure will be used.

a. In general, the student athlete must first be advised by the coach of the behavior which is unacceptable.

b. The parents of the athlete must be notified on the second offense of the unacceptable behavior of the athlete as well as the board members so they are apprised of a potential disciplinary action.

c. If the same problem occurs for the third time, the coach may suspend the athlete pending review of the full board of directors of the HCC.

2. Drinking, Drugs and/or Other Violations by Athlete. The HCC follows the Haddonfield School District's policy.

#### **IV. POLICIES REGARDING ATHLETE ISSUES**

1. Athletes That Are Not Seated In a Boat During Seat Races. All athletes that are part of the HCC will be able to participate in practices of the team regardless of whether or not they are seated on a boat after seat racing. Every effort will be made by coaches to provide non-seated athletes with on the water practices by grouping non-seated athletes in practice boats when possible. At a minimum, non-seated athletes will be expected to attend team practices and undertake land training when on the water practice is not feasible. All non-seated athletes at all times remain HCC team members and the coaches may rotate these non-seated athletes into races as appropriate and based on the performance of the seated boats in general. We cannot afford to have a situation where several of the team members sit out for four or five races and do not practice and then are expected to perform when an injury occurs.

2. Communications With Colleges. Recognizing that all of the athletes on the team are at different levels, the crew coaches will encourage the athletes and talk with prospective college coaches regarding the athletes, taking into account the college level for which they plan on rowing. Setting arbitrary standards for talking to coaches is not realistic because there are Divisions 1, 2 and 3 levels in colleges, and not all athletes will be competing at the top level or at the bottom level, therefore, coaches should be willing make contacts for the lowest level rowers on the team as well as the highest level rowers on the team.

3. Fall Crew. Fall Crew is not mandatory for the athletes. Therefore, should a member of the crew team decide to participate in another sport or decide to row for another team in a boat other than an 8 or 4, which are the boats raced by the HCC, they will be allowed to do so. Upon return to the Winter/Spring season, the athlete shall compete as part of the HCC in a boat belonging to the HCC, whether it be an 8 or a 4.

4. Rowing Equipment. The coaches will not permit equipment of the HCC to be lent to other crew clubs without the Board approval.

5. Crew Equipment and Entries on Race Day. The coaches will attempt to maximize the equipment at hand and the individuals that we have participating for any given year on race days. This may involve racing 8's and 4's on a race day depending on the athletes that choose to participate for that season. The coaches will also only enter athletes in a race where they have a reasonable expectation of rendering them as competitive in that race.

#### **V. COMMUNICATIONS WITH ATHLETES**

Coaches will not discuss any issues (e.g. personality, discipline, athletic ability, work ethic) that he/she may have with individual athletes with other members of the Club, whether rowers or parents. Decisions that are made by the coach with respect to

discipline, racing, etc., should be conveyed to the athlete by the coach and not by other team members.

Coaches will provide to athletes their expectations and exact procedures regarding late or missed practices.

Coaches will not condone nor will they encourage any athlete to relate ethnic jokes, offensive language, or put downs relating to grade, age, or relationships between athletes.

## **VI. COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARENTS**

The HCC follows the HMHS Parent/Coach communication guide which is available from the HMHS Athletic office and attached for your convenience.