ABOVE THE LINE

FOOTBALL

A.T.L

“ABOVE THE LINE”
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission for the Horizon High School football program is to develop “Champions for Life”. The Husky football program will strive to develop young men that are excellent student-athletes, excellent leaders, and men of character. Our goal is to help our players develop into outstanding leaders and citizens through football.

– Champions for life
WELCOME TO HUSKY FOOTBALL

To have an excellent program requires a commitment on the part of the community, administration, coaches, players, and parents. Husky Football is a FAMILY commitment. It is important that we all realize that the actions and decisions of each player and family impacts every other player and family involved. Let’s all pull together and in the same direction for the good of our kids and our program.
ABOVE THE LINE

DO WHAT'S RIGHT

TREAT OTHERS WITH RESPECT

DO YOUR BEST

CODE OF EXCELLENCE

ATTITUDE
WORK ETHIC
DISCIPLINE
FUNDAMENTALS
TEAM UNITY

LEADERSHIP
BUILDING MEN DRIVEN TO SERVE

“Building Champions for Life”

CORE VALUES
HONOR
COURAGE
COMMITMENT
LOYALTY
EXCELLENCE IS OUR CHOICE!!

EXCELLENCE IS OUR CHOICE!!

Excellence in these 5 areas does not depend on talent. Being excellent depends on our WILL alone.
Horizon High Football Code of Excellence

Our football philosophy is very simple. Our aim is to constantly pursue and consistently achieve Excellence in five key areas. We feel that if we can be truly Excellent in these five areas, we will be a respected and winning program on a consistent basis. We will always continually strive to be a program that our school and community are proud of.

“When Excellence Becomes the Tradition…. Greatness Has No Limits”

1. **ATTITUDE:** No other single factor determines our success, or lack of it, more than attitude. We will strive as individuals to develop and maintain a positive attitude and we will strive as a program to establish a collective attitude of Excellence.

2. **DISCIPLINE:** All consistently successful organizations pay attention to the details. We will stress and demand discipline on and off the field. Paying attention to details, no matter how small, will help us achieve our goals in football and in life. **SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF!**

3. **WORK ETHIC:** We will do everything in our power to outwork and out prepare our opponents and will stress the importance of preparation in results in football and in life.

4. **TEAM:** Football is more unique than any other sport, in that it requires the collective effort of eleven individuals. We will always stress the Team and Program above the individual welfare for the good of the Team. It’s amazing what can be accomplished when nobody cares who gets the credit.

5. **FUNDAMENTALS:** An old football law states that the Team that blocks and tackles the best will win! We believe in this wholeheartedly and will make every effort to become as strong and as skilled as we can in every area. If we are fundamentally sound as we can be in blocking, tackling, and ball handling, we will compete very well on a consistent basis and will have a chance to achieve Excellence.
ABOVE THE LINE

THE BIG 3

Three things that we will expect from our players at all times.

1. DO YOUR BEST – Pride in excellence
2. DO WHAT’S RIGHT – Be a man of honor
3. TREAT OTHER’S WITH RESPECT – Be a person driven to serve others
ABOVE THE LINE

?’s asked to every Husky

1. Can I trust you?
2. Are you committed to excellence?
3. Do you care about me (teammates)?

If every player in our program can be trusted, is committed to excellence, and cares about his teammates...... We will be tough to beat!
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Men “DRIVEN TO SERVE”

* Are committed to Excellence
* Sacrifice for their team & family
* Always see the need and fill the need
* Make everyone around them better
* Make great choices centered around goals
* Are dependable & accountable
* Can be trusted
* Care about their teammates and coaches
* Are outstanding husbands, fathers, brothers, sons, & neighbors
ABOVE THE LINE

FOOTBALL CORE VALUES

HONOR
COURAGE
COMMITMENT
LOYALTY
INTEGRITY
HONESTY
ACCOUNTABILITY
DEDICATION
COMPASSION
LEADERSHIP
Things everyone needs to understand about being a Husky FB Player

1. There is no secret to success. No shortcuts either. For us our foundation is grueling, nose to the grindstone, monotonous, tedious work and getting the fundamentals right. It requires a ton of conditioning, lifting, and preparation. This is who we are and what we are about. Bottom line is we are committed to hard work and preparation.

2. Commitment is an obligation to fulfill a promise, act or duty. In plain language commitment means I care about you. You can absolutely count on me and I know I can absolutely count on you. It’s trust. Commitment is the expectation.

3. Creating a true “TEAM” is bigger, tougher, and more elusive than any opponent we will ever face. We are all contributing to the building of a true “TEAM” or detracting from this.

4. All of our players MUST LOSE SOME OF THEMSELVES in order for the TEAM to thrive. “WE before ME” If you are a ME guy, you won’t make it.
5. Our total and absolute focus is on the team. I want our kids to understand what it means to sacrifice for the team and to achieve TEAM related goals. They are not IT. They are a part of it and nobody is above it.

6. If you are a Husky Football Player, understand that you represent our program and everyone involved 24 hours a day & 365 days per year. This is a serious responsibility!

7. Teams that take ownership and hold each other accountable have the greatest results and improvement.

8. THERE IS A DIRECT CORRELATION BETWEEN HOW MUCH WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER AND HOW WELL WE PLAY!

9. Coaches on our staff coach to make a difference, period. We don’t do it to win trophies. We are committed to helping our players become champions in life. This drives all else.
ABOVE THE LINE

HORIZON HIGH FOOTBALL WILL:

1. **HAVE SWAGGER** – We will ACT, LOOK, & THINK like WINNERS. Believing in our team and ourselves.

2. **HAVE TRUST**—Winning games comes from players working cohesively.

3. **BE COACHABLE**—Championships happen when athletes listen and correctly respond to their coaches.

4. **SHOW RESPECT**—We will never look past an opponent and always give them credit.

5. **HAVE APPRECIATION**—We will take one game at a time, and enjoy the journey!
FOOTBALL WEIGHTS / SPEED TRAINING

GREAT NEWS! STARTING THIS COMING SCHOOL YEAR (16-17) WE WILL HAVE 3 PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY FOR ONLY FOOTBALL PLAYERS.

ALL FOOTBALL PLAYERS 9-12 ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO SIGN UP FOR THESE CLASSES, PLEASE SEE YOUR COUNSELOR TO MAKE SURE YOUR SIGNED UP.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Practice Attendance: Attendance at all practices is a must! If a player must miss due to an academic issue, illness, or family emergency, please contact Coach Wisdom or the athletic office at HHS and leave a message. Contact Coach Brandsma if your son is a freshman. Due to the heat early in the year we will be practicing at night from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Regular practice will be approximately 3:15 pm – 6:00 pm. A good rule of thumb is that there are reasons and excuses. Reasons are legitimate (Illness, family emergency, funeral) and contact is generally made in advance. Excuses are not acceptable are generally given after the fact. Two unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the team. Please try and limit dentist appointments etc.. during the season. Missed practice time hurts the player who misses and everyone else on the squad.

HHS activities office (449-6063) / Coach Wisdom (449-6059) / Coach Wisdom's email huskyfbfamily@gmail.com.

Freshman need to get in touch with Coach Brandsma (branjust@isu.edu).

Football is a demanding game that requires a great amount of mental toughness. Players must battle through aches, pains, and illnesses – this is a part of the game.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Training Rules: All AIA and Horizon High School training rules (Rules covering alcohol, tobacco, & drug use, criminal behavior, and general conduct detrimental to the program) will be followed. Parents please help our program and your son by supporting these guidelines. Lack of discipline is not an ingredient in the recipe for excellence. Please recognize that these guidelines exist to help in the development of our players as athletes and as young men. In addition to discipline measures outlined in the Horizon High School policies, additional sanctions may be added by the coaching staff such as: no media award nominations, no varsity letter, no all star game nominations, suspension or extra conditioning or possible dismissal.

Bottom Line.... Don’t be around drugs or alcohol and do not use these substances. This is a part of your commitment to your team and if you violate our policies it’s considered total betrayal.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Conduct: We expect our players to conduct themselves with honor, integrity, class, & dignity both on and off the field. Remember that a player’s conduct reflects on his family, his teammates, his coaching staff, his school, and his community. Practice the BIG THREE. Do your best, Do what’s right, and treat others as you want to be treated. If our players practice these three simple rules, they will never have to worry about their conduct being excellent. Conduct detrimental to the team may result in extra conditioning, suspension, or removal from the team.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Respect the Game: We will respect the game, the program, the officials, and our opponents. Players and parents need to be reminded that being ejected from a contest results in a state mandated suspension for the next contest. We will not address officials in a disrespectful manner, talk trash to our opponents, or draw attention to ourselves by “showboating”. Players will be removed from the game and disciplined in practice for any flagrant or personal fouls. Always represent our program with class and never hurt our team. Only amateurs advertise. Champions expect to be successful and conduct themselves with class.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

**Academic Performance:** We expect our players to be Student-Athletes. Our players will be on time to class, will sit near the front, will bring materials, will be respectful to teachers and classmates and will do their best to achieve good grades. Students are expected to be passing all classes. If players are performing poorly, teachers can require students to complete work or seek help after school. Teachers will contact me immediately with any problems.

Players: Your homework and classroom preparations are a part of “your job”. Do your job. If our staff can’t trust you to do the basic things right in the classroom, we certainly can’t and won’t count on you on the field.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

**Injuries:** Players are encouraged to report all injuries to our athletic trainer Nick Stein. Nick is a certified athletic trainer. Nick will treat minor injuries, refer some athletes for treatment other places. Our trainer and our student trainers will be treated with respect at all times. Established training room rules will be followed.

Please follow our injury protocol whenever possible:
1. Horizon Athletic Trainer
2. Physical Therapy (Select Physical Therapy)
3. Orthopedic Physician

*Always begin through Nick Stein First*
PROGRAM POLICIES:

**Bus Policy:** Our athletic department bus policy will be followed. Football is the ultimate team sport and therefore in order to promote unity, we will always ride together to and from every contest. (Going to another destination will be the only exception and, as always, signing a parent consent and travel release agreement will be required.) In addition we will limit the use of cell phones and other electronic devices on our bus trips.

Our bus trips will be business-like and focused. Buses will be picked up and spotless following every trip.
Cell Phones: Cell phones will be put away during practice, team meetings, and film sessions. Cell phones will not be permitted to be used at all in our locker room for any reason. This is our school policy and for our players protection. Step outside the locker room if you must use your phone.

Participation in club sports during the season: During the season, players will not be permitted to miss practice, film sessions or team meetings to participate in club sports. Players are not permitted to participate in club sports during our season.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Curfew: During the season our coaching staff recommends that players be home by at least 10:00 on weeknights and midnight on weekends (the sooner the better). With very few exceptions, nothing very positive goes on after midnight. Not only will our players be more rested (which is vital), they will also be much less likely to find themselves in negative situations. Getting plenty of rest, staying ahead academically and making great choices reflects that we are committed to our team.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Addressing Concerns: If you have a concern that you wish to address, call the head coach (preferably) during school hours to set up an appointment to discuss the concern. I prefer to discuss things in person rather than over the phone, if at all possible. The player needs to discuss the issue in question with the position coach and/or the head coach before any meeting will be considered with parents. If a meeting is needed, the player, parents, Head Coach, and position coaches and, if necessary the AD will be a part of it. Playing time, game strategy or coaching philosophy are not up for debate. Please use the proper chain of command to address any concerns. (Coach, AD, Principal, Etc...) Our staff will always strive to first do what is in the best interest of our program while also doing our best to serve each individual player.

Part of building a stronger young man is encouraging him to stand on his own two feet. Part of his self-reliance is learning how to communicate with others (in this case, his coaches). Our staff will be absolutely honest and candid with players and parents.

Practice Policy: Parents you are more than willing to come watch practice. We do ask that you stay in the stands and behind the fence at all times.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

**Equipment:** We provide our players with top of the line equipment. It's the player's responsibility to care for this equipment properly and check it in immediately following the season. Players who are over one week late in turning in their gear will be charged a late fee. Players will be billed replacement cost for equipment that is lost. Take pride in your equipment, take care of it, and turn it in on time. Inform a coach immediately if your equipment is damaged in any way or needs to be repaired or replaced.

*Scientific studies reveal that given dramatic improvements in helmets over the last decade, the vast majority (not all) of concussions can be eliminated in football by players simply adhering to the following:

1) Play the game with my head up and use correct technique at all times
2) Make sure my helmet is properly inflated
3) Secure my chinstrap properly
4) Wear my mouthpiece at all times
PROGRAM POLICIES:
The Ultimate Mission: More than likely, our players won’t have to block or tackle later in life. Each player will however, have to learn to tackle life’s challenges. To achieve their potential in life, these boys will have to develop great work ethic, self-discipline, the ability to work with other people, the ability to set and achieve goals, the ability to meet deadlines, the willingness to sacrifice for the good of others, and they will have to be mentally tough. Our goal is to help these boys develop into strong leaders, men of honor and capable citizens in a rapidly changing world. In our opinion this is the most important role of high school football.
**PROGRAM POLICIES:**

**Offseason Expectations:** Be a multi-sport athlete if possible. If you are not out for another sport, you will be expected to be in the weight room and participating in off-season workouts. COMMITMENT IS THE EXPECTATION AND IS ESSENTIAL!

Hazing of any kinds will not be tolerated in the Husky Football Program. Should cases arise, they will be turned over to our school administration and the school resource officer for prosecution. Suspension or Dismissal from the team will result. This always goes back to the BIG 3 – Do your Best, Do what’s Right, and Treat others with Respect.
PROGRAM POLICIES:

Social Media: In addition all other forms of conduct, we expect our players to use social media in a positive and responsible manner. Posting pictures, messages, or comments that are deemed detrimental to the program will result in consequences ranging from extra conditioning, suspension or removal from the team. This includes media outlets and message boards. THINK before you post anything on social media because once out there, it becomes public and it’s out there FOREVER. Abide by the “Granny Rule”. Don’t post anything (pictures, messages, etc.) that you wouldn’t want your grandmother to see or read.
PROGRAM POLICIES:
IN SEASON DRESS CODE:

Monday- Slacks & Dress shirt with Tie – Back to work Monday (Set the Tone)

Tuesday- On your own “Be Sensible”

Wednesday- On your own “Be Sensible”

Thursday- Team Warm up – With Horizon Football Shirt

Friday- Jersey & Team Shorts or Pants
HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL
WHAT WE WILL ASK OF OUR PARENTS

1. Trust: We realize that we are working with your most valuable possession...
   Your child
2. Support: Your Child’s commitment to athletics
3. Support: The ideals that we will build our programs upon
4. Share: Your concerns with us before they become problems
5. Exemplify: Good Sportsmanship
6. Stress Academics: At home... Homework & Studying!!
7. Volunteer: When you can... Join our Gridiron Club
8. Believe: We have the team and your kids best interest in mind
9. Be a Fan: Support the team in the stands and in the community
10. Congratulate your kids: All student-athletes are special individuals;
    not everyone can do what they do
WAYS TO STAY INFORMED

@HZFBFAMILY

http://www.hometeamsonline.com/teams/?u=HORIZONFOOTBALL&s=football