

HARLETON WILDCATS



ATHLETIC MANUAL

*Please read and sign all materials in this manual. Return this packet to a coach.

Harleton Athletics Behavior Policies

Participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right. Athletes are expected to adhere to all school and athletic requirements to earn this privilege. These are the requirements the athletes need to meet:

Academics:

Student athletes must be aware of the importance of education. All academic assignments for each class should be completed in the time required. Athletes should not miss assignments or get behind in assignments. A failure on the report card at the end of the grading period will result in a three week ineligibility period from all games. The student will still be required to practice during this time to remain a part of the team.

Behavior:

Student athletes will also be held to a high standard when it comes to their behavior. Athletes should not be written up by teachers or sent to the office for any negative behavior. All athletes represent their teammates and coaches at all times and when these negative behaviors occur they will be handled appropriately by the coaching staff.

Harleton ISD Drug and Alcohol Testing Program:

Harleton ISD randomly tests athletes, cheerleaders, and band members for drugs and alcohol. A full copy of the drug testing policy is available and given to all new students.

Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco Products:

The use of hallucinogenic drugs will not be tolerated. These mind or mood changing drugs destroys a student's desire to be successful in athletics. The school has a strict zero policy on the use of drugs.

Alcoholic beverages are considered the number one problem with teenagers. We would hope that athletes, for their safety and athletic potential, are not involved with the use of alcohol. Reports

of athletes using beer or other alcohol will be investigated. Discipline measure will be taken against any athlete found to be drinking. This may include conditioning, counseling, and even suspension from the team if the behavior is not changed.

Tobacco products are not to be used by athletes. Dipping is not allowed in the fieldhouse, the gym, on campus, or any bus trip.

Drug Testing:

Harleton ISD requires drug testing of any student in grades 7-12 who chooses to participate in any school-sponsored extracurricular event.

A student participating in these activities shall be tested randomly throughout the school year for the presence of illegal drug, synthetic drugs, and alcohol.

The purpose of the drug-testing program is to deter student use of illegal drugs and alcohol.

Consent:

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign the consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

Refusal to Test or Tampering:

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who is determined to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

Confirmation of Positive Results:

The student or parent shall have three school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation of a positive result.

Quitting a Sport:

An athlete who has received his or her equipment will be given 5 days to determine if they want to stay with the team. If the student athlete decides they do not want to participate in that sport during those 5 days, there will be no consequences for them quitting the team. However, after the 5 day period is up, they must have a meeting with the Athletic Director to explain their reasoning for wanting to quit. They will be given a 24 hour thinking period for them to reflect on their decision and to determine if they have changed their mind about quitting the team. If after this 24 hour period the athlete wants to quit, they will be allowed to, however, **they will not be allowed to participate in another team sport until the previous sport is over.** An athlete can only quit and play another sport if this procedure is followed and there were no disciplinary problems involved.

School Bus Trips:

On out of town games, athletes will return on the bus unless the coach has written permission from the athlete's parents for the student to ride back with them. Athletes will not be allowed to ride home with anyone that is not their parent or guardian. Parents should only ask for their child to ride home with them if there is an emergency or it is a great inconvenience to come to Harleton to pick them up. Buses are school vehicles and are to be treated as such. Behavior on bus trips is the same as all school activity.

Athletic Equipment:

Athletes are not allowed to wear athletic team apparel to school. They also will be responsible for any lost equipment or clothing that has been passed for their use during participation of a sport. If equipment is lost or damaged, an appropriate punishment will be administered.

Dress Code:

The school dress code is to be followed. The guidelines on hair as well as facial hair are to be followed. Earrings are not allowed for any male athlete. Also, if an athlete chooses to wear a hat to a sporting event that they are participating in, it must be a Harleton hat, a school issued hat, or one that has been approved by a coach for that individual athlete.

Cell Phones:

Cell phone usage will be at the Head Coaches discrepancy while traveling on a bus. For example, in Football, cell phones will only be allowed as music devices if the athlete chooses to listen to music. If an athlete abuses this privilege, they will be banned from future use of their cell phone until they get back to Harleton. There will also be allotted times an athlete can listen to the music until asked to put them away.

Dismissal from Athletics:

An athlete may be dismissed from a team for the remainder of the school year, prior to the season starting or during the season for committing any of these major offences:

1. Disrespecting a coach or teacher.
2. Missing multiple practices without a legitimate excuse.
3. The use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco.
4. Continues academic failures.
5. Stealing-
 - a. 1st Offense- conference with players and a parent contact along with physical punishment.
 - b. 2nd Offense- Player will be removed from the team.

Athletic Insurance:

Parents are fully responsible for payment of all medical bills. Harleton ISD has a secondary accidental insurance policy on all UIL activities. This policy is secondary to the family insurance policy. The parents are responsible for filing their primary insurance carrier first and the school's insurance next.

Parents should contact the school coach or the athletic director to get proper forms as soon as possible after the injury. Many doctors require the form be brought to the examination.

The athletic director, along with the hired trainer will recommend which doctor to use and will help set up all appointments due to injury.

It will be best to contact Coach Ward concerning insurance matters at (903)777-3382.

Game-time injuries:

There may be occasions when the parents will have to take their athlete to the emergency room and in this case, the insurance forms will be handled after the visit. Hopefully, these accidents happen very infrequently. However, if an athlete is able to get to school and needs an appointment to see a doctor, the coaches would like to be informed. The athletic trainer is very helpful in getting an appointment with orthopedic doctors or specialists. The safety and health of the athletes are of great importance to each one of us. Please notify a coach if your athlete is complaining of something you deem serious, whether it happened at practice, game, or home. It will give us time to start up a treatment routine for your athlete.