

PINCKNEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Philosophy

It is of paramount importance that reasonable rules be enforced for the purpose of maintaining a healthful and orderly environment in which to conduct a successful sports program. It is important to maintain a consistent policy that helps our athletes understand the standards of behavior that are expected of them. The Athletic Department views participation in sports as a privilege and not a right. **IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT PROPER CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES IS A 24 HOUR, 365 DAYS A YEAR COMMITMENT.**

Student conduct and discipline fall into two distinct categories: Pinckney Community High School Athletic Department policy and regulations and individual team rules and regulations.

I. ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

As a participant on any Pinckney Community School Athletic Team, an athlete is expected to conform to the following rules and regulations throughout the calendar year:

- A. A valid physical examination, insurance waiver, pay-to-play form, athletic code approval and a pay to participate fee of \$210.00 (family maximum of \$600.00 per year) must be on file before the first practice or tryout session.
- B. The athlete is expected to adhere to ALL rules and guidelines established by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, (MHSAA), and Pinckney Community High School Information Guide. He/she is expected to conduct himself/herself in a manner that is consistent with the Pinckney Athletic Department's policies, and promote a positive image of Pinckney Community Schools. The coach will deal with evidence of unacceptable behavior with the approval of the Director of Athletics.
- C. Academic Eligibility - The Michigan High School Athletic Association, (MHSAA), requires that: "No student shall compete in any athletic contest during any semester who does not have his or her credit on the books of the school represented, at least twenty (20) credit hours of work the last semester during which he or she shall have been enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive. A student entering 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his/her record in 8th grade." (Regulation 1, Section 7A) This means that student athletes must have passed five (5) classes the previous semester and be passing five (5) classes, during the present semester.

In addition to passing the required 66% of courses, Pinckney Community High School regulations require that all student-athletes maintain a 1.67 grade point average (G.P.A) every formal grading check (10 week marking periods 1 and 3, plus semester average grades). Students that fail to maintain the minimum G.P.A. requirement lose eligibility to participate in athletics for the first week of league

competition, and will be required to provide weekly grade checks until the next formal grading check (MPs 1 and 3 or semesters 1 & 2). Only when the student athlete is maintaining a 1.67 GPA will they be eligible to participate that week in competition. Weekly eligibility checks will end for those athletes at the next formal grading check if his/her cumulative grade point average is 1.67 or above. Eligibility weeks run Monday through Sunday with approval to play given by the Director of Athletics.

Note: If a student/athlete is ineligible due to the end of 2nd semester June grades by not successfully passing 66% of their classes, he/she will not be able to participate in athletics until the first formal grade check of the upcoming year. If a student athlete is ineligible due to not maintaining a 1.67 GPA, the student athlete will sit out the first full week of school athletics in the fall (Sunday through Saturday). And only when the student athlete is maintaining a 1.67 GPA will they be eligible to participate that week in competition. Weekly eligibility checks will end for those athletes at the next formal grading check if his/her cumulative grade point average is 1.67 or above. Eligibility weeks run Monday through Sunday with approval to play given by the Director of Athletics.

Note: Students that fall under Special Education or Section 504 guidelines can make a written appeal to the Director of Athletics during the appeal time frame stated in Section IV.

- D. Team Travel – When Pinckney Community Schools provides transportation to and/or from athletic contests, all members of the team are expected to travel in the transportation provided. If a student wants to ride to and/or from a contest with a parent/guardian, the student must provide written permission from the parent/guardian to the Director of Athletics prior to the contest. In emergency situations, students will be allowed to leave with a parent/guardian as long as written permission is provided to the coach by the parent/guardian. Pinckney Community Schools may not provide transportation to all athletic contests. When this is the case, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide legal and safe transport to and from the contest.
- E. Vacations - Athletes who accompany parents and/or guardians on family vacations during school vacation periods are excused. Athletes who accompany parents and/or guardians on trips due to extenuating circumstances and which occur during the school year at times other than school vacation periods must meet with the Director of Athletics to determine whether the absence will be excused or unexcused. In regards to the above-mentioned absences, the athlete's status on the team will be affected per the discretion of the coach and approval of the Director of Athletics.
- F. Disciplinary Action – Upon completion of the Director of Athletics' investigation of an Athletic Code of Conduct violation, the athletic department will determine the nature of the offense.

Minor Offenses:

First Offense: Warning

Second Offense: Depending on the severity of the offense, the athlete will lose 25% of the week's activity.

Third Offense: The student athlete will lose eligibility to participate in his/her sport for two weeks.

Major Offenses:

- First Offense: The student athlete will lose eligibility to participate in his/her sport for two weeks.
- Second Offense: The student athlete will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.
- Third Offense: The student athlete will be suspended from participating in all athletic events for the remainder of the school year.
- Fourth Offense: The student athlete will be suspended from participating in all athletic events for the remainder of his/her high school career.

Note: Minor offenses refer to Group I & II offenses listed on pages 68 & 69. Major Offenses refer to Groups III, IV, & V offenses found on pages 70-72. Group VI offenses leading to expulsion will supersede athletics.

Self-Referral - Any athlete, who by himself/herself or together with his/her parent or legal guardian, voluntarily discloses to an administrator a need for assistance for alcohol or substance abuse ***prior*** to any reports, charges or complaints under the Athletic Code of Conduct, shall be required to seek a formal/state licensed professional counseling assessment and provide proof to the Director of Athletics. Under such circumstances, the athlete will not be charged with a violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct. This self-referral exemption is available to an athlete only once during his/her athletic career.

II. GUIDELINES FOR ATHLETIC OFFENSES

- A. The Director of Athletics will notify the parent of the athlete who is suspended from a team.
- B. Any athlete, who is at the scene where alcohol, illegal drugs or other behavior altering drugs are present, is subject to disciplinary action.
- C. During periods of contest suspension, the Coach and Director of Athletics will determine attendance at practice.
- D. The number of offenses is cumulative during the total high school career.
- E. Failure to complete the rehabilitative program or to attend required practice during the suspension period will result in removal from the team for the remainder of the season.
- F. The rehabilitative program must be fulfilled before joining another sport regardless of season or year.
- G. All formal disciplinary action taken by the Director of Athletics may be appealed to the Athletic Council. (See Appeal Procedure below)
- H. All Pinckney Community Schools athletes will abide by the senior high regulations stated in the most recent edition of the MHSAA handbook.

III. TEAM REGULATIONS

Team regulations can be identified as guidelines that involve infractions that are applicable to a specific sport. The Head Coach, with approval and input from the Director of Athletics, will be responsible for the content of such rules. It is important to recognize the varying nature of each sport, while still maintaining a consistent

philosophy of dealing with violations. A copy of individual rules must be published and handed out to team members.

IV. APPEAL PROCEDURE

Within three (3) school days of a formal ruling against a student athlete, the parent must make an appeal in writing to the Athletic Council (Director of Athletics, two (2) coaches, two (2) parents and a student representative). A decision must be rendered within three (3) school days following the scheduled hearing. If the parent wishes to appeal the Athletic Council's decision, they need to appeal within three (3) days of the notification of the Athletic Council's decision, to the High School Principal. The decision rendered by the High School Principal is final.

V. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

A student must be in attendance a full day (all class periods) on the day of a game, practice, or activity. The Director of Athletics must excuse any absence on that day. A student must be present six class periods on a Friday preceding a Saturday practice, game, or activity. If an athlete takes part in a practice or game in violation of this rule, he/she will be declared ineligible for the next contest.

If a student leaves school during the day of an event because of an illness or for some unexcused reason, he/she will be declared ineligible for the game, practice, or activity unless otherwise determined by the Director of Athletics.

Any student who is suspended from school, **either in-school or out-of-school suspension**, may not practice or participate in any game or match on the days he/she is suspended.

Please refer to Enhanced Learning Experience, page 26 in regards to International Exchange Students.

VI. SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Please be positive with your statements and actions, and encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support.

1. RESPECT THE PLAYERS. They are trying as hard as they can.
2. RESPECT THE COACHES. They have a plan.
3. RESPECT THE REFEREES. They are doing their job.
4. RESPECT THE OTHER TEAM. They are our guests.

STUDENT SECTION CHEERING GUIDELINES

Taunting players from the opposing team is not permitted, which includes but is not limited to:

- Referring to them by name, number, physical characteristics, etc.
- Negative or profane language is strictly prohibited.
- Spectators will not show disrespect by turning their backs, holding up newspapers during player introductions.
- Negative chants will **not** be tolerated.

Game officials will not be taunted or harassed.

- Spectators will not make derogatory comments in regard to decisions made during the game.
- Taunting or harassment of officials at any time will **not** be tolerated.

Venue guidelines:

- No artificial noise makers including bells, whistles, thunder sticks, etc.
- No hand held signs
- Student spectators must remain in their designated areas, above and off of the first step.
- Keep our student area clean. Please use receptacles.

Consequences for Spectator Code of Conduct Violations:

1st Offense: Removal from game – No sporting events for one week

2nd Offense: Removal from game – No sporting events for three weeks

3rd Offense: Removal from game – No sporting events for that season

NCAA DIVISION I & II
(National Collegiate Athletic Association)
Freshman-Eligibility Standards

All Student-Athletes Must Register with The NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

Core Courses

- Starting August 1, 2008, **16 core courses** will be required for **NCAA Division 1 only**. The rule applies to any student first entering any Division 1 college or university on or after August 1, 2008. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.
- **14 core courses are required in NCAA Division II**. See the breakdown of core-course requirements below.

Test Scores

- Division I has a sliding scale for test score and grade-point average. The sliding scale for those requirements is shown below.
- Division II has a minimum SAT score requirement of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68. The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes only the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a sum of the four sections on the ACT: English, math, reading and science.
- **All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center by the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will no longer be used. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the Eligibility Center.**

Grade-Point Average

- Only core courses are used in the calculation of the grade-point average.
- Be sure to look at the list of NCAA-approved core courses on the Eligibility Center's Website to make certain that the courses being taken have been approved as core courses. The Website is www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.
- Division I grade-point-average requirements are listed below.
- The Division II grade-point-average requirement is a minimum of 2.000.

Other important information:

- In Division II, there is no-sliding scale. The minimum core grade-point average is 2.000. The minimum SAT score is 820 and the minimum ACT sum score is 68.
- **14 core courses are required for Division II.**
- **16 core courses are required for Division I.**
- The SAT combined score is based on the verbal and math sections only. The writing section will not be used.
- SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Scores on transcripts will not be used.

For more information regarding the rules, please go to www.ncaa.org. Click on "Academics and Athletes" then "Eligibility and Recruiting." Or visit the Eligibility Center Web site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

Please call the NCAA Eligibility Center if you have questions toll-free at 877-262-1492.