

ADRIAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Basic Philosophy

Students and coaches are concerned that reasonable rules are initiated for the purpose of 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 thoroughly the standards of behavior that are expected as an Adrian High School representative. 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, 12 month proposition.

Basically, student conduct and discipline falls into two distinct categories: Adrian High School Athletic Department policy and regulations and individual team rules and regulations.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. A valid physical examination form (given after April 15th of the previous school year) and emergency form with parental/guardian signatures must be on file before tryouts or first practice session.
- B. The athlete is expected to adhere to all rules and guidelines established by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (M.H.S.A.A.) and Adrian Public Schools. He/she is expected to conduct himself/herself in a manner that is consistent with the Adrian Athletic Department and promote a positive image of Adrian Public Schools. Evidence of unacceptable behavior will be dealt with by the coach with the approval of the Athletic Director.
- C. Academic Eligibility – The M.H.S.A.A. requires that: “No student shall compete in any athletic contest during any semester/trimester who does not have to his or her credit on the books of the school represented, at least 66% passing credit the last semester/trimester during which he/she shall have been enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive. A student entering the 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his/her record in the 8th grade.” (Regulation 1, Section 8) This means that student athletes must have passed four (4) classes the previous semester/trimester and be passing four (4) classes during the present semester/trimester. The Adrian Public Schools, as members of the M.H.S.A.A., abides by this eligibility standard.
- D. Team Travel – All members of the athletic teams will travel to and from contests with the team in transportation provided by Adrian Public Schools unless previously arranged with the Athletic Director. If this should arise, a written letter to the Athletic Director is mandatory. An athlete never has permission to ride with anyone other than a parent/guardian unless previously arranged with the Athletic Director.
- 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 Athletic Director as to whether the absence will be excused or unexcused. Athletes who plan not to accompany their parents and/or guardians on a vacation during school vacation periods, but have parent and/or guardian approval, must meet with the Athletic Director as to 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 Athletic Director.
- F. Major Offenses – Offenses that are unacceptable for athletes are:
 - 1. Theft or involvement in any crime
 - 2. Use, possession, or distribution of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs is prohibited. This includes steroids, unauthorized medicines, narcotics, or look-alikes.
 - 3. Other offenses: any offense that involves the disregard for the rights of other team members, coaches, faculty or school personnel, or property, will be evaluated by the Athletic Director.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Any athlete involved in a major offense will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- A. First Offense – The first offense will result in 1/5 season suspension from competition. An appointment with a chemical health coordinator and a satisfactory evaluation to be determined by them must follow, when applicable. Athletes will continue practicing with the team during this period but cannot dress, play, travel, or be involved in any way during the contests.

- B. Second Offense
 - 1. In Season – Dismissal from the team. If the offense occurs during the second half of the season, the suspension will be half of the next season the student was last enrolled the previous year. He will also be suspended for any season preceding that sports season.
 - 2. Out of Season – Suspension from the next season the student was last enrolled the previous year. He will also be suspended for any season preceding that sports season.
 - 3. The athlete is also required to complete a substance abuse assessment program. This program must be coordinated with Adrian High School’s administration. All costs will be the responsibility of the athlete.
- C. Third and Subsequent Offenses – Suspension of all sports for one calendar year and completion of a substance abuse program acceptable by Adrian High School.

GUIDELINES FOR MAJOR OFFENSES

- A. The Athletic Director will contact the parents of any athlete suspended in writing describing the incident and subsequent action taken.
- B. Any athlete who is at the scene where alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or other behavior altering drugs are present, is subject to disciplinary action.
- C. During periods of suspension, attendance at practice will be determined by the coach and Athletic Director.
- D. The number of offenses is cumulative during the total high school career.
- E. Failure to complete the rehabilitative program or to attend practices 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.
- G. All disciplinary action may be appealed to the Principal.

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 Athletic Director, 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, handed out to team members and a copy on file before participation begins.

- A. Team Attendance – An unexcused absence is an absence not approved by the coach or Athletic Director
 - 1. 1st Offense: one game suspension
 - 2. 2nd Offense: number of games suspended is equal to 1/5 of season
 - 3. 3rd Offense: number of games suspended is equal to 1/3 of season
 - 4. 4th Offense: number of games suspended is equal to ½ of season
- B. School Attendance
 - 1. Unexcused Absence – (one class) – Any athlete that has an unexcused absence from school may not participate in a practice or contest on that day or the day is discovered by the Attendance Office.
 - 2. Excused Absence – An athlete who has an excused absence is eligible for the next practice or contest. He/she must be in attendance at school for at least 3 hours on the day he/she competes. Special consideration may be granted by the Athletic Director, if appropriate.
- C. School Behavior – It is the philosophy at Adrian High School that athletes establish an exemplary image regarding school behavior. An athlete who receives a disciplinary referral will be disciplined by his/her individual coach. Any athlete who receives three disciplinary referrals will be suspended for one contest.

INSURANCE

The Adrian Board of Education provides supplemental insurance at no cost to the student in the event of a school related accident/injury. This insurance will pay for expenses not covered by an athlete’s family policy. However, all claims must first be submitted to the athlete’s family insurance company.

It is the responsibility of the athlete and the parents to complete the insurance form and submit the claims. If you have questions, you can get information from the Athletic Department.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CODE OF CONDUCT

When you sign the physical form, you also signify that you have read and agree to comply with the Adrian High School Athletic Code of Conduct and the athletic policies as set forth by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. You may keep this copy of the Code of Conduct for your records.