

Niskayuna Rowing, Incorporated

Anti-Bullying Policy

Niskayuna Rowing, Incorporated has established a policy that prohibits bullying by students, coaches, parents and volunteers. This policy is consistent with the policies of Niskayuna Central School District (NCSD).

Niskayuna Rowing requires coaches, board of directors and volunteers to report suspected bullying to NCSD officials.

Bullying Definition

Niskayuna Rowing defines bullying as [1]:

1. An intentional, persistent and repeated pattern of committing or willfully tolerating physical and non-physical behaviors that are intended, or have the reasonable potential, to cause fear, humiliation or physical harm in an attempt to socially exclude, diminish or isolate the targeted athlete(s)
2. Any act or conduct described as bullying under federal or state law

Exceptions:

Bullying does not include group or team behaviors that (a) are meant to establish normative team behaviors, or (b) promote team cohesion. For example, bullying does not include verbal admonitions to encourage team members to train harder and to push through a difficult training regimen.

Examples:

Examples of bullying prohibited by this Policy include, without limitation:

1. Physical behaviors. Behaviors that include (a) hitting, pushing, punching, beating, biting, striking, kicking, choking, or slapping an athlete; (b) throwing at, or hitting an athlete with, objects such as sporting equipment.
2. Verbal and emotional behaviors. Behaviors that include (a) teasing, ridiculing, intimidating; (b) spreading rumors or making false statements; or (c) using electronic communications, social media, or other technology to harass, frighten, intimidate or humiliate (“cyber bullying”).

Applicability to Students

The NCSA Athletic Handbook for Student-Athletes and Parents [2] defines Standards of Behaviors for student-athletes and process for reporting suspected violations to school principal. By signing the Athletic "Gray" Card for each season, student-athletes and their parents acknowledge these standards of behavior and student-athlete agrees to comply with these standards.

The NCSA Athletic Handbook defines standards of behavior for student-athletes. These standards includes: *"Bullying (physical, emotional, or electronically) (examples of electronic bullying include, but are not limited to, bullying through social networking (such as Facebook, tweeting or texting), web posts, emails, other internet use"*.

Per the NCSA Athletic Handbook, suspected violations of the Athletic Handbook standards of behavior for student-athletes shall be reported to the appropriate NCSA building Principal.

Applicability to Coaches

The NCSA Coach Handbook [3] defines Coaching Decorum which prohibits physical or emotional abuse of players. Suspected violations of the Coaching Handbook shall be reported to the NCSA Athletic Director and to Niskayuna Rowing's Program Director.

Applicability to Parents and Volunteers

Niskayuna Rowing prohibits bullying by parents and volunteers. Suspected bullying by a parent or volunteer shall be reported to NCSA building Principal and to Niskayuna Rowing's President.

References

1. United States Olympic Committee SafeSport, US Rowing SafeSport Member Template, accessed 12/11/2016, <http://www.usrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/SafeSportUSRMemeberTemplate.pdf>.
2. NCSA Athletic Handbook, <http://www.niskyschools.org/PDFs/AthleticHandbook201617.pdf>
3. NCSA Coach Handbook, <http://www.niskyschools.org/athletics/PDFs/Coaches-Handbook1516.pdf>