



2014/2015 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities and Athletics

Participation in Community Unit School D300 athletics and activities is a privilege and not a right. By accepting this privilege, students are expected to adhere to a higher standard of conduct. As a result, the following Athletics and Activities Code of Conduct has been adopted by the School D300 Administration and Board of Education for participants of athletic teams, activity groups, and organizations – including team statisticians and managers. D300’s entire athletic and activities departments are committed to enforcing both the Athletics and Activities Code of Conduct and also the behavior expectations described in the CUSD 300 Parent/ Student Handbook. Once the student and his/her parent or guardian have signed the Athletics and Activities Code of Conduct, the behavior code is in effect twelve months of the year, seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, in and out of season, and on and off school grounds, until the end of the spring sport playoff season of a student’s senior year.

All Student Athletes and Participants – Code of Conduct

Students who are selected for the privilege of membership on athletic teams and other school-sponsored activities should conduct themselves as exemplary representatives of their schools. In order to assure this conduct, student behavior guidelines are enforced in and out of season. The athletic and activity behavior code is in effect twelve months of the year, seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, on and off school grounds until the end of the spring sport playoff season of a student’s senior year. Furthermore, members of teams and organizations who fail to abide by the rules for participation are subject to disciplinary actions. Likewise, all spectators – especially parents – are expected at all times to use respectful language and behaviors; failure to do so may result in prohibited or limited attendance at school sponsored athletic events or activities.

All Student Athletes and Participants – Violations of the Code of Conduct

No member of a D300 athletic team, activity, fine arts performing group, leadership organization, or team statistician/manager will...

- Use, attempt to use, possess, purchase, sell, distribute or assist any student in the use, attempted use, possession purchase, sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products and/or look-alike drugs or alcohol
- Use, attempt to use, possess, purchase, sell, distribute, be under the influence of or assist any other student in the use, attempted use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol, drugs (other than those prescribed by a licensed physician to the specific student participant), controlled substances, other illegal mood-altering and/or performance enhancing drugs or chemicals or any other substance used to obtain an altered mental state or “high”
- Attend a gathering or ride in a vehicle where there is a verified police report of drinking alcohol, open alcohol, or drug use
- Exhibit gross misconduct or behavior that is considered detrimental to his/her team or school; some examples of inappropriate behavior may include, but are not limited to criminal offenses, illegal acts, theft, fighting, vandalism, aiding and abetting, lying to school officials, academic dishonesty, falsifying information/signatures on permit or permission forms, hazing, bullying, cyber-bullying, poor sportsmanship, or intimidating acts.

Coaches, teachers, administrators, other school staff, law enforcement personnel, and any person from the public may report to the Athletic Director an alleged violation of the Code of Conduct at any time. The report must be in writing, signed by the reporter, and dated within 30 days from the alleged occurrence. The Athletic Director and school authorities will investigate the incident by following appropriate due process procedures, in addition to informing the student and his family of the applicable appeal process.

All Student Athletic participants – Violations of the Code of Conduct – Consequences

All penalties involving this Code of Conduct are cumulative for the tenure of the student's athletic career in School D300. All penalties will be enforced at all levels. If a player is playing on more than one level or sport, the student will serve the consequence on both levels and sports. If the player is serving a consequence at one level or sport, the student may not participate at another level or sport.

1. **First Violation of Athletic Code:** Beginning with the first competition following notification of the violation, the student will lose eligibility from competition for twenty percent of the contests during their season (rounded up to the nearest whole number). If the violation involves drugs or alcohol, at the parent's or guardian's expense, the student will participate in and provide documentation indicating successful completion of a certified alcohol or drug education program. Based on the circumstances of the violation, the nature of the sport or activity, and the decision of the Athletic Director and the coach, the student may still be expected to practice with the team, or the student may be excluded from practicing with the team.
2. **Second Violation of Athletic Code::** Beginning with the first competition following notification of the violation, the student will lose eligibility from competition for forty percent of the contests during their season (rounded up to the nearest whole number). If the violation involves drugs or alcohol, at the parent's or guardian's expense, the student will participate in and provide documentation indicating successful completion of a certified alcohol or drug education program. Based on the circumstances of the violation, the nature of the sport or activity, and the decision of the Athletic Director and the coach, the student may still be expected to practice with the team, or the student may be excluded from practicing with the team.
3. **Third Violation of Athletic Code::** Beginning with the date of the violation notification, the student will lose eligibility from competition for one calendar year. Based on the circumstances of the violation, the nature of the sport or activity, and the decision of the Athletic Director and the coach, the student may still be expected to practice with the team, or the student may be excluded from practicing with the team.
4. **Any Additional Violations of Athletic Code::** The student will lose eligibility from all athletic activities for the remainder of his/her school career. The student will not be allowed to practice with any athletic team. To calculate the number of contests the athlete must miss for any violation, the penalty will be based on the maximum number of regular season contests in the particular sport or activity. The total number of contests or events missed will vary with each sport or activity. If the violation requires the student to serve a suspension from school, the athletic penalty begins on the date of the suspension so that competitions missed while the student is suspended count toward the total competitions missed. If the violation occurs during the off -season, or the season length does not allow the athlete to successfully complete the suspension, the suspension period will carry over to the next season. No award will be given to the athlete for the season during which the violation occurred.

All Student Athletic participants – Violations of the Code of Conduct – Self-Reporting

Prior to a school or police investigation taking place, any participant or parent may voluntarily report to the Athletic Director a first- time code violation involving tobacco/tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, controlled substances or other illegal mood-altering and/or performance enhancing drugs or chemicals, or any other substance used to obtain an altered mental state or "high." However, the participant or parent will not be eligible for the self-reporting guidelines if school staff or administration has or will become aware of the infraction by other means, such as notification by law enforcement agencies. In addition, self-reporting may be used one time only in the participant's entire middle school or high school career and only with regard to a first violation. Self-reported incidents will be recorded as a first offense, but the consequences will be held in abeyance provided the following occur: The individual maintains behaviors consistent with the expectations and standards of the D300.

Athletic and Activities Code of Conduct; the individual remains in compliance with D300 rules and policies; At the parent's or guardian's expense, the student participates in and provides documentation indicating successful completion of a certified alcohol or drug education program. If the student commits an additional violation of the Code of Conduct, he or she will be held accountable for consequences appropriate for a second offense.

All Student Athletic participants – Violations of the Code of Conduct – Suspension and Appeal Procedures

School administration shall suspend student athletes for violating the D300 Athletic and Activities Code of Conduct using the following procedures:

- Investigate allegations prior to initiating student suspension
- Notify the student verbally or in writing of the allegations against the student athlete
- Provide the student with an opportunity to respond to the allegations; if prior notice and conference are not feasible (for example, the student's presence may endanger others; or the student's presence threatens to disrupt the academic process), the notification and informal conference shall be held as soon as practical
- Notify the student of the nature and seriousness of his/her actions, and when feasible, inform him/her of the specific time period of the suspension
- Provide verbal and written notification to the parents/guardians of the nature of the incident and the length of the suspension

School administration shall follow these guidelines for an appeal regarding an athletic suspension; appealing a suspension will not hold the terms of the athletic suspension in abeyance:

1. Parents/Guardians must submit a written suspension appeal to the school's Athletic Director within 3 days of the student athlete being suspended; the appeal must state the desired outcome expected
2. Athletic Director and any other pertinent school administrator conducts a hearing with the parents/guardians and student athlete present; the hearing officer will be an impartial administrator who has had training in student discipline and due process
3. The hearing officer will submit his/her report to the Superintendent or Designee who takes such action as deemed appropriate
4. The decision of the Superintendent or Designee is final

HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

Fees: There is a user's fee assessed to each participant in each sport; athletic participation fees and obligations must be paid in full at least one week prior to the start of the athletic season. No student will be allowed to participate in athletic try-outs, practice, or competitions until all athletic obligations have been paid in full. Student athletes or student activity participants must pay for any school-issued equipment or uniform not turned in by the due date specified by the coach or sponsor. Students are responsible for removing everything from their athletic lockers when their season ends. The school is not responsible for students' personal items left in locker rooms or inside lockers; neither the school nor the district will offer any type of reimbursement for personal items that are lost or stolen. If students fail to sufficiently clean out their athletic lockers by the specified date, they may be assessed a \$5.00 charge.

Academics and Attendance: According to the Illinois High School Association [IHSA], student IHSA participants must pass twenty-five credit hours of high school per week, or five .5 credit courses. Students must pass and earn full graduation credit for twenty-five credit hours per semester to be eligible for the following semester. Additional IHSA requirements can be found at ihsa.org. All student participants must be in attendance for at least half of the academic school day in order to participate in same-day contests or competitions. Students who are ineligible to participate in physical education classes will be ineligible for athletic participation. Supporting eligibility definitions and exceptions are determined by school administration.

Physical Examinations: Student athletes must provide a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed medical physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner not more than 395 days preceding any date of participation in any sport – including try-outs. High school student athletes are required by the IHSA to give permission to submit to a drug test at any time. Prior to athletic participation, all students are required to submit a waiver signed by a parent or guardian giving permission to drug test their child.

Transportation: Members of school teams or activities must travel to and from events in transportation scheduled for use by the Athletic Director or Designee. The student participant may travel with a parent or guardian only if written permission has been obtained and approved by the coach or sponsor. Failure to use transportation as directed or to act appropriately while using transportation services will result in suspension from competition for a length of time determined by the coach, sponsor, or Athletic Director.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

Fees: There is a user's fee assessed to each participant in each sport; athletic participation fees and obligations must be paid in full the day before the first game in order for the athlete to participate. Student athletes or student activity participants must pay for any school-issued equipment or uniform not turned in by the due date specified by the coach or sponsor.

Academics and Attendance: Students must be passing at least five classes in order to be eligible for participation. All student participants must be in attendance for at least half of the academic school day in order to participate in same-day contests or competitions. Students who are ineligible to participate in physical education classes will be ineligible for athletic participation. Supporting eligibility definitions and exceptions are determined by school administration.

Physical Examinations: Student athletes must provide a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed medical physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner not more than one 395 days preceding any date of participation in any sport – including try-outs.

Transportation: Members of school teams or activities must travel to and from events in transportation scheduled for use by the Athletic Director or Designee. The student participant may travel with a parent or guardian only if written permission has been obtained and approved by the coach or sponsor. Failure to use transportation as directed or to act appropriately while using transportation services will result in suspension from competition for a length of time determined by the coach, sponsor, or Athletic Director.