

Hoops Elite Academy Bullying and Hazing Prevention and Intervention Plan

Hoops Elite Academy has zero tolerance for any bullying and/or hazing of any kind. Hoops Elite Academy takes all incidents of potential bullying and/or hazing seriously, and strictly adheres to all laws, including those that dictate appropriate methods of reporting, governing such acts.

Definition of Bullying:

As stated by Massachusetts Laws St.2010, c. 92, Section 5. Bullying in Schools:

“Bullying”, the repeated use by one or more students of written, verbal or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a victim that: (i) causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim’s property; (ii) places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to himself or of damage to his property; (iii) creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; (iv) infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or (v) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. For the purposes of this section, bullying shall include cyberbullying.

“Perpetrator”, a student who engages in bullying or retaliation

“Victim”, a student against whom bullying or retaliation has been perpetrated

Retaliation against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or witnesses or has reliable information about bullying shall be prohibited.

Definition of Hazing:

As stated by Massachusetts General Laws MGL c.269, s. 17, Section 17: Hazing:

Whoever is a principle organizer or participant in the crime of hazing, as defined herein, shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

The term “hazing” as used in this section and sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private 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 the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any 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 extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

Hoops Elite Academy adheres to the following standard operating procedure:

- All student-athletes participate in a bullying and hazing prevention and intervention seminar on the first day of the program.
- Incidents must be reported to a Hoops Elite Academy staff member
- The “target” must provide in writing the names of the “perpetrator(s)”, and must describe the incident in detail.
- The parents/guardians of the “target” and “perpetrator(s)” will be notified of each incident.
- The “perpetrator(s)” will be questioned about the incident, and will be asked to provide their accounts of the incident in writing.
- A mediation process will then take place between the “target” and “perpetrator(s)” with the permission of all legal parents/guardians involved.
- If no resolution can be found during the mediation process, the camp director will conduct a thorough investigation into each incident. If there are witnesses that corroborate the “target” description of the incident, then the “perpetrator(s) will be remove from camp immediately. If there are witnesses that corroborate the “perpetrator(s)” description of the incident, then a second mediation session will occur.
- If no resolution can be found during the second mediation session, and the camp director determines there is reasonable basis to believe that criminal charges may be pursued against the aggressor, then notice will be made to the local law enforcement agency.
- Communication with the legal parents/guardians of all the parties involved will occur throughout this process.
- It is imperative that all potential incidents of bullying and/or hazing are brought to the attention of the Hoops Elite Academy staff immediately, and while camp is in session. Once camp is out of session, Hoops Elite Academy is limited in what it can do to resolve the situation.

I am the parent or legal guardian of those registering for the camp(s) indicated. I have read, understand, and accept the terms of the Hoops Elite Academy Bully and Hazing Prevention and Intervention Plan.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student-Athlete Signature

Date