

**COPLEY-FAIRLAWN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

<u>Student's Last Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Sport</u>
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**Athletic Code of Conduct**

Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege which provides many benefits. Copley-Fairlawn City Schools challenge its athletes with additional expectations and responsibilities.

In their pursuit of success in athletics, the athletes of Copley-Fairlawn City Schools are expected to conduct themselves as young men and women who understand the value of healthy bodies and minds. To this end, the following rules and regulations have been developed to help guide our student athletes as they participate in athletics. These rules and regulations are to be read in conjunction with Board of Education Policy and the Student Code of Conduct.

1. The use, possession, or sale of alcohol or illegal/non-prescription/counterfeit drugs will not be tolerated. The consequences for violation of this rule are severe.

**First Offense:** An athlete found in violation of the aforementioned alcohol/drug rule will be prohibited from athletic participation by the Superintendent, Principals, Assistant Principals, and/or other personnel employed by the district to supervise or coach a student activity program for a minimum of 50% of the contests (including regular season and tournaments), based upon the number of scheduled events. If the athlete agrees to complete the Insight program or other approved substance abuse assessment and successfully follows the recommendations made, the suspension will be reduced to a minimum denial of participation of 25% of the contests. Refusal or failure to successfully complete the Insight program and/or other approved assessment and/or to follow the recommendations made may result in a further suspension, up to and including full denial of athletic participation.

Student athletes will not be permitted to avoid the application of this rule by virtue of the timing of any infraction. If a violation occurs at or near the end of a sport season, or if the athlete is not in season at the time of the violation, then the penalty will be appropriately adjusted and/or applied to the next in-season sport in which the athlete is a regular participant, i.e., a sport in which the student athlete has participated in previously. Further, student athletes prohibited from participation in a particular extracurricular activity under this rule may not avoid the consequences of a denial of participation by trying out for a new sport, i.e., one in which he/she is not a regular participant. In such cases, the prohibition would apply to the new sport and the next sport in which the student athlete is a regular participant.

**Second offense:** An athlete found in violation for a second time under this rule will be prohibited from participation in all athletics for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of the violation.

**Third offense:** An athlete found in violation of this rule will be denied participation in athletics indefinitely.

**Additional conditions:**

Penalties for any violation of the alcohol/drug rule shall apply to conduct occurring on school property, at a school or school-related function, or if otherwise admitted by the student athlete and/or confirmed by the police.

Violations of the alcohol/drug rule may result, at the discretion of the administration, in a loss of any or all post-season recognition for the athlete, including but not limited to attendance at any awards function.

Prohibitions from participation imposed for violation of the alcohol/drug rule apply to all levels of athletic competition.

Coaches are expected to make referrals to the C.A.R.E. Coordinator for any student athlete he/she reasonably suspects to be engaged in substance abuse. If this referral results in a recommendation for further assessment, the parents of the student athlete will be so advised. A failure to submit to an assessment and/or follow the recommendations developed from that assessment may result in the denial of further athletic participation.

2. The possession or use of any form of tobacco will result in a minimum denial of participation in 25% of the contests of the current season and/or next season in which the athlete is a regular participant, depending upon the timing of the violation.
3. The student athletes participating in the Copley-Fairlawn City Schools sports programs must not engage in acts such as assault, sexual misconduct, theft, vandalism, destruction of property or any other conduct which is of a criminal nature. Violation of this rule will, at a minimum, result in an immediate prohibition from athletic participation for the remainder of the present season and, at the discretion of the administration, may be adjusted and/or extended up to and including an indefinite prohibition depending upon the nature of the violation. This rule shall be applied to student athletes on the date they are determined by the administration to have engaged in or are otherwise found guilty of any of the aforementioned or related acts of misconduct.
4. The athletes participating in Copley-Fairlawn City School sports must follow the specific academic eligibility guidelines adopted by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Copley-Fairlawn Board of Education (provided by AD/Coach).
5. The athletes participating in Copley-Fairlawn City School sports must return all school

issued equipment such as uniforms and protective gear or make payment for lost items prior to being released to participate in a sport during the next sports season. The replacement cost of lost items is determined by the coach and athletic director.

6. The athletes participating in Copley-Fairlawn City School sports must follow the Athletic Code of Conduct, the Student Code of Conduct, and the individual coach's Code of Conduct. \* Violation of rules contained in these codes of conduct will result in disciplinary action enacted by the coach of the sport in season.

\*Each coach must prescribe rules and regulations for his/her sport. These must be made available to athletes and their parents. Parental and student signatures on the Coach's Code of Conduct indicate that both parents and athletes understand the rules. The following are rules that may be included, but not necessarily be limited to: Absence or tardiness to practice or game; attitude or behavior detrimental to the team; violation of athletic safety rules; curfew violation.

7. If an athlete misses more than 1/2 day of school, then he/she is not eligible to participate in an athletic event that day or evening. (This includes practice and games.)
  - 1) Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the Administration (e.g., funerals, etc.).

Your signature on this form indicates that you have read, understand and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. Please return this form with your son or daughter to the head coach.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

[Adopted March 17, 1998]

LEGAL REFS.: O.R.C. 3313.664