

Clawson Public Schools

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

Directions for reviewing and completing the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct:

1. The coach should review the Code of Conduct with the student-athletes at a team meeting.
2. The parents and the student-athlete should read and discuss the policies set forth in the code of conduct – full version available online at clawsonathletics.com
3. The student-athlete, parent, and coach will sign one of the consent forms included in the Code of Conduct packet.
4. Return the consent portion of the code to the Athletic Office.
5. Parents should keep the Code of Conduct on file for future reference.

NOTE: This form must be filled out for the first sport the athlete participates in each year and will remain in effect for all other sports during the current school year. Student-athletes who do not have a completed consent form on file will be ineligible to participate in any athletic contest until the form has been submitted.

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DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

Clawson Public Schools approves the following guidelines for determining the consequences for various infractions. Certain circumstances may exist where it may be advisable to reduce or exceed the guidelines set forth in this policy. In addition, any violation of Federal, State, or local laws may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. The following serve as guidelines for assessing disciplinary action by the coach, Athletic Council and the administration.

Level I Violation

- Fighting (first offense)
- Harassment (first offense)
- Abusive Language (first offense)
- Violation of individual team rules (first offense)
- Insubordination (first offense)
- Inappropriate social media/technology use (first offense)

After confirmation of a Level I Violation, a student-athlete shall be suspended from athletic contests in a particular sport for a **period of up to one week** (seven calendar days) including a maximum of one contest and 10 hours of community service. The suspension of a student-athlete at Level I will require the student-athlete attend all practices and contests during the period of suspension.

Any student-athlete who voluntarily comes forward and admits he/she has violated Level I of the Athletic Code of Conduct to the school administration will have one-half the Level I violation penalty reduced.

Level II Violation

- Fighting (second offense)
- Harassment (second offense)
- Abusive Language (second offense)
- Violation of individual team rules (second offense)
- Insubordination (second offense)
- Inappropriate social media/technology use (second offense)
- Use or possession of tobacco products/materials, including vapes (first offense)
- The tradition or act of hazing/initiating to teams or team members (first offense)

After confirmation of a Level II Violation, a student-athlete shall be suspended from athletic contests in a particular sport for a **minimum of one week up to two weeks** (fourteen calendar days) including a minimum of two contests and 20 hours of community service. The suspension of a student-athlete at Level II will require the student-athlete attend all practices and contests during the period of suspension.

Any student-athlete who voluntarily comes forward and admits he/she has violated Level II of the Athletic Code of Conduct to the school administration will have one-half the Level II violation penalty reduced.

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Level III Violation

- Fighting (third offense)
- Harassment (third offense)
- Abusive Language (third offense)
- Violation of individual team rules (third offense)
- Insubordination (third offense)
- Inappropriate social media/technology use (third offense)
- Use or possession of tobacco products/materials, including vapes (second offense)
- The tradition or act of hazing/initiating to teams or team members (second offense)
- Assault (first offense)
- Use, possession, or evidence of consumption of alcohol, steroids, illegal substances (first offense)
- Theft (first offense)
- Vandalism (first offense)
- Sexual misconduct (first offense)
- Misdemeanor (first offense)

The Athletic Council must review all Level III offenses. The Athletic Council shall meet within five (5) school days to hear the charges and make a decision. The student-athlete shall not be eligible to participate in games, practices, or any other team functions until the Athletic Council has made a decision/recommendation to the administration and they render their decision.

After confirmation, the minimum penalty for Level III offenses will be suspension from **one week to the remainder of the sport's season** and 40 hours of community service. A maximum suspension for the remainder of the school year may be imposed for Level III offenses. This includes practice and contests. The administration shall have the authority to immediately temporarily suspend a student-athlete who violates the rules at this level until the Athletic Council takes action and a decision is made by the administration.

The Athletic Council will take into consideration any student-athlete who voluntarily comes forward and admits he/she has violated Level III of the Athletic Code of Conduct.

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Level IV Violation

- Fighting (fourth offense)
- Harassment (fourth offense)
- Abusive Language (fourth offense)
- Violation of individual team rules (fourth offense)
- Insubordination (fourth offense)
- Inappropriate social media/technology use (fourth offense)
- Use or possession of tobacco products/materials, including vapes (third offense)
- The tradition or act of hazing/initiating to teams or team members (third offense)
- Assault (second offense)
- Use, possession, or evidence of consumption of alcohol, steroids, illegal substances (second offense)
- Theft (second offense)
- Vandalism (second offense)
- Sexual misconduct (second offense)
- Misdemeanor (second offense)

As in Level III, the Athletic Council will review all Level IV cases. After confirmation, the penalty for violations at Level IV shall be no participation in athletics for a period of **one calendar year** (365 days).

The above violations are cumulative throughout the school year. Any district employee may report these violations to the school administration. All alleged violations would be investigated before any action is taken and the administration will ensure that procedural due process requirements are met.

SUSPENSION FROM ATHLETICS

A student-athlete may enroll himself/herself in an approved “self-help” program following confirmation of one of the violations listed in Levels III or IV. The proof of successful completion of the program will result in a reduction of the length of the suspension not to exceed 50% of the original penalty. The cost of the program will be the responsibility of the family. The participation in such a program cannot be used in conjunction with the admission of guilt clauses listed above to further reduce the penalty.

Upon confirmation of any of the violations listed in Levels I, II, III, or IV, a student-athlete may be suspended from all athletic contests and practices for a definite period of time for persistent disobedience, gross misdemeanor, or actions that could be construed as detrimental to the student-athlete, athletic program, or the school. Suspension at Level I and Level II will require that the student-athlete attend all practices and contests during the period of suspension. The suspension of a student-athlete will be enforced on the next consecutive contest(s) following the alleged violation. Cancellation due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances will not count as an athletic contest. A student-athlete who is suspended from a sport in which the suspension cannot be completely fulfilled will serve the remainder of the suspension during the next season of participation. The consequences for all levels of violations are cumulative for the four (4) years of a student-athlete’s participation in high school or the two (2) years for middle school.

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Listed below are examples of violations for which a student-athlete can be suspended. These examples are not the only acts or conditions for which suspension or expulsion may be warranted nor do they in any way limit disciplinary action for any student-athlete behavior that is determined to be unbecoming to a Clawson student-athlete.

ATHLETIC CODE TERMINOLOGY

1. Use of Tobacco – The possession and/or use of tobacco products/materials by students. Tobacco products/materials shall include but not be limited to the following: cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, cigarette papers, pipes, vapes and other smoking paraphernalia.
2. Chemical Abuse – The possession and/or use of alcohol or any illegal or unauthorized medicine, drug, narcotic, anabolic steroid, counterfeit substance, mood-altering chemical, or drug paraphernalia by student-athletes is prohibited. Drug paraphernalia shall include but not be limited to the following: any equipment that is used in the manufacture, production, distribution and/or use of illegal substances such as pipes, cigarette papers, roach clips, syringes, and so forth.
3. Fighting – The act involving hostile bodily contact.
4. Assault – A physical attack intended to do bodily harm.
5. Insubordination – The failure to respond or carry out a reasonable request by authorized personnel of Clawson Public Schools or participating districts.
6. Abusive Language – The act of using profane language by student-athletes, in verbal or written form, including social media, or in pictures, caricatures, obscene gestures.
7. Theft – The act of dishonestly acquiring the property of others.
8. Vandalism – The act of willful destruction of property belonging to others.
9. Hazing/Initiation – Any intentional, knowing or reckless act meant to induce physical pain, embarrassment, humiliation, deprivation of rights or discomfort, physical or mental, directed against anyone.
10. Sexual Misconduct – Includes, but is not limited to, consensual sexual behavior or any advance that is unwelcome or unwanted by another individual.
11. Harassment – Verbal or physical conduct or communication of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive nature.

QUITTING A SPORT

Although Clawson Public Schools does not encourage any student-athlete to quit a sport during the course of the season, there are circumstances where this situation may arise. A student-athlete will not quit a sport and join another within the same season without approval from both participating coaches and the Athletic Director.

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ATHLETIC COUNCIL

The Athletic Council shall consist of the following persons: an administrator, the Athletic Director, a coach in season, a coach out of season, and a non-coaching faculty member. The Athletic Director shall be responsible for appointing all members of the Athletic Council other than the Administrator. The building principal will appoint the Council Administrator. The Athletic Council shall be responsible for making an appropriate disciplinary recommendation to the building principal.

When an offense is to be reviewed by the Athletic Council, the student-athlete and/or parents may request an opportunity to speak with the Athletic Council before they render their final decision. Following this conference, the Athletic Council will then present a written recommendation to the building principal in accordance with the Clawson Student-Athlete Code of Conduct.

STUDENT-ATHLETE APPEAL PROCEDURE

Should a student-athlete, parent, or legal guardian request an appeal for the student-athlete regarding disciplinary action taken associated with Level I, II, III, or IV violation, that appeal shall be held before the building principal or designee.

- The disciplinary action shall begin upon the written notification to the student-athlete and parent or legal guardian. A request for an appeal shall be made within three (3) school days of the written notification of disciplinary action taken and must be made in writing to the building principal or designee stating the reasons for appeal.
- The student-athlete, student-athlete's parents/legal guardian, Athletic Director and affected coaches have the right to be present at the appeal hearing.
- An appeal level hearing at the building (Middle School or High School) level shall be held. The building principal or designee shall conduct the appeal hearing.
- During the appeals process, said student-athlete shall remain in the extracurricular program.
- The building principal or designee is the final level of appeal, except in cases where the principal was the suspending administrator or witness against the student-athlete. In such cases, the hearing shall be conducted by the superintendent or designee whose decision shall be final.

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Athletic Consent Form

I, _____, while a participant on the _____ team promise to:

Student-Athlete

1. Keep up with my schoolwork and grades.
2. Attend all practices, team meeting, and competitions.
3. Follow all Clawson Public Schools policies including discipline, attendance, etc.
4. Follow all team rules and policies.
5. Contact the coach personally or in writing if I am unable to attend a practice, team meeting or competition.
6. Replace any equipment or uniform issued to me, either by payment or the equivalent of the lost article.
7. Report any personal injury or teammate's injury to the coach and athletic trainer immediately.
8. Treat opponents with respect.
9. Respect the judgment of contest officials, abide by the rules of the contest and display no behavior that would draw attention away from the contest.
10. Cooperate with contest officials, coaches, and fellow participants to conduct a fair contest.
11. Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing Clawson Public Schools and our community; display positive actions at all times.
12. Be no party to the use of profanity, obscene language, or improper actions.
13. Live up to the high standard of sportsmanship established by the coach, school, Macomb Area Conference, and the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

I, _____, as the parent/guardian of the above named student-athlete will:

Parent/Guardian

1. Respect the decisions made by the coaching staff.
2. Respect the decisions made by the contest officials.
3. Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including cheers vs. jeers.
4. Respect fans and athletic participants.
5. Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support high school activities.
6. Notify the coach and athletic director in writing prior to a contest in my student-athlete will not be returning home with the team.

I, _____, as a representative of the coaching staff of Clawson Public Schools will:

Coach

1. Always stress the importance of academics to our student-athletes.
2. Always set a good example for participants and fans to follow.
3. Instruct student-athletes in proper sportsmanship responsibilities.
4. Respect the judgment of contest officials, abide by the rules of the event and display no behavior that would draw attention away from the contest.
5. Treat opposing coaches, participants, and fans with respect.
6. Respect the integrity and personality of the individual student-athlete.
7. Develop and enforce policies for sportsmanship standards.
8. Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
9. Be no party to the use of profanity, obscene language or improper actions.

Student-Athlete Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Coach Signature Date

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By signing this document, you acknowledge you have read and understand Clawson Public Schools' Athletic Code of Conduct (located on clawsonathletics.com under Trojans HQ tab), and agree to follow the conditions stated above. Paper copies of the Athletic Code of Conduct are available in the Athletic Office.

Student-Athlete Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Coach Signature

Date