

It is the policy of the Columbia County Board of Education to prohibit discrimination based on gender in its elementary and secondary school athletic programs, in accordance with the Georgia Equity in Sports Act. The following grievance procedures are hereby adopted to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of written student complaints including those brought by a parent or guardian on behalf of his or her minor child who is a student, alleging any action which would be a violation of the Georgia Equity in Sports Act.

1. The student, parent, or guardian must submit a complaint on the form included in Exhibit I and submit the completed form to the sports equity coordinator. The sports equity coordinator shall date-stamp the complaint when received.
2. The sports equity coordinator shall take all reasonably necessary steps to ascertain the essential facts regarding the circumstances surrounding the complaint. The sports equity coordinator may obtain additional information from the complainant and/or other individuals that may have knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the alleged violation. The confidentiality of any information obtained shall be maintained in accordance with federal and state law and the school system's policies on confidentiality of student and employee information.
3. The sports equity coordinator shall render a decision in writing no later than 30 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, and such decision shall set forth the essential facts and rationale for the decision.
4. A copy of such decision shall be provided to the complainant within five calendar days of the date of the decision, either by certified mail or hand delivery to the address provided by the complainant form.
5. A complainant shall have the right to appeal such decision to the Board within 35 calendar days of the date of the decision. The request for appeal must be submitted by the complainant in writing to the Superintendent. The Superintendent's office shall date-stamp the complaint when received.

6. The Board shall review all materials related to the matter and render a decision in writing no later than 30 calendar days or at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting after receipt of the appeal, whichever is later, and such decision shall set forth the essential facts and rationale for the decision.
7. A copy of such decision shall be provided to the complainant within five calendar days of the date of the decision, either by certified mail or hand delivery to the address.
8. A complainant may appeal a decision of the Board to the State Board of Education in accordance with the procedures specified in O.C.G.A. 20-2-10060

ADOPTED: 7/10/01(NEW)
REVISED: 7/10/07

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Columbia County School System
Gender Equity in Sports Grievance Form**

It is the policy of the Columbia County Board of Education to prohibit discrimination based on gender in its elementary and secondary school athletic programs. Any student or student's parent or guardian may file a complainant with the following form if he or she feels that the school system has violated the Georgia Equity in Sports Act.

(Please print all information)

Date: _____ Date received by sports equity coordinator _____
(filled in by school system)

Name of individual filing
complaint _____

Address of individual filing
complaint _____

Telephone number of individual filing
complaint _____

Name of
student _____

Name of parent or
guardian _____

Student's
school _____

**ALLEGED ACTION BY SCHOOL SYSTEM IN VIOLATION OF GEORGIA EQUITY IN
SPORTS ACT:**

This form must be completed in its entirety and submitted to:
Sandra Carraway, Sports Equity Coordinator
Columbia County School System
4781 Hereford Farm Road
Evans, Georgia 30809
706-541-0650

Attachment

Athletic Interest Survey Questions

1. If you are not participating in all the currently offered school sports in which you are interested, please indicate the reason(s). Mark all that apply.

- ___ Not enough squad
- ___ Tried out but did not make the team
- ___ Conflicting after school activities (work, family responsibilities, etc.)
- ___ I prefer other activities (band, chorus, etc.)
- ___ Two of the sports in which I am interested are offered at the same time
- ___ Parent wishes
- ___ Low grades or I was ineligible for other reasons
- ___ Sport not currently offered at my school
- ___ Conflict with a coach
- ___ The practice schedules and game times are inconvenient
- ___ Poor facilities and equipment
- ___ Poor quality coaching
- ___ Conflict during the season of a particular sport
- ___ Overlap of the season dates of several sports
- ___ Too expensive
- ___ Other: _____

2. If you currently participate in sports or if you are interested in participating in additional sports, if offered, please answer the following questions:

- a. How many days per week are you able to participate in sports-related activities (practice, travel to and from events, participation in games and events)?

1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__ 6__

- b. How many hours per day after school are you able to participate in sports-related activities (practice, travel to and from events, participation in games and events)?

1__ 2__ 3__ 4__ 5__

- c. Are you available for sports-related activities (practice, travel to and from events, participation in games and events) during evening hours and on weekends?

Yes____ No____

SAMPLE TALLY SHEET

Athletic Interest Survey

Girls **Boys** (Check one)/Grade(s): _____

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS	(a) # of students Interested in this sport	(b) # of interested students required to field a team in this sport	(c) Sufficient interest (a) > (b) (▶)
Baseball	_____	_____	_____
Basketball	_____	_____	_____
Competitive Cheerleading	_____	_____	_____
Cross Country	_____	_____	_____
Football	_____	_____	_____
Golf	_____	_____	_____
Gymnastic	_____	_____	_____
Riflery	_____	_____	_____
Soccer	_____	_____	_____
Softball – Fast Pitch	_____	_____	_____
Softball – Slow Pitch	_____	_____	_____
Swimming and Diving	_____	_____	_____
Tennis	_____	_____	_____
Track and Field	_____	_____	_____
Volleyball	_____	_____	_____
Wrestling	_____	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____	_____

**INTRAMURAL
SPORTS**

	(a) # of students Interested in this sport	(b) # of interested students required to field a team in this sport	(c) Sufficient interest (a) > (b) (▶)
Archery	___	___	___
Baseball	___	___	___
Basketball	___	___	___
Cross Country	___	___	___
Football	___	___	___
Golf	___	___	___
Gymnastics	___	___	___
Riflery	___	___	___
Soccer	___	___	___
Softball – Fast Pitch	___	___	___
Softball – Slow Pitch	___	___	___
Swimming and Diving	___	___	___
Tennis	___	___	___
Track and Field	___	___	___
Volleyball	___	___	___
Weight Lifting	___	___	___
Wrestling	___	___	___
Other_____	___	___	___

Nondiscrimination Notice

State law prohibits discrimination based on gender in athletic programs of local school systems (Equity in Sports, O.C.G.A. 20-2-315). Students are hereby notified that Columbia County School System does not discriminate on the basis of gender in its athletic programs. The sports equity coordinator for this school system is Sandra Carraway, Deputy Superintendent, 4781 Hereford Farm Road, Evans, Georgia 30809-706-541-0650.

Inquiries or complaints concerning sports equity in this school system may be submitted to the sports equity coordinator.

Attachment