

MARENGO HIGH SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

Marengo Community High School District 154 is committed to providing all students with a variety of opportunities to learn the skills necessary for them to reach their potential as citizens in a global society. The extracurricular program expands the learning opportunities available to students and enhances the academic program.

District 154 offers extensive and diverse extracurricular programs to provide expanded learning opportunities to students who wish to develop special skills and talents to a higher level. While involvement in these activities is voluntary, it is also a privilege and students choosing to participate take on extended responsibilities as special representatives of their school and community. These responsibilities hold the student to a higher standard of conduct as a condition of participation.

The Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for those who choose to be involved in Marengo Community High School (MCHS) extra-curricular programs. These guidelines also define the rights of our students that will accompany such responsibilities. These rights include a due process procedure that is designed to be consistent and fair to all concerned.

The school expects that all students who choose to participate in the extra-curricular programs of their choice will honor these guidelines. We consider participation in these programs to be a privilege, not a right. The school must clearly communicate the expectations of this handbook to all students and respond to all violations in a fair and expedient manner, within the guidelines defined in this guide.

We believe these rights and responsibilities for students and the school will help make participation in our extra-curricular programs a strong and enduring learning experience. We hope that the experience will be meaningful and enjoyable for all involved and will increase learning opportunities for all students.

Due Process

The following due process procedure shall be used in cases of suspension or dismissal in all athletic/~~cheerleading~~ programs.

1. The Athletic Director (AD) or Asst. Principal will meet with the student to inform him/her of the allegations. Parents will be informed of the allegations by the AD or Asst. Principal. If no disciplinary action is to be taken, due process ends.
2. The AD or Asst. Principal will request a conference with the parent/guardian and participant to discuss the allegations and disciplinary action.
3. The AD or Asst. Principal will determine the consequence as stated in this document and inform the participant, as well as the parent/guardian.

Expectation of Participants

Attendance

Students must be in school prior to the start of 4th hour to participate in practices, games or activities. Students must be in attendance 4th through 7th hours to participate.

The Principal or Assistant Principal may approve other situations that pertain to attendance.

Eligibility

Participants must have passed four core subjects in the previous semester to participate in any extra-curricular activity the next semester, and they must be enrolled in and passing four full-credit courses during the time of participation. Participants' teachers will notify the Guidance Office if you are failing.

A student will be suspended indefinitely from participating if he/she is charged with a felony offense, until such time as the case is resolved. If found guilty, he/she will be dismissed from the team.

Equipment

The school will issue specific equipment, which the participant must care for or replace at cost.

All uniforms and issued equipment shall be returned to the faculty member in charge within one week (7 school days) following the end of the last contest. Participants who fail to return the uniform or pay for the equipment issued prior to the start of any sport season shall not participate in the next season until the debt is removed. Participants may appeal only to the athletic director who may confer with the principal.

Financial Responsibility

Participants will be financially responsible for equipment lost, stolen or damaged outside of regular use.

Safety/Designated Area

There should be no horseplay in areas of participation. Any inappropriate language or actions, as well as careless use of facilities will be dealt with severely.

MAJOR RULE INFRACTIONS

All students attending MCHS are potential participants of extra-curricular activities. Therefore, the code of conduct applies to students when they begin school at MCHS. ***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.

The violations and infractions for each of these codes will be as indicated in this document. An individual participating in an extra-curricular activity will face disciplinary consequences for violating each code.

- Possession, consumption or sale of alcohol
- Possession, consumption or sale of harmful or **illegal** drugs, or look alike drugs
- Possession, consumption or sale of anabolic-androgenic steroids
- Use or possession of any form of tobacco
- Major unsportsmanlike conduct, reviewed by Athletic Director and Principal
- Attendance at activities involving the **illegal** consumption of alcohol or any **illegal** substance. Arrest or ticketing by police, a report by a staff member, a report by the parent or admission by the student shall constitute notice for this infraction. Students are responsible for being aware of their surroundings and if **illegal** consumption is taking place they must take immediate steps to leave the activity safely (or if hosting an activity, take immediate steps to have the offending individual(s) leave safely).
- Any Level IV (as listed in the Discipline section) misconduct or activities **that requires Police notification.**
- **Any commission of a criminal activity/arrest may result in a suspension upon review of the Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director and Coach.**
- Commission of a criminal act defined as a Felony.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR MAJOR RULE INFRACTIONS:

When evidence of a violation of the behavior code occurs, disciplinary action will be taken in consecutive order for each offense throughout the individual's high school career by the athletic director, principal or his designee. Written parent contact will be made. If the individual and/or parent wishes to appeal the decision, that appeal can be made in writing to the high school principal within five school days of written notification.

First offense: Suspension for **55%** of the regular season dates scheduled for that activity. If the number of suspended dates is a fraction, that number will be rounded to the next whole number. The participant is expected to attend all practices, follow all of the coach's rules, and attend but not dress for all of the competitions. In the case of a student not fulfilling the **55%** of the season's dates because of the season coming to an end, the remaining percentage will be used in the next activity they participate in. (Example: a student has a major rule infraction just before the last football game. With just one game remaining, only 11% of the required 55% suspension is served. The remaining 44% would have to carry over to the next activity. If the activity was basketball, this student would then miss 44% of the basketball schedule.)

Second offense: 1-year suspension from all activities covered by the behavior code for one calendar year from the date of the offense. No award will be earned.

In order for the suspension to be considered served, the participant needs to successfully complete the season. Violations during school, at school functions or on school grounds follow present school handbook consequences.

Third offense: Career suspension from all extra-curricular from the date of the offense through graduation. No award will be earned.

*A student may be eligible to participate after his/her third offense after 2 years of no infractions. The 2 years would be 2 calendar years after the third infraction.

**If a student is in violation of a major rules infraction but does not participate in any activities, he/she would be eligible to participate one calendar year after the infraction.

General Information Regarding Extra-curricular Suspensions

If a student is involved in simultaneous activities, the suspension will be served concurrently in all of the activities. However, students will not be allowed to join extra-curricular activities already in order to avoid an athletic suspension.

Athletes are not allowed to participate in a sport for the purpose of serving a suspension in that sport rather than one where the student has a record of consistent participation. Penalties for violations are to be enforced in conjunction with the athlete's record of participation. It is recognized that freshmen and sophomores may not have established a consistent record of participation.

Example: A third year football player who has been suspended for 22% of the season may not join any other activity that he has not participated in during the past in order to avoid the suspension.

If the participant finishes the season in good standing, the individual will be eligible for an award. If the suspension is carried over to the next activity in which the individual participates, an award may be given after the suspension is completed.

In order for the suspension to be considered served, the participant needs to successfully complete the season. Violations during school, at school functions or on school grounds follow present school handbook consequences.

ACTIONS TO REDUCE CONSEQUENCES OF MAJOR RULES INFRACTIONS: (Only one of the two options allowed)

Option 1 – The consequence of the first violation of a activity regulation which is first reported by the student or the parents of the extracurricular participant shall reduced by **33%** the actual participation dates or performances but not less than one date or performance. Exception: If a student has been arrested or is named in a police report the school is automatically notified by police through the reciprocal reporting agreement, therefore Option 1 is not available. Exception: If a student has been

arrested or ticketed by police via the reciprocal reporting agreement, or reported by a staff member, Option 1 is not available.

(Or)

Option 2 – The consequence of a first violation of a activity rule may be reduced by any extracurricular participant who, at his/her own expense, participates in and completes a program approved by the administration for substance abuse. The consequence of the first violation may **be reduced to 33%** the actual participation dates or performances but not less than one date or performance.

MINOR RULE INFRACTIONS:

These rules will be distributed at the first extracurricular meeting by the individual coach or sponsor and will only affect that sport or activity. Disciplinary action will be left up to the individual in charge of that activity. If the individual and/or parent wish to appeal the decision, that appeal can be made within 48 hours to the high school athletic director or principal/assistant principal.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Marengo Community High School believes that each potential participant should make an informed decision to participate in extracurricular programs. Students shall comply with Board of Education Policy 7:300 regarding participation in extracurricular activities.

Student participation in Board of Education-approved extra-curricular activities is contingent upon the following:

The student must attain the academic standards set forth in the Student Handbook.

The Extracurricular Code of Conduct will not replace the District 154 Disciplinary Guidelines, but will be enforced in conjunction with/or in addition to those disciplinary guidelines. This code in no way restrains the authority of the administration or Board to impose suspensions or expulsions upon a student under its policies.