**Pine Island Football Program**

**Expectations and Responsibilities**

*When you are a member of the Pine Island Football program, you are responsible for representing yourself, our team, our school and our community.*

 *MAKE THEM PROUD!*

**Commitment:** You are expected to fulfill your commitment in participating in practice, meetings, events and fundraisers.

**Requirements before 1st Practice:** You need to complete the following:

1. Up to date physical on file in the office
2. Activity fee paid
3. Attend the PAC Meeting
4. Fill out all MSHSL forms and Parent Permission Form

**Practice and Conduct:**

All players are expected to be at every practice and conduct themselves in a positive manner. Consequences for a missed practice or conduct unbecoming during practice are as follows:

 1st Unexcused- 2 quarters of playing time

 2nd Unexcused- 1 game suspension

 3rd Unexcused- Dismissal from the team

\*Players are also expected to be on time to practice and team functions. Extra conditioning will be assigned to players coming late to practice. Our expectations are *“If you are early you are on time, if you are on time you are late, and if you are late you are left!”*

**Riding the Bus:** All players must ride the bus to the game. It is also expected that players will ride home with the team as well. This expectation is to allow us to celebrate as a team after a win, or reflect as a team on the bus ride home after a loss.

**Academics:** We will follow the PIHS policy regarding academic performance for student-athletes. If you have a failing grade in a class you will be expected to attend the pass program. School comes first! If you need help try to arrange a meeting with a teacher before school. If this is not possible please speak to Coach Stapleton or your specific team coach. You will be expected to immediately attend practice after the review session with your teacher is finished.

**MSHSL Violations:** Violations of the district substance abuse policy and other MSHSL violations will not be tolerated! If you want to participate on our team you must follow these rules.

**Varsity Lettering:** This will be determined by the coaching staff. To letter players must play in one half of all quarters played during the season. If a player participates in the Pine Island Football Program for four years they will receive a varsity letter.

**Playing Time:**

 **7th & 8th grade-** The philosophy at the 7th and 8th grade level is to develop skills and encourage participation. Efforts shall be made to have everyone play. The coaching staff will work to provide fair amounts of playing time to each player. Other factors may affect playing time though such as: behavior, hard work, attendance, willingness to be coached and academic progress.

 **9th, Junior-Varsity & Varsity-** Starting at the 9th grade level, playing time will be increasingly based on the team’s best chance to win along with other factors including, but not limited to ones listed for 7th and 8th grade participants. Coaches will play as many players as possible while still providing the team the best chance to win.

If you have questions please contact Coach Stapleton at jstaplet@pineisland.k12.mn.us

**Go Panthers!**