

OLYMPIA MIDDLE SCHOOL/OLYMPIA HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT ACTIVITY CODE

This Activity Code is adopted by the Board of Education of Olympia Community Unit School District #16 to apply to students in activities in grades 6-12. This policy applies in addition to other policies concerning student conduct, and imposes additional requirements on students in activities. It is intended to promote the health and safety of students, and to encourage the development of self-discipline and self-control in these students' activities. The Board finds those attributes to be necessary to make participation in activities successful and rewarding for individual students as well as for the teams in which they participate.

The Board finds that students and the public perceive students who participate in activities as representatives of the school and other students. They are provided certain privileges and services not available to other students. The Board determines that it is necessary for the maintenance of discipline and to promote exemplary conduct that additional and unique rules apply to activities and their participants.

The Board has determined that participation in activities is a privilege, not a right. If a student fails to comply with the rules and requirements set forth in this policy, the privilege to participate in activities may be lost in accordance with this policy.

The rules set forth in this policy apply to the student, commencing with entrance into the sixth grade, and continue to apply to the student until the completion of the student's high school career. These rules apply both in and out of season of the activities in which each student participates, during summers, holidays, and vacations, on and off campus, and whether or not misconduct occurs at a school or school-sponsored activity.

I. Required forms

Students desiring to participate in activities are required to have on file in the Activities Director's office, the following fully completed forms:

- A. Activities Release Form – Signed by a parent or guardian indicating the parent's permission for the student to participate and signed by the student indicating that he/she agrees to abide by the provisions of the Activity Code and the IHSA/IESA Eligibility Rules.
- B. Physical examination – Results of a current physical examination completed within the last twelve (12) months indicating that a medical doctor has deemed the student physically able to participate. A Student will not be allowed to participate without a current valid physical.
- C. Health Forms – Signed by a parent or guardian, and the student, these health and concussion information forms document the understanding of the inherent risks for concussions and the damage concussions can cause in adolescents. The forms also document the districts procedures and requirements in the case of a suspected concussion and provide consent to treat in a medically necessary situation.

II. Definitions

Student Participant - a boy or girl in high school or middle school who participates in any of the high school or middle school extra-curricular activities.

Suspension - Suspension means loss of the privilege to participate in contests or activities. During suspension the student will be allowed to practice. The student will be required to attend all games, contests, or performances during the suspension. During the term of the suspension, the student will not be allowed to be in full uniform at the contests.

III. Training Rules

Coaches/Sponsors have the authority to make and enforce team/activity rules and regulations. Students need to be made aware of such rules and regulations before participation in that sport or activity. Coaches/Sponsors have the authority to impose consequences they deem appropriate with regard to activities, in their discretion, for violation of school rules or team/activity rules and regulations. Students/parents shall be orally notified of any penalty to be imposed for violation of team/activity rules. Only administration has the authority to remove a student from a team or activity for the season.

A. Prohibited Conduct

1. Use, possession, distribution, purchase, sale or being under the influence of alcohol illegal drugs, or look alike drugs, or knowingly being in attendance at gatherings where these substances are used or possessed by minors, or the use, possession, distribution, purchase or sale of tobacco, e-cigarettes, vape devices or drug-related paraphernalia AT ANY TIME DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR is prohibited. Consequently, students who are in attendance and aware of illegal alcohol or drug use at a gathering and do not make a responsible attempt to leave, will be considered in violation of the code.
2. Any conduct defined as gross disobedience or misconduct in the student handbook or the policies of the Olympia School District is prohibited.
3. Any commission of a criminal offense AT ANY TIME DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR is prohibited. Conviction of a criminal offense is conclusive evidence that the student committed the offense. Other evidence may also demonstrate that an offense occurred, but mere arrest or charge is insufficient in and of themselves to show that the student committed the offense.

B. Consequences

1. Except as provided below, the first violation of Part III Training Rules, A, Prohibited Conduct, numbers 1-3 shall be issued a suspension up to an entire season or the duration of the activity. If the remaining contests do not permit the full consequence to be imposed in that season, the consequence will be carried over and applied to the participant's next activity. For example, the consequence is 5 contests/performances, but only 3 contests/performances remain, the remaining percent will be assessed in the next activity. If the student-participant quits the next activity, or is removed from the team by the

administration, the remaining percent of the original consequence will carry over to the next activity.

2. A subsequent violation of Part III Training Rules, A, Prohibited Conduct, numbers 1-3 within one calendar year (365 days) from the occurrence of the first (1st) violation shall result in a suspension from all activities for a period up to ONE CALENDAR YEAR (365 days). The consequence will be imposed on the day the Activities Director renders a decision, and run for up to one calendar year (365 days).
3. Any student with a 2nd violation within a calendar year of the 1st violation must complete a school approved remediation program in order to resume participation in any OHMS Activities after the completion of the suspension.
4. The consequences set forth in Part III Training Rules, B, Penalties, numbers 1-3 above are addressed on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Activities Director, including such factors as evidence available, admission, request for help, previous violation or any additional details. Consequences for violations are progressive in nature.

C. Violation Procedures

1. If the administration receives information or reports from any source that a student has violated any of the training rules as provided in this Code, the administration shall promptly investigate the charge.
2. If there is sufficient evidence to believe a violation may have occurred, the administration shall:
 - I. Interview the student notifying them of the charge and requesting a response.
 - II. If the student denies the charge, give an explanation to the student of the evidence and facts leading to the charge; and
 - III. Give the student an opportunity to respond or present an explanation of the event.
3. If the administration determines the allegations are true, the administration may issue disciplinary consequences consistent with the penalties outlined in Part III Training Rules, B, Consequences. The administration shall notify the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) of the violation and of the imposed consequence.
4. If the student/parent disagrees with the administration's action, a meeting of the Activity Code Committee shall be convened. The Activity Code Committee shall consist of coaches/sponsors, which will be appointed by the administration with representatives from the selected areas listed below. Any coach/sponsor of these activities will be considered for appointment. The High School or Middle School administration and the coach/sponsor of the activity the student was involved in are invited to attend as non-voting members. The purpose of the Activity Code Committee shall be to determine whether or not the student committed the misconduct, and if so, whether the penalty is appropriate for the violation. A quorum of seven (7) members is needed to make decisions concerning violations.
5. The Activity Code Committee shall consider any relevant evidence, including any aggravating or mitigating factors, in determining what penalty is appropriate. The student and/or their parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be given an opportunity

to address the Activity Code Committee. The penalty imposed by the Activity Code Committee shall be in accordance with Part B.

6. If the student disagrees with the finding of the Activity Code Committee, the appeal process is the same as any student suspension, which is detailed in the student handbook.
7. Students will not be able to participate in their activity during the appeal process. Students may resume participation if deemed appropriate by the Activity Code Committee.