

# **Vashon Island School District**

## **TRACK & FIELD**

### **SAFETY GUIDELINES**

**(Prior to participating, both the student and parent must read carefully and sign)**

When a person is involved in any athletic activity, an injury can occur. One should be aware the information presented in these safety guidelines is to inform the athlete of proper techniques and inherent dangers involved with track & field. There is a chance of broken bones, muscle and soft tissue and back injuries, which could lead to some form of paralysis. Not all potential injury possibilities in this sport are listed, but athletes should be aware that fundamentals, coaching and proper safety equipment are important to the safety and enjoyment of the sport.

1. Proper warm-up is essential before strenuous activity takes place. Be aware of the potentially serious injuries if you do not follow correct procedures in stretching, and conditioning.
2. If you wear eyeglasses, contact the coach for proper fitting of safety lenses, appropriate frames that are compatible with golfing. If you have a bi or tri-focal lens, contact your doctor to provide the best len(s) combination for the various track and field events.
3. Perform only those skills and techniques as instructed and/or supervised by your coach.
4. Be sure all equipment, especially shoes, is fitting properly before each day's activity. Make sure all shoes have the proper cleats for both the event and track surface.
5. Athletes should wear the proper safety equipment as designated by the coach.
6. Travel to and from off-campus facilities and practice/competition sites must be in accordance with school procedures.
7. Remove all jewelry and metal hair fasteners and other body adornments as required by rules and regulations for track and field.
8. Be aware of your surroundings both home and away including but not limited to surface conditions, obstructions in the proximity to the golf course and safe entrance/egress to/from the course.
9. Wear outer and under garments appropriate for humidity and temperature.
10. In order to help protect the safety of all squad members, squad members with physically limiting injuries and/or health conditions must inform the coach prior to each day's activity of limiting conditions and participate only to the extent allowed by the coach.
11. Players should hydrate themselves frequently during practice and meets and follow the coaches' direction on hydration prior to and following practices and meets.
12. Notify the coach if you are injured.
13. Practice only when your coach is present.
14. Hurdlers must make sure the hurdles are placed at the correct height and are facing in the proper direction. Do not run backwards over a hurdle.
15. Be aware of the safety rules for special events such as javelin, pole vault, discus, and shot put. These events require specialized training and special supervision of both the athlete and those in close proximity.

