

CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY CODE

I. Rights and Responsibilities

- A. Students who attend Jefferson Area Junior/Senior High School have a variety of extracurricular organizations, clubs, and athletic activities to which they may become active participants. Students are expected to obey all school rules and regulations that may apply to that particular program. The high school Student-Parent Handbook and this activity code specifies the schools' expectations. Pupils have a right to reasonable treatment from the school and its employees. The school, in turn, has a right to expect reasonable and responsible behavior from those students participating in co-curricular and extracurricular activities.
- B. Participating in junior-senior high school co-curricular and extracurricular activities is a privilege afforded any student willing to make the necessary sacrifices and abide by the rules contained herein and those rules of each individual team.
- C. Student participants are a highly visible group and represent not only themselves but also the whole school community, a great deal is expected of them. They must maintain proper character, appearance, and conduct in order to bring credit upon themselves, their team, their school and their community. Participants are expected to show maturity and pride in themselves and their school while participating.

II. Code:

A violation of any of the following rules may result in denial of participation from the athletic sport or extracurricular or co-curricular activity for the duration of the season or semester.

- 1. All school rules apply as stated in the Student/Parent Handbook.
- 2. Suspension or expulsion from school includes the same from athletic or extracurricular activities.
- 3. To maintain eligibility, high school students must have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period. However, Jefferson Area Local Schools requires students to earn a 1.8 G.P.A. to participate. A student who is passing 5 credits but carries a GPA below 1.8 will be assigned to a monitored study table and must earn a 1.8 GPA by the second week of the grading period for participation status to be reinstated. Another grade check will occur at the middle of the grading period. If a student has maintained a 1.8, they are able to participate for the remainder of the season. If not, participation status is lost for the season.

Even if a student maintains a 1.8 GPA, if they did not pass at least 5 credits, or the equivalent, at the end of the immediately preceding grading period then they shall be ineligible per OHSAA Bylaw 4-4-1.-Suggested by OHSAA.

- 4. Students must be present in school for at least half of the school day in order

to participate in any activity unless prior permission has been granted by the athletic director or principal. *Students who are considered tardy to school must get permission from the Athletic Director to practice or play in an athletic contest. Students will be permitted 2 tardies each season. When a student/athlete reaches 3 or more tardies, he/she will not be permitted to participate in practices and/or events that day. Saturday constitutes a new day and participation in activities on that day is at the discretion of the coach/advisor.

5. Students must maintain good standing in their organization (such as fulfilling office, member and monetary obligations).
6. Students must conduct themselves so as not to disrupt meetings and practices. Students must show respect for others and their coach or advisor.
7. Participants in extracurricular activities are expected to follow prescribed rules and regulations which are in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from one week prior to the Ohio High School Athletic Association official fall starting date and until June 30.
8. Students are to attend required meetings and practices unless prior permission is given to be excused by the coach or advisor.
9. Students must meet the academic eligibility requirements of the sport or organization.
10. Ohio High School Athletic Association rules apply and will be given to each athlete at the parent/player meeting for each sports season. Attendance at this meeting is mandatory by both parent and player before the player may begin to participate.
11. An athletic team member who quits one sport may not participate in another interscholastic sport until the current season of the sport which he/she quit comes to the end. Coaches may agree that it's best for an athlete to switch sports and this would be permissible.
12. Denial of participation from a sport shall cause a student to be ineligible for participation in other sport activities during that season.

III. Procedures for Implementing Extracurricular and Co-curricular Activity Code:

1. All head coaches and activity advisors are to publish specific rules and regulations which are unique to their programs and that are not covered by these general rules. This published set of rules is to be filed with the athletic director and building principal. A copy of all rules must be given to each participant at the parent/participant meeting prior to the program or season and signed by the participant and the parent or guardian. These papers are to be kept on file with the appropriate coach or advisor.
2. Head coaches or advisors must follow due process procedures when denying participation from the sport or organization.

The following are to be observed:

- A. All participants have been given previous notice of the rules and regulations under which they are operating.
- B. The coach or advisor will (if it is deemed possible) hold a conference with a student who violates the rules.
- C. When it becomes necessary to deny a student participation in an activity, a student is to be given written notice that the activity will not be open to him/her with notification of the reason(s) thereof. This notice shall include the "rights of appeal" information. A copy must be given to the Principal/Athletic Director within 24 hours.
- D. The student or parent has the right to appeal the decision of the coach or advisor. All appeals must be made within 24 hours of time of parent notification. All appeals will be heard by the principal.
- E. A student will not be permitted to participate during the appeal process.
- F. The final authority to deny participation from any school activity rests with the principal.

IV. Athletic Council

Purpose: The function of this council is to provide direction, coordination, and guidance for the athletic program in the Jefferson Area Local School District. The Athletic Council shall not make policy concerning the athletic program, but may recommend changes to the principals, superintendent of schools, and the board of education for their consideration.

Membership:

Member representatives
High School Principal
Athletic Director
All Head Varsity Sports Coaches
Ex-officio Board member (non-voting).
Ex-officio Superintendent of Schools (non-voting).
President or representative of the Jefferson Area Athletic Boosters,(non-voting).

Officers:

Chairman - High School Principal
Vice Chairman - Junior High Principal
Secretary - Athletic Director

Meetings:

Meetings shall be held throughout the year as deemed necessary, with summer meetings being optional.

EXTRACURRICULAR/CO-CURRICULAR RULES AND PROCEDURES

Rules Concerning Chemical Abuse

The use of any mood altering chemicals is a significant health problem for any adolescent. The use of tobacco, Electronic Smoking Devices, non-prescription drugs, or alcohol can result in negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total

development of the student participant. The misuse and abuse of mood altering chemicals by participants affect performance and development. Because Jefferson Area Local Schools want and expect their students to be in the best possible physical/mental condition, chemical abuse rules have been established. A student shall not use a beverage containing alcohol, use tobacco, or use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away mood altering substances defined by law as an illegal drug. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her doctor. This medicine should be labeled with the student's name and kept in the nurse's office. The use or distribution of any substance considered a counterfeit drug is also considered a violation of this regulation.

Specific rules are as follows:

1. Do not possess or use tobacco.
2. Do not possess or use Electronic Smoking Devices,
3. Do not possess or use illegal or non-prescription drugs.
4. Do not possess or use alcoholic beverages.
5. Do not use steroids; they are a violation of school rules and the law and could cause permanent health damage or death.

A violation of one of the above rules during grade 7 - 12 may result in the following:

1st offense: The athlete will not participate in 20% of the scheduled season and must complete an assessment with a certified drug or alcohol counseling service (alternative assessment for tobacco). The parents are responsible for all the expenses of the counseling. Written documentation that the assessment has been completed must be given to the Athletic Director before the athlete may continue. If the agency recommends further intervention, the athlete must abide by recommendation in order to be eligible to return to the team. If the athlete does not meet the 20% suspension during the current season, the remainder of the suspension will be calculated on the next scheduled season that the athlete participates in. During the assessment period and suspension period, the athlete is required to attend all practices and scheduled events.

2nd Offense: Rules from 1st offense apply but penalty will be 50% of scheduled season.

3rd Offense: Student is immediately released from the team. The student is not permitted to participate in any sports at Jefferson Area Junior/Senior High School. If the athlete, parent or guardian refuses an assessment, the athlete cannot continue in any sport at Jefferson Area High School until the assessment has been completed. Student participants are strongly encouraged to follow school rules in and out of their activity or sport season.

Other Rules and Procedures:

Many other rules and procedures must be included for the smooth and uniform operation of the entire activity or athletic program. These rules and procedures are as follows:

1. Fees and Equipment

Payment of any extracurricular items or supplies bought by the student

must be made prior to receipt of any item. No coach or advisor can issue supplies without prior payment. Each student is individually responsible for all equipment issued. The student will pay for any lost equipment and may not participate in the next sports season until all equipment is turned in or paid for.

2. Travel

All students will travel to and return from scheduled events via school arranged transportation. In special cases, it becomes necessary for a student to travel with their own parent. This may be done only if a direct request has been made by a parent to the coach/advisor and the coach/advisor has given permission. A written note must accompany this request and the appropriate form filled out and presented to the head coach before or after the athletic event. A parent must physically sign the student out in front of the coach/advisor before the student had permission to leave the event.

3. Physical and Emergency Medical Treatment

a. Students participating in athletic extracurricular programs must obtain a physical examination prior to the start of any program.

No student can condition or practice in any event without a physical. Only one physical is required each year. Physical cards may be obtained from the athletic director's office or the high school office.

b. Students participating in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity must have a signed emergency hospitalization form on file in the office prior to the start of any season or activity.

4. Awards

Awards are determined by the head coach.

5. Insurance

Any student participating in a sport must be covered under an insurance plan. If the family does not have a plan, the athletic director can recommend an insurance carrier.

PARENT/STAFF COMMUNICATION

Involvement requires commitment for students, parents, coaches, advisors. To be successful, communication must happen.

Communication You Should Expect From Your Student's Coach

1. When and where are practice and contests?
2. What is the coach's philosophy?
3. What are the expectations the coach has for all the players on the squad as well as your student?
4. What is required to be a part of the team, i.e.-fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning?
5. When your child is injured during participation?
6. Any discipline action of your child that results in removal from participation.

What Are Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches?

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Skill improvement and development.
3. Concerns about your student's behavior.

What Things Are Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches?

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student/athletes

Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Support towards the commitment of the program.
4. Be sure your student is at practice on time.

If You Have A Concern To Discuss With A Coach, What Procedure Should Be Followed?

1. Make an appointment with the coach.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before, during, or following a contest or practice. These are emotional times for both the parent and the coach and this period does not promote objective analysis of the situation.

What Can A Parent Do If The Meeting With The Coach Did Not Provide A Satisfactory Resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined. We are continually attempting to improve communication with the students and parents. For our programs to be truly successful it is necessary that everyone involved understand the direction the program is headed.
