

Irondale Boys Soccer Program Philosophies

- We will live and play with integrity at all times as a classy organization
- We are responsible for our own effort and intensity
- We will accept challenges and continually strive for excellence
- We will develop a strong, unified team spirit among coaches, players, and parents, through honest communication and encouragement
- We will create a fun, competitive, and positive atmosphere in which to play
- We will respect our coaches, teammates, fans, opponents, referees, and property
- We will practice and play with a specific purpose
- We will challenge ourselves in practices to develop competitive instincts
- We will commit to continual learning of the specific style of soccer we play
- Levels of Participation:
 - **Varsity** – best players selected in grades 9-12 - focuses on fielding the best possible team; always strives to be as competitive as possible; highest level of high school soccer; player age is irrelevant; players are pushed to be the best they can be; attendance, punctuality, good attitude, and effort are expected
 - **Junior Varsity** – potential varsity players grades 9-12 - players are being groomed for the varsity experience; some players may be asked to play JV and varsity; there is a healthy competitiveness here pushing players to learn and grow; player age may play a minor role in coaching decisions; attendance, punctuality, attitude, and effort are significant
 - **B Squad** – players in grades 9-10 - participation, personal growth and learning remain primary; player positioning may become more specialized; competition begins to increase; attendance, punctuality, attitude, and effort are very important
 - **C Squad** – players in grades 9-10 - participation, personal growth and learning is the focus; players may learn a variety of positions; attendance, punctuality, attitude, and effort are important

Irondale Boys Soccer Expectations and Team Rules

- We will adhere to all Minnesota State High School League rules regarding participation
- We will make a commitment to the program's team philosophies
- We will communicate with the coaching staff any injuries, or playing concerns
- We will respect and trust the coaching staff in regards to soccer style, policies, individual playing time, and positioning
- We will adhere to proper due process if we have a specific concern
 - 1st Step: player meets with coach at appropriate time
 - 2nd Step: player and parent meet with coach at appropriate time
 - 3rd Step: parent contacts AD
 - 4th Step: parent contacts Principal
- Bus riding
 - Bus rides are a part of the team experience and thus are important to all players and coaches
 - All players will ride the bus to and from games unless there is a specific family reason and the coach is given prior written notification (simple convenience is not a legitimate reason)
- We will commit to attendance and punctuality to all practices and games
- Attendance and Punctuality Policy (policies are enforced at coaches reasonable discretion)
 - Players should inform their coach before an absence or tardy
 - Players who miss practice before a game will see reduced playing time in the game
 - Players late to practices or games will likely see less playing time as a result

Lettering Policy: Boys Soccer

Any player who originally makes the varsity team after tryouts and contributes significantly to the varsity team throughout the season,

Or

Any player who does not make the original varsity roster, but gets placed on the roster during the season and contributes a significant amount during that time,

Or

Any player who does not meet the above requirements, but shows involvement in and commitment to the program for 4 years (in grades 9-12),

Or

Any player who does not meet the above requirements, but is deemed worthy of earning a letter by the coaching staff.

A chemical violation during the season could place a letter in jeopardy. For a first violation during the season, the coaching staff will decide if the athlete is eligible to earn a letter. A second or subsequent violation during the season will result in the athlete becoming ineligible for earning a letter. Chemical violations also terminate captain's responsibilities.

Note: all lettering decisions are based on coaches discretion