

PETER RITTENBURG

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

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BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Brookline High School is to develop capable, confident lifelong learners who contribute to their community, participate thoughtfully in democracy, and succeed in a diverse and evolving global society.

BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS MISSION STATEMENT

At Brookline High, the athletic experience is an essential part of many students' overall education. Athletics plays a significant role in developing positive self-esteem and a sense of well-being. To this end, the goal at every level of athletics is to strive for excellence. As with the academic program, the implications of a strong athletic program are far-reaching.

While learning fair play, teamwork and self-discipline, student-athletes must be challenged at whatever level of skill they bring to their sports. Every student-athlete, male and female, shall be afforded the opportunity to participate at the most appropriate level to achieve optimal personal growth. Student-athletes must have the opportunity to develop their skills and reach their maximum potential in a well coached environment. All teams will be qualified to participate in their respective leagues.

The athletic program must be flexible and reflect Brookline High School's values and culture in order to address the needs of its entire student population. Athletics teaches an appreciation of another's skills and contributions, commitment towards a common goal, and enjoyment in physical activity. Athletics promotes physical and mental health and contributes to the ability to interact socially. It nurtures friendship where one might not expect it and fosters a sense of pride in self and the community that lasts far beyond life at Brookline High.

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THE HIGH SCHOOL 115 Greenough Street Brookline, MA 02445

Deborah Holman Headmaster Peter Rittenburg
Director of Athletics

Dear Students, Staff and Parents

The Department of Athletics, with important help from Headmaster Bob Weintraub, former Athletic Director Walter Sargent, former PTO co-chairs Barbara Gordon and Sharon Matthews, parent Roz Gold, BHS secretaries Gale Delaney and Lynda Kirby, originally prepared this booklet to acquaint athletes, coaches and families with the policies, procedures, and regulations of the BHS Athletic Program. The BHS Athletics Handbook continues to be a valuable document and we update it annually. Please refer to the Handbook to help answer questions and guide you through the athletic experience at BHS. We look forward to your involvement in the many BHS athletic contests and events during the school year. Go Warriors!

Pete Rittenburg, Director of Athletics

1. Fundamental Information

A. Goals of the Program

- i. Provide an opportunity for maximum athletic development of players across the spectrum of ability.
- ii. Promote the social, intellectual, emotional, and physical development of our students.
- iii. Develop an understanding of the value of cooperation and competition.
- iv. Develop good citizenship and respect for rules and authority.
- v. Have fun.

B. BHS Athletics Office Contacts

i.	Athletic Director, Pete Rittenburg	713-5288
ii.	Assistant Director, Kyle Williams	713-5290
iii.	Secretary, Deborah Donaldson	713-5289
iv.	Athletics Fax	713-5287
v.	Equipment, Marc Lofchie	713-5278
vi.	Athletic Trainers, Alex Jzyk	713-5416

C. Online Information

i.	BHS Athletics	www.brooklinewarriors.net
ii.	Brookline HS	bhs.brookline.k12.ma.us
iii.	Twitter	@BHS Warriors

2. Athletic Offerings at BHS

The Brookline High School Athletic Program is comprised of 72 teams in 40 sports, the most comprehensive athletic program of any high school in the eastern United States. Most sports teams compete at three levels - freshman, junior varsity, and varsity.

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BHS ATHLETICS OFFERINGS

BOYS GIRLS

<u>FALL</u> Practice begins in mid to late August (2-3 weeks prior to Labor Day). Please check with the Athletic Office for exact date of individual sports.

Cross Country
Football
Golf
Soccer
Volleyball
Cheerleading
Swimming

WINTER Practice begins on the Monday after Thanksgiving.

Basketball
Ice Hockey
Downhill Skiing
Cross-Country Skiing

Basketball
Ice Hockey
Downhill Skiing
Cross-Country Skiing

Fencing
Track
Wrestling
Swimming
Cheerleading
Gymnastics

SPRING Practice begins on the third Monday of March.

Crew Crew Baseball Softball Lacrosse Lacrosse Sailing Sailing Tennis Tennis Track Track Ultimate Ultimate Golf Rugby Volleyball

3. Governance of High School Athletics

A. <u>Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA)</u>

Brookline High School is a member of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA), the governing body for high school athletics in Massachusetts. As an MIAA member high school, BHS is governed by MIAA rules and regulations. Likewise, the MIAA is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), and is bound by their rules and procedures.

Under MIAA guidelines, local communities and leagues are allowed to set their own policy rules as long as they are more restrictive than those stipulated by the MIAA. Rules governing individual sports vary, depending upon the nature of those activities. Copies of all MIAA rules, contained in the "Blue Book," are available on-line at miaa.net or in the BHS Athletics Office.

One of the primary functions of the MIAA is to sponsor and conduct post-season tournaments that lead to Regional/Sectional and State Championships. Whenever BHS teams qualify for such tournaments, we are subject to the specific MIAA rules and regulations that govern each tournament.

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B. Bay State Conference (BSC)

Brookline High School is a member of the twelve-school Bay State Conference (BSC). The BSC is the strongest athletic conference in the state and is comprised of two six-team divisions. BHS is in the Carey (Large) Division, along with Braintree, Framingham, Needham, Newton North and Weymouth. BHS also participates in league contests with Herget (Small) Division schools: Dedham, Milton, Natick, Norwood, Walpole and Wellesley.

4. Rules and Policies Affecting Athletic Eligibility and Participation at BHS

A. BHS Pre-Participation Guidelines

Before any student is declared eligible for participation in a sport by the BHS Athletic Director, the student and parent/guardian must:

- i. Register online using FamilyID.
- ii. Include a copy of current physical examination form. Physical exams are valid for 13 months. They may expire in the middle of a sport season and must be renewed accordingly to remain eligible.
- iii. Pay the activity fee (*\$300.00, but subject to change each school year).
- iv. Fulfill the athletic obligations of previous sports season. (i.e. return all equipment).
- v. Fulfill the academic eligibility requirements as set forth by the MIAA (see below).

*Athletic Fees

Because of ongoing budgetary constraints, the Brookline Public Schools have found it necessary to charge a fee for each sport in order to maintain a full program of activities. If there is a financial hardship in the family, partial or full waivers are considered by the Athletic Director, after receiving a written explanation from the parent or guardian.

IMPORTANT! Students will not be allowed to practice or play until the above requirements have been cleared by the Athletic Department. These documents must be received before the beginning of the preseason.

B. MIAA Academic Requirements

- i. A student must earn, during the last marking period preceding the contest (e.g. second quarter marks, and not semester grades determine third quarter eligibility), passing grades in the equivalent of four major subjects. To satisfy this requirement, a student must have passed sufficient courses for that marking period which carry credits totaling the equivalent of four, one-year major English courses.
- ii. A student cannot at any time represent a school unless
 The student is taking courses which would provide credit
 equivalent to four, one year major English courses.
- iii. To be eligible for the fall season, students are required to have passed for the previous academic year the equivalent of four, one-year major English courses.
- iv. The academic eligibility of all students shall be considered as official and determined, only on the date when the report cards for that marking period have been issued to the parents of all students within a particular class.
- v. Incomplete grades may not be counted toward eligibility.

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Brookline High School Athletics Handbook Academic Requirements (cont.)

- vi. A student who repeats work upon which he/she has once received credit cannot count that subject a second time for eligibility purposes.
- vii. A student cannot count for eligibility any subject taken during the summer vacation, unless that subject has been previously pursued and failed.
- viii. A student receiving services under Chapter 766, whose individualized plan is a 502.4 or a more restrictive prototype, may be declared academically eligible by the principal provided that all other eligibility requirements are met.
- C. MIAA Rules of Extreme Importance: Chemical Health (Rule 62) and Hazing (Rule 49.12)

BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS - CHEMICAL HEALTH POLICY

Brookline High School has established a chemical health policy that is more stringent than the minimum MIAA Rule 62 standard. The Brookline High standard is designed to encourage responsible and safe decision making by Brookline student/athletes within an environment where unsupervised parties in the community are frequent occurrences.

THE POLICY:

During the school year, from the beginning of the pre-season practices in August to the last day of school or tournament play, whichever ends latest, a Brookline High student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use or consume, buy, sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product including smokeless tobaccos; marijuana; steroids; or any controlled substance. Nor can a student be in the presence of the illegal consumption of any of the above substances. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her doctor.

MINIMUM PENALTIES:

FIRST VIOLATION: Following a disciplinary hearing with the headmaster or his/her designees, if a student is found in violation of this policy, he/she shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic events, totaling 25% of all interscholastic events in that sport season. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program. However, it is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

SECOND and SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS: Following a disciplinary hearing with the headmaster or his/her designees, if a student is found in violation of this policy, he/she shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic events totaling 60% of all interscholastic events in that sport season. If, after the second or subsequent violation, the student, of his/her own volition, becomes a participant in an approved treatment program, the student may be reinstated after a minimum period of 40% of events. Penalties shall be cumulative for each school year and may extend into the next season or the next school year. For the out-of-season athlete, the penalty will commence at the start of the next athletic season.

Steroid Use (62.3): Anabolic androgenic steroid use at the high school level is of grave concern. Steroids are used by some athletes in sports, and the seriousness of the problem has been well documented. Steroids can, with proper diet and weight training, increase muscle development; however, as is typical with most get-rich-quick schemes, steroid use has serious short and long term consequences. The use of steroids in sports is considered to be cheating. But the issue goes beyond protecting the integrity of interscholastic competition. We stand opposed to the use of steroids by athletes and all members of the student body because of health and ethical concerns.

Hazing (49.12)

Hazing is considered a crime in Massachusetts. The Mass General Law is defined in CH. 269, s. 17 as: "Any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on private or public property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to weather, forced consumption of food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation." Consent to such treatment does not make it legal.

D. Try-Outs/Policy on Roster Cuts

Students may try out for any sport that is offered at BHS. For some sports, because of the large numbers of prospective athletes trying out, students may be cut from squads. In those situations, coaches will have the prerogative of selecting the more experienced or more skillful players. Cuts will be made in many sports at all levels. We try to accommodate as many athletes as the sport allows, particularly at the freshman level. There are, on the other hand, many sports in which cuts are a rarity because fewer students try out and/or more athletes may be accommodated. The department feels that there are options for the student athlete to pursue if disappointed in his or her first choice. Contrary to popular thought, there are no guarantees that athletes will maintain their status from year to year (i. e. varsity players must try out each year and may be moved down to JV level if the coach so judges).

E. Captains' Practices

There has been some confusion about "Captain's Practices." These are informal practices run by team captains for the athlete's benefit. They are commonly held a week or so before the official practices. We emphasize that such sessions are not an official part of the school program. According to MIAA Rules, captains' practices may not be sanctioned or supported by the school.

F. Commitment to the Program:

The following is a list of important policies that govern athletic participation. Failure to adhere to these expectations may result in a decrease in playing time or removal from a team.

i. Daily Practice

All athletes are expected to attend practice at least five times a week, two to three hours per day. Varsity teams often practice on weekends as well. Some junior varsity and freshman teams may also hold practices and games on weekends. It is expected that all athletes will arrive on time and will work to the best of their ability.

ii. Vacations

Players on varsity teams are expected to attend practices and games during school vacations. Times and locations are determined by coaches of individual sports.

iii. Absences

It is extremely important that the coach be notified if the student is going to be late or absent from a practice or game. Coaches expect athletes to be present at practices, games, and other team related activities. Students who fail to fulfill this obligation may be suspended or dismissed from a team. Absences may be excused for legitimate reasons including illness, family emergency, religious commitments, or required extra academic help. Students cannot practice or play on a day on which they have been absent from school.

iv. Loyalty

Bona fide members of a school team are precluded from missing a high school practice or competition in order to participate in a non-school athletic activity/event in any sport recognized by the MIAA. Any student who violates this standard in ineligible for the next two contests or two weeks (whichever is greater) immediately upon the confirmation of the violation. (MIAA rule 45.)

G. Levels of Participation

- i. Varsity Athletics could be described as the "Advanced Placement" level of Educational Athletics. It is extremely competitive and players are selected by the coaches based on performance, attitude, and team chemistry.
- **ii. Junior Varsity** is basically a developmental program in which players receive an opportunity to strengthen their skills in a complete program of practices and contests. Improved players may be moved up to varsity at the coach's discretion.
- **iii. Freshman Team** is an entry level program in some sports in which freshmen can develop their skills through competition. Sports with smaller numbers of participants may not have freshmen teams.

NOTE: Freshmen, like all other athletes, are allowed to try out for varsity positions and may, under some circumstances, be selected at the coach's discretion. Decisions regarding placement at levels and amounts of playing time are made by individual coaches. There is no departmental policy on these issues out of respect for individual coaching philosophies. Playing time is not guaranteed in our interscholastic athletic program.

H. Selection of Team Captains

Coaches decide how team captains are selected. They may be elected by the team or appointed by the coach prior to the first regularly scheduled contest. Captains may also be elected or appointed on a game-by-game basis.

It is expected that team captains will be leaders of their team and be ready to assume duties as outlined by their coach. They are expected to be more aware of team rules and student-athlete responsibilities. Captains are expected to communicate with the coach and team in the event of any problems that may affect the team or its members. Captains may be asked to meet with the Athletic Director during the school year to discuss the Athletic Program.

Captains of teams may be relieved of their position for violations of team, department or school rules.

I. Sportsmanship

BHS expects all people present at an athletic contest to display the highest possible level of sportsmanship. Players, coaches, and spectators should treat opponents, game officials, and visiting spectators with respect.

The MIAA reserves the right to "warn, censure, place on probation, or suspend for up to one calendar year any player, team, coach, school official, or school determined to be acting in a manner contrary to the standards of good sportsmanship." BHS in turn, reserves the right to impose the same penalties on spectators displaying poor sportsmanship at any of our contests, home or away.

Sportsmanship is contagious: The athletes of BHS are pleased to welcome you to our school to observe our athletic contests. We wish to remind you, as spectators, that athletic contests are played by young athletes not professionals, who are trying to represent themselves and their school to the best of their ability. Please remember that the price of admission does not entitle anyone to jeer, criticize, or downgrade players, coaches or officials.

J. The MIAA Policy on Taunting

Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players, or spectators that are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included is conduct that berates, needles, intimidates or threatens people on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin or background, and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs, or personal characteristics.

Brookline High School Athletic Handbook

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Examples of taunting include, but are not limited to, "trash talk" -- defined as verbal communication of a personal nature directed by a competitor to an opponent ridiculing his/her skills, efforts, sexual orientation, or lack of success, which is likely to provoke an altercation or physical response; and physical intimidation outside the spirit of the game, including "in the face" confrontation by one player to another and standing over/straddling a tackled or fallen player.

In all sports, officials are to consider taunting a flagrant unsportsmanlike foul that disqualifies the offending bench personnel or contestant from that contest/day of competition. In addition, the offender shall be subject to existing MIAA expulsion rules. A warning shall be given to both teams prior to the contest, by game officials.

At all MIAA contest sites and tournament venues, appropriate management may give spectators one warning for taunting. Thereafter, spectators who taunt players, coaches, game officials, or other spectators are subject to ejection.

5. Conflict Management Protocols

Athletic participation is highly emotional and very time consuming. Therefore, conflicts between students and coaches may arise. Students and their parents should use the following process as a guide when seeking resolution to conflicts and/or issues between a coach and an athlete.

A. First Step: Personal Student-Coach Contact

The conflict should be presented as soon as possible to the coach by the athlete. If personal contact is not practical, a student may ask his/her team captain to approach the coach. In order for the contact to be as productive as possible, times that athletes should **avoid** are:

- Prior to or immediately following a contest.
- During an active practice session.
- During a time when other students are present or when it would be readily visible to others that the discussion is taking place.
- At a time that would not allow for a complete discussion.

Perhaps the best solution is to ask the coach, via either phone or email, or in person, if an appointment could be made to discuss the issue. An athlete may also leave a note in the coach's mailbox located in the Athletic Office.

B. Second Step: Student-Athletic Director Contact

If a satisfactory resolution is not reached through direct contact with the coach, the student should contact the Athletic Director. The coach should be informed that this contact is going to be made. If this discussion does not result in a satisfactory conclusion, then a meeting will be scheduled involving all concerned parties in an attempt to reach a satisfactory resolution. It is very important for all students and their parents to know that any comments, concerns or issues raised to the Athletic Director will be addressed. While there can be no guarantee that all parties will agree with all resolutions or findings, a thorough, respectful airing of different perspectives and experiences can lead to more productive relationships and clearer understandings in the future.

C. Third Step: Parent-Coach-Athletic Director Contact

If a satisfactory resolution has not been reached through student contact with the coach and Athletic Director, parents should contact the coach first and if necessary the Athletic Director in an attempt to reach a satisfactory resolution.

Conflict Management (cont.)

D. Fourth Step: Student-Parent-Administration Contact

If there is still not a satisfactory resolution, the student or parent should contact the Headmaster or his designee. The Athletic Director should be informed that this contact is going to be made.

E. Retribution

There is a perception by some members of the BHS community that voicing an opinion or concern about a coach or the Athletic Program carries with it a fear of "retribution" toward an athlete by either a coach or other staff members within the department. The Athletic Director and coaches are committed to insuring that there shall be no "retribution," in any form, within the Athletic Department at Brookline High School, for raising an issue or concern. Of course, students who violate team, department, or school rules will continue to face consequences.

Students and parents must be confident that the voicing of an opinion or concern, using the proper forum and method, is not only free of penalties or retribution, but <u>strongly encouraged</u>. If at any time, a student or his/her parent suspects that some form of "retribution" is surfacing as a result of the voicing of a concern, opinion, or issue using the proper forum and method, they should contact the Athletic Director immediately.

6. Coaching at Brookline

A. Coaching Guide

The focus of our athletic program is to teach a strong work ethic and lifetime skills through participation in the program, as well as to teach the particular skills of individual sports.

We expect our coaches to be sensitive to the needs of each student while keeping the goals and interests of the team and school in mind. No teacher is more public than a coach. With this in mind, it is crucial that they present themselves in a manner which will earn the respect of those who play for them as well as spectators. We want our coaches to model the standards of behavior and sportsmanship we expect from our students. We assign coaches to lead a team because we feel that they have the aptitude, ability, character and interest to do the job.

The coach is the key contact person for your child's athletic program. Questions and messages regarding games, equipment, scheduling changes, unavoidable student absences or lateness should all be directed to the coach. Students rather than parents should communicate their concerns to the coach. Direct communication between athletes and their coaches fosters a greater sense of student responsibility and independence than having parents act as go-betweens.

B. Principles of Effective Coaching

Effective coaching is effective teaching. The Brookline Public Schools have excellent "Principles of Effective Teaching" and we have adapted these to the world of coaching. The effective coach should:

- i. Be knowledgeable about the sport and participate in on-going professional development.
- ii. Establish clear team and individual goals that reflect high and reasonable expectations.
- iii. Plan and conduct regular practice sessions that are well organized and driven by team and individual goals.
- iv. Regularly evaluate the performance of student/athletes and communicate progress to the students.
- v. Maintain a climate of respect and safety at all times.
- vi. Maintain a climate that is characterized by positive reinforcement.
- vii. Display a concern for student/athletes off the field as well as on the field by monitoring academic and social status of each student.

Brookline High School Athletics Handbook Principals of Effective Coaching (cont.)

- viii. Display a concern for student/athletes off-season as well as during the season by maintaining communication with students and facilitating off-season opportunities for students (clinics, camps, leagues, etc.), within the rules of the MIAA.
- ix. Demonstrate sensitivity to the diversity of students (racial, cultural, religious, etc.) while building team unity.
- x. Maintain excellent communication with student/athletes, parents, fellow coaches, the athletic department, the media, college coaches, and admissions offices.
- xi. Display loyalty to the team, the athletic department, and the school.
- xii. Participate in athletic department events such as parent meetings, special programs, and the annual athletic banquet.

7. <u>Transportation to and from Contests</u>

The school provides bus transportation, or some form of transportation to all "away" contests. For student safety reasons, all team members are expected to travel to these contests using the school provided transportation. Exceptions to this policy must be requested in writing, to the Athletic Director, by a student's parent prior to the contest. Reasonable requests will be honored. A coach may allow students to ride home from a contest with their parents provided personal contact at the game site is made between parent and coach. In no instances will students be allowed to ride to and from contests with other students.

8. <u>Brookline High School Sport Locations: Note that these venues are typical but subject to change.</u>

Please consult on-line schedules at highschoolsports.net and at brooklinewarriors.net to confirm location of contests.

A. Fall Sports:

Cross Country: Boys and Girls All Levels: Larz Anderson Park

Cheerleading: Cypress Field and BHS Gyms **Dance:** BHS Gyms and Tappan Studios

Field Hockey:

Varsity: Larz Anderson Park JV: Larz Anderson Park Freshman: Larz Anderson Park

Football:

Varsity: Parsons Field (Games - Northeastern University) (practices -Downes Field)

JV: Downes Field/Kraft Facility Freshman: Downes Field/Kraft Facility

B Golf:

Varsity: The Country Club

JV: Robert Lynch Golf Course at Putterham Meadows

Soccer:

Boys' Varsity: Skyline Field Boys' JV: Cypress Field

Boys' Freshman: Brookline Avenue Field

Girls' Varsity: Skyline Field Girls' JV: Cypress Field

Girl's Freshman: Brookline Avenue Field

Swimming (Girls):

All Levels: Municipal Pool - Tappan Street Building

Brookline High School Athletics Handbook Locations: Fall (cont.)

Volleyball (Girls):

Varsity: Tappan Street Building - Gym I JV: Tappan Street Building - Gym II Freshman: Tappan Street Building - Gym II

B. Winter Sports:

Basketball:

Boys' Varsity: Schluntz Gym - High School Boys' JV: Schluntz Gym - High School

Boys' Freshman: Schluntz Gym OR Tappan Street Building - Gym I

Girls' Varsity: Schluntz Gym - High School Girls' JV: Schluntz Gym - High School

Girls' Freshman: Schluntz Gym <u>OR</u> Tappan Street Building - Gym I **Cheerleading:** Dance Studios or Gym I or II - Tappan Street Building

Dance: Tappan Gym

Ice Hockey:

Boys' Varsity: Walter Brown Arena - Boston University

Boys' JV: Larz Anderson Park

Girls': Walter Brown Arena - Boston University Dexter Rink/Thorndike Rink - Dexter School

Indoor Track: Boys and Girls

All Levels: Reggie Lewis Center (Meets)
Pavilion - Tappan Street Building - practices

Gymnastics: Girls

All Levels: Tappan Street Building - Gym II

Skiing: Boys & Girls Alpine: Blue Hills Nordic: Weston Ski Track

Swimming: Boys

All Levels: Municipal Pool - Tappan Street Building

Wrestling: Boys & Girls

All Levels: Gym I - Tappan Street Building - (Meets) Wrestling Room - Tappan Street Building (practices)

C. Spring Sports:

Baseball:

Varsity: Parsons Field - Northeastern University OR Warren Field

JV: Warren Field OR Amory Field

Freshman: Amory Field **Crew:** Boys & Girls

All Levels: Riverside Boat Club **G Golf**: Varsity: The Country Club

JV: Robert Lynch Golf Course at Putterham Meadows

Lacrosse:

Boys' Varsity: Downes Field/Kraft Facility Boys' JV: Downes Field/Kraft Facility Girls' Varsity: Downes Field/Kraft Facility Girls' JV: Downes Field/Kraft Facility

Rugby:

All Levels: Skyline **Sailing:** Boys & Girls

All Levels: Community Boating

Locations: Spring (cont.)

Softball: Girls

Varsity: Cypress Field - High School

JV: Same as above Freshman: Cypress Field

Tennis:

Boys' Varsity: Waldstein Park or Eliot Courts

Boys' JV: Same as above

Girls' Varsity: Waldstein Park or Eliot Courts

Girls' JV: Same as above **Track** (Outdoor) Boys & Girls:

All Levels: Downes Oval/Kraft Facility

Volleyball (Boys): Varsity: Tappan Street Building - Gym I

9. College/Career Guidance

One of the most important decisions facing high school students is what to do with their lives after high school. The members of the Brookline High School Athletic Department are willing and eager to assist all of their students with this extremely important decision. Staff members fully understand the importance of this assistance. They may be able to answer questions, contact schools and/or coaches, send video tapes, if available, and write letters of recommendation. At the very least they will be able to guide students to more knowledgeable people who can help with decisions. If a student's goal is to compete athletically at the collegiate level, it is very important to be aware of the ever-changing N.C.A.A. (National Collegiate Athletic Association) regulations. Copies of the latest regulations are available in the Athletic Office. The high school Guidance Department also has a wealth of information and experience on these issues. The Guidance Department should be consulted about the N.C.A.A. initial academic eligibility index, which is mandatory for participation at the Division I or II collegiate level.