

OKANOGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

CONDUCT AND CONTROL FOR CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

In order to accomplish the goals set forth, it is necessary to develop and maintain a team spirit that is based on appropriate standards. Certain regulations are necessary to prevent disruption of team spirit that could detract from the competition and cooperation values provided by co-curricular programs.

School programs should reflect the attitude of the community that pays for them and, if appropriate benefits are to be derived from the athletic/activity programs, it must be able to operate in a climate devoid of disruptive influence. If the community is to truly identify with its schools through the athletic/activity medium, it is imperative that team members conduct themselves in a manner that will inspire pride and approval.

All students who participate in the athletic/activity programs of the Okanogan School District will comply with the rules and regulations and will submit to the reasonable discipline of school authorities. **Any student having registered and/or participated in the athletic/activity program is subject to the co-curricular conduct and control for student athletes from the first participation until graduation from senior high school. The code will be in effect yearly from the first day of fall turnout to the last day of school and will include any school-sponsored summer activities. The exception would be students who are found guilty for criminal misconduct by a court of law.**

Any student who willfully performs an act, which materially interferes with or is detrimental to the orderly operation of a school's educational and co-curricular program, will be subject to athletic/activity discipline, probation, suspension or expulsion. Such acts shall include, but not be limited to those described below.

The following acts by a student on school premises (or in reasonable proximity thereto), or off school premises at any school-sponsored activity will constitute sufficient cause for athletic/activity discipline, probation, suspension or expulsion: disruptive conduct; disobedience of reasonable instructions of school authorities; refusal to identify oneself; unauthorized absence from turnout or game; cheating; immoral conduct; vulgarity or profanity; destruction or defacing of property; extortion, intimidation or harassment(including racial/gender) of another student or employee; assault of another student or employee; stealing; possession or use of any dangerous weapons or objects and; the commission of any criminal act as defined by law.

The following acts by a student on or off school premises will constitute sufficient cause for athletic probation, suspension or expulsion: Use, sale or possession of tobacco; use, sale, or possession of e-cigarettes, vape pens or tobacco-like products; use, sale or possession of alcoholic beverages; use, sale or possession of drugs and/or related paraphernalia. Possession includes both physical and constructive possession.

No student will be expelled, suspended or disciplined under these rules and regulations for the performance or failure to perform any act not related to the orderly operation of the athletic program, (i.e., student athletes suspended or expelled from school must be reinstated to athletic participation when reinstated to school), if the act is not related to athletic standards. Also, if a student is suspended from school, the student is also suspended from athletics.

CONDUCT & CONTROL DEFINITIONS/TERMS

- *Athletic Discipline* Athletic discipline will mean all forms of corrective action or sanction other than probation, suspension or expulsion, and will include the exclusion of a student athlete from an activity by a coach for a period of time, not exceeding the balance of the immediate turnout or game.
- *Athletic Probation* Athletic probation is a period during which a student athlete remains a part of the squad while he/she is given an opportunity to correct the deficiencies in a time prescribed by the head coach. During probation, student athletes may continue to participate in turnouts and contests.
- *Athletic Suspension* Athletic suspension will be a suspension from athletic participation for a specified number of turnout days, the duration, which may extend beyond the current season. The athletic director may direct that the suspended student athlete may take part in team turnouts and meetings. The suspended student athlete is not allowed to participate in any game related activities.
- *Athletic Expulsion* Athletic expulsion will mean the complete denial of the privilege to participate in the athletic program for an indefinite period of time.
- *In Season* Begins with the first WIAA allowed practice day and ends with the awards ceremony (banquet) for that sport. In the event of no season-ending banquet or a banquet held prior to the last competition, the ending date will be after the last scheduled event for that sport.
- *Out of Season* Any time not in season, starting with the WIAA defined beginning fall season, and ending with the Okanogan School District last student school day.
- *Calendar Year* 365 consecutive days.
- *Completed Season* A season in which a student athlete begins the season within the first week of turnout and completes the season, in good standing, without interruption, until the last scheduled contest or banquet, whichever is later.
- *Academic Suspension* Academic suspension will be a suspension from athletic/activity participation from one grading period until the next grading period. The athletic director may direct that the suspended student athlete may take part in team turnouts and meetings. The suspended student athlete is not allowed to participate in any game related activities.
- *Grading Period* Mid-quarter and the end of each quarter or semester (every 4 ½ weeks of the school year).

ALCOHOL AND/OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE DEFINITIONS/TERMS

- *Actual Possession* The act of having a substance in one's custody or control. Actual possession occurs when the item is in the physical custody of the person charged with possession.
- *Constructive Possession* In the absence of physical possession, if there is dominion and control over the substance -- such as knowledge that alcohol, tobacco, legend drugs or illegal substances are available and/or being used by others -- student athletes have a responsibility to remove themselves, beyond all reasonable doubt and proximity, from that situation. At off campus events, where drugs, alcohol or other illegal substances are evident, student athletes who have made a willful choice to remain at the event, are in violation of the rule.
- *Use* Physical consumption of a substance by means of inhalation, snorting, drinking, absorption, injection or any other method, which produces an intoxicating, or mental/physical altering effect.
- *Sale* The act of distributing an illegal substance by means of exchanging substances for an agreed sum of money or other valuable consideration.
- *Proximity* Close in distance, time or relationship (commingling or interacting) with other students coming or going from a social gathering, whether inside location or outside (yard/street/neighborhood).
- *Discovery-Investigative* The process by which an administrator/coach arrives at a conclusion regarding a student's involvement in an athletic/activity code infraction. The decision will be based on evidence, either verbal or written.
- *Discovery-Self Admittance* Student who admit to their involvement in an athletic code infraction and who are cooperative and honest in the investigative process regarding alleged code infractions.
- *Self-Referral* Student who report self-infractions to school administrator prior to any investigation or inquire by school administrators or staff.

STANDARD APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS - SENIOR HIGH AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Sanctions will carry over from seventh grade to eighth grade in the middle school. Middle school grade infractions will not carry over to senior high school. Sanctions will carry over from ninth grade through their senior year at the senior high school.

• Alcohol, Tobacco and/or Substance Abuse

For on or off campus violations in regard to alcohol, tobacco, and/or substance abuse for student athletes, the following sanctions will apply:

FIRST VIOLATION: IN SEASON OR OUT OF SEASON - MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Means of ↓ Discovery ↓	<u>Actual Possession/Use/Sale</u>	<u>Constructive Possession</u>
<u>Investigative</u>	Suspension – 40% of the season events	Suspension – 30% of the season events
<u>Self-Admittance</u>	Suspension – 30% of the season events	Suspension – 20% of the season events
<u>Self-Referral</u>	Suspension – 20% of the season events	Suspension – 10% of the season events

- This penalty for first violation shall carry over to the next sport season the student-athlete chooses to play, even if it is the following school year.
- A student suspended in season will not be considered for post-season awards at the end of that current season.
- The athletic director may waive any or all of the requirements above if deemed appropriate. Final decision for reinstatement resides with the athletic director.

SECOND VIOLATION: IN SEASON OR OUT OF SEASON – MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

A second violation of the athletic code for alcohol and/or substance abuse will result in expulsion from all sports in the Okanogan School District for one calendar year. If a student athlete completes tobacco, drug/alcohol dependency assessment and subsequent recommendation, the athletic director may reduce sanction to suspension from the first 50% of game contests for the next completed sports season.

THIRD VIOLATION: IN SEASON OR OUT OF SEASON – MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Whether in season or out of season, a third violation of the athletic/activity code for alcohol and/or substance abuse, will result in expulsion from all sports in the Okanogan School District.

REINSTATEMENT PROCESS:

Application for reinstatement following any form of athletic discipline will be accepted by the athletic director upon completion of the following:

- Letter of intent and purpose for reinstatement
- Proof that a tobacco, drug/alcohol, counseling, or preventive education program has been completed (3 session minimum).
- Drug tobacco and/or alcohol assessment by an individual or agency that is acceptable to the school district. Results will be shared with family and school administration. (2nd violation only)
- The athletic director may waive any or all of the requirements above if deemed appropriate. Final decision for reinstatement resides with the athletic director.

LEGEND DRUGS/ANABOLIC STEROIDS

- Penalties for violation of RCW 69.41.020 - 69.41.050 (Legend Drugs including anabolic steroids possession, sale, and/or use) -- A violation of RCW 69.41.020 - 69.41.050 will be considered a violation of the eligibility code and standards and will subject the student to disciplinary actions. The following penalties will be administered:

FIRST VIOLATION - The student athlete will be immediately ineligible for interscholastic competition in the current interscholastic sport program for the remainder of the season. Ineligibility will continue until the next sports season in which the student athlete wishes to turn out. In order to be eligible to participate in the next interscholastic sports season, the student athlete will meet with the school eligibility board, consisting of coaches and administrators selected by the principal to request approval to participate. The school eligibility board will recommend to the principal appropriate action to be taken in the student athlete's case. The school principal will have the final authority as to the student athlete's participation in the interscholastic sports program.

A student athlete who seeks and receives help for a problem with use of legend drugs (RCW 69.41.010 identified substances) or controlled substances and controlled substance analogs (RCW 69.50.101 identified substances) will be given the opportunity for assistance through the school and/or community agencies. In no instance will participation in a school and/or community-approved assistance program excuse a student athlete from subsequent compliance with this regulation. Successful utilization of this opportunity by the student athlete may allow him/her to participate in the athletic program, pending recommendation by the school eligibility authority.

SECOND VIOLATION - A student athlete who again violates any provision of RCW 69.41.020 through 69.41.050 or of RCW 69.50 will be ineligible and prohibited from participating in any WIAA member school interscholastic sports program for a period of one calendar year from the date of the second violation.

THIRD VIOLATION - A student athlete who violates for a third time RCW 69.41.020 - 69.41.050 or of RCW 69.50 will be permanently prohibited from participation in any WIAA member school athletic program.

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY ACADEMIC STANDARDS

POLICY:

To be eligible to compete in athletics and/or activities in the Okanogan School District, a student must pass both the **WIAA Scholastic Standards** and the **Okanogan School District Scholastic Standard** for the preceding official grading period of initial date of participation.

STANDARDS:

OKANOGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS: A student shall be passing all currently enrolled classes for the preceding official grading period and be earning a 2.00 or better grade point average (GPA) at the semester in order to be eligible for competition.

SANCTIONS:

OKANOGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT ACADEMIC SUSPENSION:

Mid Term or Quarter Grade Check

1. If a High school or Middle school student is failing any single class from the preceding grading period, they will be allowed one (1) calendar week to earn a passing grade. If the student is still failing any class at the end of one calendar week, they will be declared ineligible. The student may practice, but they will not be allowed to participate with the team at scheduled events.
2. The athletic director will complete a grade check of each failing student on Monday. If the student has earned a passing grade, they will be given unrestricted eligibility to participate until the next official grading period. If the student is still failing a class, they will remain ineligible for one calendar week with the grade check process being repeated on the next Monday.

Semester Grade Check

1. If a student is failing a class or below a 2.00 grade point average at the semester grading period, they will be declared ineligible for 10% of the season events. The student may practice, but they will not be allowed to participate with the team at scheduled events.

Once the failing student has completed their academic suspension, the athletic director will complete a grade check. If the student is passing all of their classes and above a 2.00 grade point average, they will be deemed eligible to participate at scheduled events. If the student is still failing a class, they will remain ineligible for one calendar week with the grade check process being repeated on Monday. Students who failed a class at the end of the semester or are below a 2.00 GPA, will be grade checked for eligibility each week until the next official grading period.

ATTENDANCE

Students absent from class on the day of any activity and/or practice (**for any number of periods**) are ineligible to participate that day unless given approval by the principal or his/her designee. Students returning home late from activities will be expected to attend **ALL** classes the next day. The following absences shall be excused: personal illness, family emergencies, school sponsored activities, appearances in court when required by law, and absences pre-arranged by parents with notice to school and agreed upon by school authorities one or more day(s) in advance of the absence.

PARTICIPANTS RESIGNING FROM A TEAM

1. After the head coach has informed the athletic director that a player has left the team, the athlete will be given a check out form to be completed within (7) seven calendar days.
2. The student athlete must give a written statement for leaving the team. Both the parent and student will sign the form.
3. The student athlete will return all issued Okanogan School District equipment and team uniforms to the head coach. The head coach will sign the form to indicate completion.
4. If the completed form is not returned within the (7) seven day period to the athletic director, the athlete will be suspended for 10% of their next sport season.
5. The athlete will not be allowed after school to use Okanogan School District athletic facilities (weight room, gym, etc) until the sport season they quit has been completed.
6. Participants who voluntarily remove themselves from an activity without permission will be ineligible for any other activity during that season.

EJECTION FROM A CONTEST

Conduct resulting in an ejection from an interscholastic contest will answer with a conference which will include the athlete, parent, and head coach before reinstate for participation will be accepted by the athletic director.

PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING ATHLETIC DISCIPLINE, PROBATION, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Athletic Discipline and Probation

- Coaches may send student athletes home for the remainder of a contest or turnout if their conduct is disruptive.
- In the event athletic probation is imposed, the coach will:
 - Inform the athletic director of the proposed discipline and secure approval;

- Inform the student athlete of the deficiencies, how the student athlete is to correct them and the number of days of probation;
 - Send an athletic discipline letter to the parent/guardian with a copy to the athletic director.
 - Upon completion of the probationary period, and if the deficiency is corrected, the student athlete is removed from probation; if the deficiency is not corrected, the probationary period is extended or the student athlete is recommended for suspension.
- **Athletic Suspension and Expulsion**
 - Prior to the suspension or expulsion of any student athlete, a conference will be conducted with the student athlete as follows:
 - The head coach and athletic director will present to the student athlete an oral and/or written notice of alleged misconduct and violation(s) of school district rules; the evidence of school district rules; the evidence in support of the allegations; and, the corrective action or sanction to be recommended.
 - The student athlete will be provided the opportunity to present an explanation.
 - Following the conference with the student athlete, the head coach may recommend athletic suspension or expulsion to the athletic director.

If the athletic director imposes athletic suspension or expulsion, the student athlete will be orally notified of the action taken. Promptly thereafter, written notice will be sent by mail to the student athlete's parent/guardian containing the following information:

- The action taken (suspension, expulsion, etc).
- The reason for such disciplinary action.
- The right to an informal conference.
- A copy of the suspension or expulsion notice will be sent to the building principal.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- Informal Conference
 - Any student athlete, parent or guardian who is aggrieved by any athletic suspension or expulsion has the right to an informal conference with the athletic director, or his/her designee, and any other employee involved. Any request for such informal conference will be made within five school days of the written notice of the action.
 - At such informal conference, the student athlete, parent/guardian will be subject to questioning by the athletic director or his/her designee and will be entitled to question school employees involved in the matter being grieved.
- Formal Conference
 - Any student athlete, parent/guardian who may be aggrieved following the informal conference may, upon three days prior notice, present a written and/or oral grievance to the building principal or to his/her designees to be dealt with within five school days after previous decisions have been rendered.
 - The principal will notify the student athlete and the student athlete's parent/guardian in writing of its decision within five school days following the meeting. **The building principal's decision is final and no other conference or appeal will be heard.**
 - The athletic discipline, probation, suspension or expulsion will continue notwithstanding the implementation of the grievance procedure.