

Procedure - Interscholastic Activities

Coach's Duties

In accordance with district policy and the coach's job description, the coach has the duty to:

A. Instruct Participants

The coach should employ the latest methods and proper instruction when working with students to develop motor skills. If an injury occurs while using an improper instructional method, the district and its employees may be liable for negligence.

B. Warn Participants

The coach should inform all athletes and their parents of the inherent risks involved in participation in the particular sport, including the very small risk of infection with a blood-borne pathogen. The coach must describe, using a variety of methods, the catastrophic and common non-catastrophic injuries unique to the sport.

C. Supervise Participants

The coach will create a daily plan, showing how the coach plans to conduct general supervision of the sport, and how he/she will supervise specific drills and other components of the daily practice. Adequacy of supervision should be reviewed in terms of quality and quantity and should include factors such as: the age of the students, the size of the students, the equipment involved, the maturity level of the students, the first aid equipment and training available, the appropriate certification of supervisors where required, and the safety training of the personnel involved.

D. Provide Safe Equipment and Facilities

Equipment should be properly fitted and maintained. Athletes should be instructed on how to conduct a daily inspection. Facilities should be free of hazards and inspected regularly.

E. Maintain Records of Injuries

A report should be completed for each accident. Injury reports should be maintained for a period of five years after the student's 21st birthday.

F. Assess Fitness of Participants

The coach will assess the physical fitness, the medical condition, and the skill level of athletes prior to participation in sporting activities.

G. Provide Equal Protection and Due Process

While participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, a student whose participation will be terminated based on an alleged violation of the conduct code must

be afforded the opportunity of a fair hearing.

H. Transport Athletes Safely

A coach has a duty to see that athletes are safely transported to and from contests and to and from practices if practices are held at sites other than the immediate school grounds.

I. Group Participants

The coach has the duty to employ a recognized system of grouping for participants in a particular sport that will avoid unequal and unsafe participation. The system of grouping will be based upon skill level, age, maturity, sex, size and experience.

J. Foresee Danger

A coach should be able to reasonably anticipate foreseeable dangers that may occur if the, and take precautions protecting the children in his/her custody from such dangers.

K. Protect From Loss

A participant is required to present evidence that he/she is covered by an accident policy. A blanket catastrophic ("no fault") insurance provides coverage for serious injuries.

The duties listed above are not meant to be comprehensive. In carrying out the duties of the assignment, a staff member is expected to act as a reasonable professional would act under similar circumstances. A staff member who supervises a sports activity is expected to know the intricacies of the activity that he/she is leading.

Athletic Code

The opportunity to participate in the interscholastic athletic program is a privilege granted to all students of the district. Participants in this voluntary program are expected to conform to specific conduct standards established by the principals and athletic coaches.

A student who is found by a certificated staff member of the student's school to be in violation of any rules is subject to removal from the team. A student who has allegedly violated one or more of the conduct rules may appeal a disciplinary action as specified in this code.

The following rules will be applicable for a sports season:

A. Use and/or Possession of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco

An athlete who is found to be in possession of alcohol or tobacco products may be removed from the athletic team for three weeks (first offense). If the student violates the rule twice during the sports season, he/she will be dropped from the team for the season.

B. Use and/or Possession of Illegal Chemical Substances or Opiates

An athlete who is found to be in possession of illegal chemical substances (including marijuana/cannabis) or opiates will be removed from the team for the balance of the sports season.

C. Physical Appearance

An athlete will maintain the dress and grooming standards of the team. The first offense will result in a verbal warning. Repeated offenses will result in removal from the activity for five (5) school days.

D. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

An athlete will exhibit appropriate conduct in practices and/or contests. The first offense will result in a verbal warning. Repeated offenses will result in removal from the activity for five (5) school days.

E. Attendance at School

An athlete will attend school for at least one half day on the day of an athletic contest. If an athlete receives an unexcused absence for any portion of the day, the athlete will be ineligible to participate in the activity/contest on that day. If excused, the athlete may participate if he/she was in attendance for one half day or more.

F. Absence from Practice

An athlete is expected to be in attendance at all team practices unless excused for illness or by prior approval. If an athlete is absent from practice and not excused, the athlete will be ineligible to participate in the next contest.

G. Violation of Law on School Grounds

When a student is found guilty of an offense committed while on school grounds or at a school activity, the corrective action will depend upon the nature of the violation.

H. Repeated Offenses

If a student repeatedly violates one of the above rules, he/she may be removed from the team for the remainder of the sports season.