Universal American School Athletic Handbook 2021–2022

Junior Scorpions





Dear UAS Parents and students,

UAS will be continuing to grow our Junior Scorpions program aimed at our Grade 4 – 6 boys and girls. This developmentally focused program will be competing against other U.A.E International Schools in the Junior Emirates Athletics Conference (JEAC). JEAC offers students an opportunity to have fun, participate, and learn the fundamental skills of soccer, track & and field, and basketball. The focus of JEAC is to reinforce the value of sportsmanship, respect, teamwork, and self-discipline through healthy and fair competition.



Go Scorpions, Jermaine Lattimore

Philosophy

The Junior Scorpions is an inclusive program of all ability levels. The program is designed to introduce competition within a team environment, promote sportsmanship, while learning a specific sport. All players will have the opportunity to:

- 1. Develop Skills: Through learning the basic fundamentals.
- 2. Teamwork: The importance of roles.
- 3. Sportsmanship: Belonging, Curiosity, Resilience, Empathy.
- 4. Have Fun!!

JEAC Mission Statement

The Junior Emirates Athletics Conference (JEAC) offers students in grades 4– 6 an opportunity to have fun, participate in and learn the fundamental skills of soccer, track and field, and basketball. The focus of JEAC is to reinforce the value of sportsmanship, respect, teamwork, and self discipline through healthy and fair Competition.



JEAC Schedule

Students who choose to participate in this program will be required to attend 2 practices per week after school for approximately a 6-week season. Should a student miss more than 1 practice (without a medical excuse) they may not be eligible to compete at the end of season Jamboree. Boys and girls may train together but will play on separate grade-specific teams during the jamboree.

<u>Sport</u>	Grade Level	<u>Registration</u>	Start Date	End Date
Soccer	4 – 6	Week of Sept. 19 th	Oct. 3 rd	Nov. II th
Swimming	4-6	Week of Sept 19 th	Oct 3rd	Nov 11 th
Track & Field	4 – 6	Week of Nov. 1st	Nov. 14th	Feb 5th
Basketball	4 – 6	Week of March 18 th	April 10th	June 2nd

Junior Scorpion Athletes

Participation within the UAS athletics program is a privilege. For each athlete to enjoy the experience the following guidelines are the standard for success:

- 1. Give the best effort.
- 2. Treat teammates, coaches, opponents, officials with respect.
- 3. Accept responsibility for actions.
- 4. Listen to coaches.



Parents

Parents play a vital role in the UAS Athletics Program. Parents model attitudes and behavior for their children. We invite all parents to attend home and away games, support the team, and encourage their children to practice and play hard.

We appreciate the assistance parents provide for their children in their athletic endeavors, whether driving them to an athletic event, volunteering to serve the athletics department during games or events, and sacrificing family time to accommodate athletic schedules. We also appreciate the support parents provide our coaches to create a valuable athletic experience for all participants.

Parents should be mindful of and respect what the coaches are trying to do by avoiding interference or public criticism, especially in front of their children, other teammates, or community members.

Parents are expected to conduct themselves to bring honor and respect to our teams and school regarding games. At no time should a parent display inappropriate behavior toward an official, coach, administrator, or student - athlete.

*Any Spectator/Parent who acts in a disruptive manner will cause a game to be suspended until the situation is resolved or the spectator is removed.



Coaches

The coach is responsible for creating a fun, safe, and challenging environment where their student - athletes will receive a high level of instruction and competition. The coach is also responsible for:

Achieving professional expectations puts students well being first at all times. Ensuring players are adequately prepared for upcoming competitions.

Ensure that student - athletes are exhibiting good behavior on and off the field/court.

Make decisions based on the collective interest of the team while also developing each student - athlete to their fullest potential.

Setting clear expectations and are available to student - athletes for positive mentorship on and off the field/court.

COVID Guidelines & Protocols

All athletic program participants are expected to adhere to the guidelines outlined in the KHDA back-to-school protocols. Student-athletes are also expected to follow the guidance of their coaches to ensure safety within the athletics environment.

*Until further notice, no spectators will be allowed into matches. The athletic director will update the UAS community once this changes.

Pickup & Drop-off

Drop-off for practices and games at UAS should follow the student handbook. Parents/ Guardians/ Drivers should not enter the school building at any time.

Local Travel:

All student-athletes must travel with their team by bus to and from the school before and after athletic competitions. If a parent would like to pick up their student from an opposing school after the match, there must be written permission by the parent or guardian sent to the coach beforehand.

If a parent or guardian is not present after the game, then that student-athlete must ride the bus back with the team. Students are not allowed to leave the opposing school's campus or other venues by any other means. Once back on the UAS campus, students may only take public transportation if written permission is sent to the coach beforehand. If not, the student-athlete must be picked up by a parent, guardian, or driver.

Required Forms for Participation:

Prior to the start of each season, all parents must complete the following:

- O UAS Athletic Participation Consent/Medical Release
- O UAS Physical Examination and Medical Information. Filled out by a doctor or physician

More information will be provided about each individual sport closer to the registration periods.

We are excited about these amazing athletic opportunities for our younger students here at UAS. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our Junior Scorpions program please contact Mr. Jermaine Lattimore through email at athletics@uasdubai.ae.

Kind Regards,

Jermaine Lattimore