

Athletic Department Policies

1. Coaches' Rules

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with approval of the Athletic Director for their respective sports. The rules pertaining to a particular sport must be explained, in writing, by the coach at the start of the season. The coach shall administer penalties for violation of team rules. Copies of all team rules are on file in the Athletic Office.

2. Discipline Techniques

Discipline yourself, so others will not have to! Each situation may require a different type of discipline. The purpose of the discipline, whatever type it may be, is to help the athlete improve and become a better person. Failure to accept this on the part of the athlete or parent/guardian may result in dismissal from the team and/or athletic program. The different discipline techniques listed below may be used alone or in combination when an athlete violates the Student Code of Conduct. These techniques may also be used for violations of any athletic policy.

- Oral correction
- Counseling by coaches
- Corporal punishment
- Techniques or penalties identified by an individual coach of a sport
- Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation
- Dismissal from the program

3. Academics

All students are required to remain academically eligible to participate. Repeated academic suspension may result in dismissal from the program. Effort, tutorial attendance, ability of student will be considered in determining dismissal.

4. Conduct

Athletes are expected to promote socially acceptable behavior and respect for authority. Proper conduct is expected in both the classroom and in the athletic program. Habitual discipline problems will result in dismissal from the program. Disrespect toward teachers and coaches will not be tolerated.

5. Attendance

Be in class. Be on time to class. If you must miss an athletic period or practice, you must make sure it cannot be avoided. If you must be absent, call and talk to one of the coaches before the athletic period or practice. You will be required to make up any work missed. Repeated absences may result in dismissal from the team.

6. Injury or Illness

If you must leave school due to injury or illness, you must first contact your coach. If you are injured or ill, we do not expect you to work out. However, if you are at school, you are expected to be in uniform or athletic issued clothing and accompany your group or team unless given special permission by your head coach or trainer.

7. Dress and Appearance

Athletic participation is voluntary upon the part of the student, any by entering the program, the athlete agrees to abide by the spirit, rules, and regulations which pertain to athletes. One of the most important rules is that athletes must maintain a neat appearance at all times. You should be very professional in uniform and out. Your appearance away from the field house or gym, especially at school, should reflect the same class and pride that you show in our program. Everyone will wear his/her uniform in the same manner. No one will be different. We will furnish your equipment, so do not bring your own. Men and women will wear attire requested by the head coach. Grooming and dress will be explained in detail to the athletes and will be enforced by the coaches. No jewelry of any kind will be worn during practice or games. Athletes are public relations ambassadors for their school and as such serve as role models for other students.

8. Quitting A Sport

There is a fourteen day grace period at the beginning of each sport in which a player has the opportunity to decide if they want to continue playing that sport. This period begins with the day of the first game or competition (a scrimmage does not constitute a competition). From that day, the player will have fourteen calendar days to make their decision. If a player quits during this fourteen day period, and is in good standing with the coach of that sport, that player will be allowed to move on to the next sport. However, after the fourteenth day passes, any player that quits will incur the following punishment: they will not be able to practice or compete in another sport until the regular season of the sport they quit is over. There will be an additional penalty enforced at the beginning of the next sport they play regardless of whether it falls during the current year or the following school year. If a player quits after the fourteen day grace period they

will serve a one game, meet, or tournament suspension if the next sport they play is one of the following: football, track, tennis, cross country, or golf. The player will serve a three game suspension if the next sport they play is one of the following: volleyball, basketball, baseball, or softball.

If a player quits a sport, and is not in good standing with the coach of that sport, he/she will be subject to the penalties listed above. Additionally, that player may be punished further. That punishment is to be determined by the Athletic Director. The punishment may include a longer suspension than listed above. In extreme cases the player may be forced to sit out an entire season.

If a player becomes a habitual quitter, as determined by the Athletic Director, that player may be removed from the athletic program completely. A player may be deemed immune to these punishments, if the Athletic Director determines that there are extenuating circumstances.

9. Conflict in Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in several extracurricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities, and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about participation in too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means immediately notifying the faculty sponsors and coaches involved when a conflict does arise.

When a conflict arises, the sponsors and coaches will work out a solution so the student does not feel caught in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, the Athletic Director will make the decision based on the following:

1. The relative importance of each event.
2. The importance of each event to the student.
3. The relative contribution the student can make.
4. How long each event has been scheduled.
5. Talk with parents.

Once a decision has been made and the student has followed decision, he/she will not be penalized in any way by either faculty sponsor or coach. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligation of a school activity, he/she should withdraw from that activity in a timely fashion so as not to place an unreasonable burden on the team, coach, or sponsor.

10. Tobacco-Alcoholic Beverages

There will be no use of tobacco products or drinking alcoholic beverages at anytime for those students who desire to take part in the Buna Athletic Program.

First Offense – Discipline technique determined by individual coach of sport.

Second Offense – Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation.

Third Offense – Dismissal from team and one year probation.

11. Use of Illegal Drugs

Buying, selling, possession, or taking of illegal drugs will not be tolerated.

First Offense – One calendar year suspension from competition.

Second Offense – Permanent removal from the Buna Athletic Program.

(This punishment may only be overturned by the approval of the Athletic Director, Principal, and Superintendent.)

12. Theft

Taking things that do not belong to you, especially taking from your teammates will not be tolerated. A player caught will be dismissed from the team. We ask that you do not bring valuables or large sums of money to the dressing room.

Lock your lockers at all times!

13. Insurance

Buna I.S.D. strives in providing each and every student athlete with the best care possible under the guidance of an Athletic Trainer. Each year we hope to avoid injuries, but unfortunately that is something that cannot be controlled. The reality is that all medical expenses resulting from an athletic injury are inherently the parents' responsibility. Buna I.S.D. has elected to purchase a supplemental insurance policy, even under these strenuous economic times. Buna I.S.D. also provides all students the opportunity to purchase an insurance policy with the current insurance company under contract at a minimal cost.

14. Award Policies

U.I.L. rules prohibit athletes from accepting anything of value other than as listed in these policies. All athletes must strictly adhere to all training, attendance, conduct, discipline and appearance rules set forth by the coaches for the entire school year before being considered for an athletic award. All scholastic eligibility rules established by the School Board, the University Interscholastic League, and the Texas Education Agency must be met. It must be clearly

understood that the coach recommends an athlete for an award. Many schools give jackets at the end of the senior year or require a minimum of two years participation to receive a jacket. In Buna I.S.D. an athlete will be awarded a jacket or letter if he/she competes on the varsity level for at least half the season of that varsity sport. The head coach of a sport may give a jacket or letter to an athlete with approval of the athletic director.

15. The Athletic Period *(Added to Athletic Policy for 2006-2007)*

Players participating in football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball are required to attend the athletic period. Players participating in sports other than the ones listed are not required to be in the athletic period. Those sports include cross-country, power-lifting, track, tennis, and golf. There are 2 athletic periods for boys sports and two for girls sports. One of these periods is designated for JV and varsity players and the other is designated for freshmen. The coaching staff reserves the right to place a player in whatever period they choose. A player may not sign up for an athletic period other than the one the coaching staff has assigned.

An exemption may be granted by the Athletic Director under the following circumstance: the student cannot fit athletics in their schedule because of conflicts with core courses required for graduation. Exemptions will be considered on a case by case basis.

16. Off-Season Participation Requirements (Updated 2010-2011)

High school Football and Volleyball players must be in an athletic period during the Spring semester in order to participate in the Fall season.

High school Basketball, Baseball and Softball players must be in an athletic period at the beginning of the Fall semester in order to participate in that upcoming season.

Freshmen Baseball players will be enrolled in athletics during the Spring semester.

17. U.I.L. Parent Information Manual

Available for viewing in the High School office and Library. May also be viewed on the Buna ISD web site. www.bunaisd.net