Fairfield Athletics Parent/Guardian & Athlete Handbook

FAIRFIELD
FALCONS

Introduction

Thank you for being a part of Fairfield Jr/Sr High School Athletics! Participation in athletics at Fairfield is a privilege that will allow athletes to be in an environment to learn the skills it takes to be successful in life through athletics. Being a part of Fairfield athletics is designed to promote excellence both on and off the field. Our athletes will grow in teamwork, accountability, embracing toughness/challenges in life, leadership, and respect. Please view this handbook as a guide for student athletes and their families as they maneuver being a part of Fairfield athletics in understanding the standards, policies, and expectations of being a falcon.

Fairfield Athletic Mission Statement

Our mission is to use Athletics to provide athletes an avenue to acquire knowledge and skills that will cultivate great young men and women of the future.

Fairfield Educational Based Athletics

Purpose Statement: Our purpose is to provide athletic programs that allow students to better themselves in physical & mental well being, sport specific skills, healthy relationships, and fun experiences all while making our teams, schools, and community a better place.

Athletic Department Contacts

- Fairfield 7th-12th Grade Athletic Director- Christopher Griffin (cgriffin@fairfield.k12.in.us)
- Fairfield Assistant Athletic Director- Tim Fritz (tfritz@fairfield.k12.in.us)
- Fairfield Athletic Secretary- Sheila Miller (smiller@fairfield.k12.in.us)

Athletic Department Website

- Fairfield Community Schools Website: CLICK HERE

Northeast Corner Conference

- The NECC is made up of 11 schools:
    - Angola, Central Noble, Churubusco, Eastside, Fairfield, Fremont, Garrett, Lakeland, Prairie Heights, West Noble, Westview

Fairfield Jr/Sr High School Sports Offered

Season	Male Sports	Female Sports
Fall	Cross Country	Cross Country
	Football	Volleyball
	Tennis	Golf
		Cheer
Winter	Basketball	Basketball
	Wrestling	Cheer
		Wrestling
Spring	Baseball	Softball
	Golf	Tennis
	Track & Field	Track & Field

Eligibility & Participation Guidelines

- **Age:**
  - To be eligible to participate you will not have turned 20 by the scheduled date of the state finals of IHSAA Tournament for your respective sports. (STATE FINAL DATES LINK)
- **Amateurism Eligibility:**
  - An athlete has not:
    - Played under an assumed name.
    - Accepted money or merchandise directly or indirectly for any athletic participation, in your sport.
    - Signed a professional contract in your sport.
- **Consent and Release Certificate Eligibility (Sports physical):**
  - You have on file with your principal, each school year, a Certificate (annual physical form) which was completed between April 1 and your first practice in your sport.
- **Enrollment Eligibility You have:**
  - Enrolled in a school during the first 15 days of the semester.
  - Been enrolled for no more than 4 consecutive years (or the equivalent, e.g. 8 semesters, 12 trimesters, etc.), beginning with grade 9.

- **Fall Semester:**
  - Fall & Winter Sport Athletes need to be enrolled in 5+ accredited classes. Includes club sports.
- **Spring Semester:**
  - Spring Sport Athletes only need to be enrolled in 5+ accredited classes for 2nd semester. Includes club sports
  - We strongly encourage spring sport athletes to be enrolled in 5+ classes Fall Semester as well.
- **Passing 5 classes the previous quarter and/or semester:**
  - Athletes need to pass 5+ classes (2.5 credits) the previous quarter (Quarter 1 & 3 grades) or semester Grades (We look at these grades after 2nd and 4th quarters). Students can go to summer school for credit recovery before fall season if needed.
    - These credits can only be used for the previous spring semester eligibility.
- Are students who have made sufficient credits to graduate in less than 8 semesters, eligible thereafter?:
  - Yes, provided they do not actually graduate and remain Enrolled and carry an adequate workload (Seventy percent (70%) of the available full credit subjects) during the Grading Period of participation.. (rules 13-2, 18-1)
  - When does the eligibility of a student-athlete end if the student graduates at the end of the first semester or the second Trimester?
    - The student-athlete would become ineligible to participate in athletics on the first day of the next Grading Period.
- Represented a high school in your sport for no more than 4 years.

- **Home School Student Eligibility:**
  - The student athlete must be taking 2+ credit hours with Fairfield community schools.
  - The IHSAA also requires all home school athletes to have 3 consecutive prior years of being homeschooled to be eligible for IHSAA high school sports.
- **Study Tables:**
  - Study tables will begin at midterm of the first quarter. Any student with a failing grade will be required to attend study tables for at least 1 week regardless of if the grade is better than failing.
  - Athletes with just one failing subject will be allowed to participate in a contest and be excused from attending study tables if necessary to be absent.
- **Changing Sports Same sport season:**
  - If a coach cuts a student from a team, the student may join another team or program in that sport season, provided that tryouts for the second sport have not concluded and/or the head coach grants permission. An athlete who quits one sport may join another team in that same sport season, provided that tryouts for the second sport have not been concluded, it is prior to the first interscholastic competition of the original sport, coaches are in mutual agreement, and all outstanding athletic fees/obligations have been paid.

- Different Sport Season - An athlete who quits one sport after the first contest has been completed to join another sport in different seasons may not do so until the original season is completed. Special circumstances may dictate exceptions to this practice. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the Athletic Director, provided there is mutual agreement among coaches.

P.E. and Athletics Participation:

- All students enrolled in Physical Education classes are required to fully participate in class activities unless a valid medical excuse is provided and approved by the school nurse or administration.
- Students who are cleared for participation in athletics are also considered cleared to participate in P.E. class activities. Athletic clearance does not exempt a student from P.E. requirements.

Athletic Participation and P.E. Attendance

- Student-athletes are expected to participate in P.E. on days they have practices or competitions unless otherwise excused for injury, illness, or other approved reasons.

Injury and Medical Restrictions

- If a student-athlete has a medical restriction that prevents participation in P.E., the medical restrictions must match that in athletics until they are medically cleared for both.
- Students recovering from injury may have modified activities assigned in P.E. consistent with their medical provider's recommendations.

Consequences for Non-Participation

- Failure to participate in P.E. without an approved excuse may result in a lower P.E. grade and/or disciplinary action in accordance with school policy.
- Repeated failure to meet P.E. obligations may impact eligibility for athletics

Transfer Students

Full Eligibility Is Granted When:

1. **Incoming 9th Grader:**
    - Enrolls by the 15th school day.
    - No undue influence involved.
      (Rule 19-1)
2. **Bona Fide Change of Residence:**
    - Entire immediate family moves.
    - Old residence is fully vacated.
    - Move is permanent, without athletic intent.
      (Rule 19-5, 19-5.1)
3. **Transfer Without Change of Residence But Meets a Specific Exception:**
    - Examples: school closure, redistricting, parent employment, ward of court, no participation in the last 365 days, etc.
      (Rule 19-6.1 (a–n))
4. **Parent/Guardian Starts Licensed Employment at Receiving School:**
    - Only at the school where the parent is employed.
      (Rule 19-5.1(e), 19-6.1(n))
5. **Foreign Exchange Student:**
    - Meets random placement and other criteria.
      (Rule 19-7)

Limited Eligibility (Sub-Varsity Only) Is Granted When:

- The transfer is **not for athletic reasons**, but:
    - **No bona fide move occurred**, or

- **Doesn’t meet any full eligibility exceptions**.
  (Rule 19-3, 19-5(b), 19-6.2)
- In sports the student *hasn't* played in the last 365 days → **Full eligibility**
- In sports the student *has* played in the last 365 days → **Limited eligibility**

Ineligibility Occurs When:

- The transfer is determined to be:
  - **Primarily athletic in nature**, or
  - **Result of undue influence**, or
  - **Bona fide move is proven false**.
    (Rule 19-4, 19-5(c))

The student becomes ineligible **in that sport** for **365 days** from date of enrollment.

Special Transfer Scenarios Summary

Scenario	Eligibility	Notes
Moves for a better team or coach	❌ Ineligible	Considered athletic reason
Transfers after discipline or coach conflict	❌ Ineligible	Rule 19-4 applies
Family sells old home and all relocate	✅ Full Eligibility	Must be bona fide move
Transfers without family move, no sports played in past year	✅ Full Eligibility	Rule 19-6.1(j)
Parent gets job at school	✅ Full Eligibility	Rule 19-5.1(e), 19-6.1(n)
Guardianship or foster placement	✅ Possibly Full Eligibility	Must meet criteria

Enrolled at wrong school by mistake	✅ Full Eligibility	Must act promptly
Student's former school closed	✅ Full Eligibility	Automatically allowed
No full eligibility reasons met, no athletic motive	⚠️ Limited Eligibility	

IHSAA Transfer Rule 19-3 — Simplified and Professional Summary

General Overview:

When a high school student transfers from one school to another, their athletic eligibility is not automatic. The IHSAA outlines specific conditions under which a student may be eligible, partially eligible, or ineligible to compete. These rules vary based on the timing of the transfer, the student's grade level, and whether it is a first or subsequent transfer.

First-Time Transfers (During the First Six Semesters of High School)

Full Eligibility (Eligible Immediately):
A student who transfers for the first time within their first six semesters of high school will be granted full eligibility if:

1. The transfer occurs before the official start date of practice for the sport.
2. The transfer is not a result of recruiting or undue influence from coaches or school staff (per Rules

20-1 and 20-2).

Limited Eligibility (Short Sit-Out Period):
If the student has already had the opportunity to participate in three sport seasons prior to the transfer, they must serve a non-competition period of:

- 30 calendar days or
- Half of the maximum number of contests in that sport, whichever is shorter. This applies to sports the student participated in during the 365 days before the transfer.

Second or Subsequent Transfers

Eligibility is Reviewed Case-by-Case:
For students transferring for a second time or more, the IHSAA will determine if the student is:

- Fully eligible,
- Limitedly eligible, or
- Ineligible.

Additional Restrictions:
If the second or subsequent transfer occurs after the sport's official start of practice, the student must sit out for 30 days or half the season (whichever is less), in each sport affected.

Exception – Return to Original School:
If the student returns to the school where

they originally gained athletic eligibility within 365 days of leaving it, they retain full eligibility.

Transfers from Non-Member Schools

If a student's first transfer is from a non-IHSAA member school, their eligibility will be reviewed under the same guidelines found in Rules 19 and 20. This means their status could be full, limited, or ineligible, depending on the circumstances.

Transfers After the Start of Practice

Any student who transfers after the official start date of practice for a sport must serve a 30-day non-competition period or sit out half of the season, whichever is shorter.

Senior Transfers (After Six Semesters of Enrollment)

Seniors who transfer after completing six semesters of high school will have their eligibility reviewed under Rules 19 and 20.

Restriction:
They will also be subject to a 30-day or half-season non-competition period for each sport they participated in during the 365 days before the transfer.

Exception – Bona Fide Move:
If a parent/guardian makes a bona fide move of more than 50 miles to a new residence, the student may seek full

eligibility at a school (public, private, or charter) within 20 miles of the new home—even if it's not their new district school.

Key Takeaways:

- A first-time transfer made early and for non-athletic reasons typically allows full eligibility.
- Additional transfers, transfers made after a season starts, and senior transfers come with more restrictions.
- Each case is reviewed based on its circumstances, and decisions are made in accordance with IHSAA Rules 19 and 20.

Conflicts in School Sponsored Extracurricular Activities:

The following basic guidelines shall be used in determining appropriate resolutions to conflicting performance schedules:

● Scheduled IHSAA tournaments; ISSA Division of Student Activities contests (including academic competitions, music competitions and contests, National Honor Society induction, etc.), FFA state or national contests, dress rehearsal and production of the school musical and play, including travel time, shall have the #1 precedence. If the conflict is between two of these activities, the student shall make the choice without penalty.

● Regularly scheduled games, contests, and major performances beyond item #1 shall be the #2 priority. A previously scheduled event on the official school calendar will take precedence over a calendar addition or re-scheduled event.

● The importance of the students' participation is the success of the total group performance. If a problem arises that the involved staff members are unable to resolve, the assistant principal shall be contacted for a final resolution. This policy pertains to all extra-curricular activities.

Equipment:

All athletes are responsible for the care and return of equipment owned by the school. Lost equipment must be replaced at a fair market value. All equipment owned by the school will be worn in a manner determined by the coaching staff of each of the respective sports.

Final Forms

Final Forms is the online registration tool that will house all athletic registrations. Access can be found at the following link: https://fairfield-in.finalforms.com/

1. Athletic Physical will be either be uploaded on Final Forms or dropped off to the Athletic Office before the first practice.

2. HIPPA Authorization Form on Final Forms

3. Emergency Contact Form on Final Forms

4. Concussion and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Acknowledgement on Final Forms

5. Parental Release and Permission on Final Forms

6. IHSAA Consent and Release on Final Forms

Inherent Risk

Any student who participates in athletic competition must understand that a risk of injury always exists. The athletic staff at Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School will do everything possible to minimize risks for student-athletes, both in practice and competition.

Insurance

Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School has great concern for medical care and insurance protection for all those participating in interscholastic competition. As a result, students participating in athletics at Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School are required to carry insurance coverage. Students not covered can purchase short term insurance and moderate prices through the Athletic Office. The student and his/her family pay all costs for insurance. The IHSAA and Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School jointly carry a catastrophic insurance policy on all athletes that covers amounts from $ 25,000 up to one million dollars.

Notice of Disclosure

In compliance with the membership requirements of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. and as a condition to your child's athletic participation in an IHSAA recognized sport, this school shall make available to the IHSAA, in the event of an investigation, complete detailed financial (athletic or otherwise), scholastic and attendance records of this school. Records that are available to the IHSAA include those that relate to or concern your child/ward

and include information that has been provided in the course of your application for student aid. Reasonable steps will be taken by the IHSAA to maintain the confidentiality of the records provided.

Vacation/Return to Play Missed Practices

Often athletes will miss practices due to family vacations and injuries. The Return to Play Policy covers missed time for any reason. The policy refers to IHSAA bylaw 9-14. The bylaw uses Monday-Saturday as potential days missed, even if the team doesn't hold practice. Eight to fourteen days missed will require 4 regular practices before returning to competition. Fifteen or more days missed will result in 6 practices before competition.

Travel

Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School athletes are required to travel to and from athletic events in school approved vehicles and under adult supervision provided by Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School. Extreme circumstances must be cleared by the Principal or Athletic Director. Students may be released to their parents (if the head coach is in agreement) after a road contest if a written permission form is signed and the parent signs out their child with a coach. Students will never be released to ride home from a contest with other students. Athletes represent Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School on all road trips. Appropriate dress will be determined by the coaching staff. Athletes will act in an acceptable manner while on all school trips. Equipment, facilities, fans, opponents and staff members at opposing school sites will be treated with respect at all times. Any damage or improper behavior on the part of Fairfield athletes and/or support staff will result in appropriate disciplinary action.

School Cancellations

If school is dismissed early or cancelled for the safety of the students because of inclement weather, then the building principal, Athletic Director and/or Superintendent shall have the discretion to decide if practices, scheduled contests, and other activities will be allowed provided that no student is required to participate in such activities. Furthermore, there will be no penalty for any student who does not participate on a day school is canceled. If an activity is planned by the IHSAA, which is under no control of the school corporation, our student's participation will be reviewed to determine if attendance and participation is acceptable.

Weight Room & Gym Policy

The following guidelines must be observed when students are using the weight rooms, gymnasiums and any other athletic facilities at Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School:

1. Students may use the weight room, gymnasiums and other athletic facilities only while under the direct supervision of a Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School staff member.

2. Students working out in the weight room, gymnasiums and other athletic facilities must be dressed in proper attire. Shirts and shoes are always a requirement.

3. Weights and other equipment should be returned to the proper racks or storage areas before students and coaches leave the area.

4. All facility usage shall be scheduled in advance and placed on the gym calendar by the head coach in cooperation with the Athletic Director.

5. No usage of any athletic facilities by IHSAA sponsored teams will ever be allowed on Sundays.

Conditioning:

- Season Conditioning Our coaching staff is expected to conduct opportunities for training and conditioning while out of season. These opportunities also extend into the summer months. Students are strongly encouraged to become multi-sport athletes at Fairfield High School. Students who participate in more than one of our varsity programs become well-rounded athletes and help to contribute to the success of Fairfield. If a student-athlete is not involved with a seasonal sport, they are encouraged to participate with the off-season conditioning of their team. These activities may include:
    - Meetings
    - Camps
    - Strength Training (weight room)
    - Competition Strategies
    - Team Bonding

Moratorium Week:

According to Rule 15-3.4 of the IHSAA By-Laws: Each member school shall observe a moratorium week starting on Monday of the week which includes July 4th . During this seven day period, there shall be no contact between athletes and coaches, and no athletic activities, including conditioning, conducted.

Dual Sport Participation

Definition: Participating in two sports during the same season.

Dual sport participation is permitted under the following conditions:

1. The athlete and his/her family are in favor of competing for two (2) sports teams.

2. The coaches of the affected sports are in agreement that this is a desirable situation.

3. The coaches of the affected sports, athlete, and athletic director will meet to determine if a schedule for practices and competitions can be mutually agreed upon.

4. The athlete is expected to practice regularly in both sports.

5. The athlete will not be permitted to leave practice early in order to attend a practice in the other sport without the permission of both coaches.

6. The athlete will not be permitted to miss any practices or contests in either sport without the consent of one or both of the coaches.

7. A prioritized list of contest levels will be established before the first contest of either sport, such as the following:

a. Contests take precedence over practices

b. IHSAA tournament games

c. Conference games

d. Other tournaments

e. Non-conference games

The student-athlete will be required to determine his/her “primary” and “secondary” sports. This determination will be used only to resolve scheduling conflicts that arise after the start of the season. If the letter requirements of both sports are met, then the athlete will be eligible to receive letters and awards in both sports. All final authority regarding conflicts and clarification of dual sport participation shall be vested in the Athletic Director.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

A student who is a member of a Fairfield athletic team in any capacity (athlete, cheerleader, athletic training student aide, student manager, or statistician) must be willing to assume the responsibilities that go along with being a member of a team. Student athletes are highly visible to a large segment of the school and the community. Thus, to participate in athletics as representatives of the school, student athletes should be held to high standards of conduct, sportsmanship, and physical training. It is with this reasoning in mind that the athletic department will adhere to the policies outlined below. Student athletes and athletic support personnel are role models and therefore are expected to be positive examples in school citizenship, scholastic effort, leadership, and personal appearance.

Participation in athletics requires a student to commit time and effort to excel, to learn cooperation and team effort, and to exemplify good behavior both at school and away from school. Participation in high school athletics is a privilege, not a right, and said participation may be denied any time that the conduct of an athlete is judged to be disruptive to the discipline, good order, or moral or educational environment of the high school. Student athletes are expected to follow the Athletic Code at all times including the time when they are away from school and not involved in school activities. The Code of Conduct is in effect 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, beginning on the first day of fall practice or the first day of school

of a student athlete's freshman year. The Code of Conduct begins on the first day of enrollment for a transfer student.

Under this code, there are two circumstances in which a student athlete can be subject to the penalties named within: 1. Notification to a school official by verified police report or court action substantiating a violation of this code. 2. A school-initiated investigation which determines that a violation has occurred.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Any student-athlete in violation of the school rules, as listed in the student handbook, will be disciplined by the school. If a student-athlete is suspended from school, the student-athlete is ineligible to participate in any practices or contests during the term of the suspension while in season.

2. A head coach shall establish specific team rules needed to ensure that the program functions smoothly. These team rules are to supplement the athletic code and are not to supersede it. A head coach may discipline the student athlete within the structure of the coach's specific team rules. A copy of each head coach's team rules will be distributed at the beginning of the season and discussed by the head coach at the team's student/ parent meeting.

3. A student-athlete who has been suspended from a team for one game or any percentage of the season is expected to continue his/her association with the team as directed by the head coach. Suspended athletes are allowed to participate in summer sports programs. A student-athlete who has been suspended from participation for a full calendar year or longer will not associate with that team or any other Fairfield athletic team including team summer programs.

4. Per IHSAA by-laws (Rule 3-8), a student-athlete who is ineligible under the rules of a prior school will carry that ineligibility ruling to the new school. If a student-athlete transfers from Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School while ineligible, the ineligibility ruling will follow the student-athlete and will be noted on the IHSAA transfer form. If a student-athlete transfers into Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School while serving a suspension at his/her previous school the student-athlete will serve out the remainder of his/her penalty at Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School.

5. Fairfield Jr.-Sr High School is governed by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA). While athletes may not know each and every rule of the IHSAA, they should contact their coach or Athletic Director if they have any questions concerning the rules and regulations of the IHSAA. If athletes know of any violation of these rules and regulations, it is their responsibility to bring this to the attention of their coach and/or Athletic Director.

6. Players violating team rules may be dismissed from a team at any time.

7. In addition to IHSAA, team, and the rules listed in this handbook, athletes are also bound by the rules of the Fairfield Jr-Sr. High School Student Handbook

Violation of Athlete Code of Conduct:

Athletic Code Enforcement:

1. Vandalism, violence, theft, and cheating academically are not acceptable behavior for Fairfield student-athletes. Discipline for these violations will be handled using the following guidelines.
    a. The Athletic Director will be notified by the Principal, Vice Principal, or School Resource Officer of any of the above-mentioned violations.
    b. The Athletic Director will notify the head coach and work with the Vice Principal, and/or Principal, and/or School Resource Officer to administer the appropriate discipline for the above violations.
    c. In extreme cases, individuals involved in vandalism, violence, theft, or cheating will be suspended for one-third of their sport season.
        i. Extreme cases of vandalism, violence, and theft will be determined by law enforcement's involvement regarding any issue. This does not include our School Resource Officer unless it is outside the scope of their regular daily duties/responsibilities within the school day and school hours.
        ii. Extreme cases of cheating will be determined by the number of individuals involved, the weight of the assignment/exam, and the teacher's willingness to work with the student-athlete.
        iii. In minor cases, individuals involved in vandalism, violence, theft, and cheating will be suspended for 1 athletic contest.
            1. If an individual has served a suspension for a minor offense and is involved in vandalism, violence, theft, or cheating again, that individual will then be suspended for one-third of their sport season. The third offense will be two thirds of their sports season. The 4th offense will be 365 days.

First Offense:

a. The use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, steroids, or illegal narcotics (ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL OFFENSES – INFRACTIONS LISTED ABOVE) will result in an automatic suspension from participation in athletic events for 1/3 of the allowed IHSAA contests for that sport (or scheduled events for Student-Athletic Trainers and/or Cheerleaders). Practice for the ineligible student-athlete who is under an athletic code suspension is at the discretion of each Head Coach & Athletic Director.

1. In the event of a first offense, the student-athlete will serve a suspension for 1/3 of the current sport's season. If the 1/3 of a season suspension is not fulfilled in the current sport's season, then the unserved percentage will be served in the student-athlete's next sport's season.
2. If the offense occurs out of season, the same disciplinary action will be followed. The violation may be served in any sport based on the discretion of the next sport or receiving head coach, however, the season must be completed in good standing.

Second Offense:

a. The use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, steroids, or illegal narcotics will result in an automatic suspension from participation in athletic events for 2/3 of allowed IHSAA contests for that sport (or scheduled events for Student-Athletic Trainers and/or Cheerleaders). Practice for the ineligible student-athlete who is under an athletic code suspension is at the discretion of each Head Coach & Athletic Director.

1. In the event of a second offense the athlete will not be considered in good standing and, therefore, will forfeit all awards & varsity letter for that sport season as well as serve suspension for 2/3 of the current sport's season.
2. If the 2/3 of a season suspension is not fulfilled in the current sport's season, then the unserved percentage will be served in the athlete's next sport's season.

Third Offense:

a. The third offense for the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, steroids, and illegal narcotics will result in suspension for a minimum of (1) calendar year from time of determination of involvement. No practice, in-season or out-of-season, will be allowed with any team.

Fourth Offense:

a. The fourth offense for the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, steroids, illegal narcotics will result in the student-athlete being ineligible to participate in any sport for the remainder of his or her high school career.

A. Per IHSAA Rule 15, Participation, defined as beginning with 1st IHSAA authorized season contest date which includes the preseason scrimmage (against another opponent) in each sport & terminating when defeated in IHSAA tournament play. To determine one-third (or two-thirds if applicable) of a sport season, count each regularly scheduled contest, ending with the first contest in the Sectional Tournament. Then compute one-third (or two-thirds if applicable) of the season. The fractional portion (if any) will not be considered a contest.

Fairfield Athletics/Fairfield community schools can choose what offense level based on severity of violation regardless of what offense it is for the athlete

Self-Reporting

Level 2 Violation – The penalty will be reduced by 25% of the current and/or next sport season if:

1. The student or the student's parents/guardians report the violation to the principal and/or athletic director, or coach prior to their independent confirmation of a violation.

2. The student submits to and receives a certificate of completion from a substance abuse program of assessment, counseling, screening and/or indicated therapy. The program must have been approved by the principal and may include a recommendation for parent/guardian participation. The cost of the program is the responsibility of the student and/or his/her parents.

Level 3 Violation: The penalty will be reduced by 25% of the current and/or next sport season if:

1. The student or the student's parents/guardians report the violation to the principal and/or athletic director, or coach prior to their independent confirmation of a violation.

2. The student submits to and receives a certificate of completion from a substance abuse program of assessment, counseling, screening and/or indicated therapy. The program must have been approved by the principal and may include a recommendation for parent/guardian participation. The cost of the program is the responsibility of the student and/or his/her parents.

RANDOM DRUG TESTING POLICY TEST RESULTS

1. This program seeks to provide needed help for students who have a verified positive test. The student's health, welfare, and safety will be the reason for preventing participation in extracurricular activities, school sponsored activities, and driving.

2. The principal / administrative designee will be notified of a student testing "positive." The principal / administrative designee will notify the student and his / her parent / guardian. The student or his / her parent / guardian may submit any documented prescription, explanation, or information which will be considered in determining whether a "positive" test has been satisfactorily explained. In addition, the student or parent / guardian may appeal by requesting that the urine specimen be tested again by the certified laboratory at a cost to the student or his / her parent / guardian.

3. If the test is verified positive, the principal / administrative designee will meet with the student and his / her parent /guardian at a school corporation facility. The student and parent / guardian will be given the names of counseling and assistance agencies that the family may want to contact for help. The student will not be prevented from participation in extracurricular activities, school sponsored activities, driving to school, but a follow up test is required. The student who tests positive on the follow up test will be suspended from driving to school for 45 school days. All student drivers must park in the Fairfield Jr.-Sr. High School parking lot.

4. A "follow up" test will be requested after 45 days by the principal / administrative designee after such an interval of time that the substance previously found would normally have been eliminated from the body. If this "follow up" test is negative, the student will be allowed to continue extra-curricular activities. If a second "positive" result is obtained from the "follow up" test, or any later test of that participant, the student will be prevented from participation in extracurricular activities or driving to school until a negative test can be provided. In addition, the Fairfield Community Schools reserve the right to continue testing at any time during the remaining school year any participating student who has tested "positive" and did not make a satisfactory explanation.

5. Information on a verified "positive" test result will be shared on a "need to know" basis with the student's coach or sponsor. The results of "negative" tests will be kept confidential to protect the identity of all students being tested.

6. Drug testing result sheets will be returned to the principal / administrative designee identifying students by number and not by name. Names of students tested will not be kept in open files or

on any computer. Result sheets will be locked and secured in a location that only the principal / administrative designee will have access.

OTHER RULES Apart from this drug testing program, students who test positive for drug use may be suspended from their extra-curricular activities for a period of time. They may also be required to attend drug education classes, undergo counseling or seek treatment for clinical dependency. Students must submit to follow up drug tests. The Fairfield High School Athletic department and the coaching staff / sponsor of each sport / activity have their own training rules and requirements. Coaches / sponsors have the necessary authority to enforce those rules. Any student who violates a rule or requirement as a member of a team or activity will be subject to the consequences as defined in those rules and requirements. (Athletic Code) A student that self-reports drug use the first time will not be suspended from activities but will automatically go to step two (2) in the activity code. (Athletic Code) The student will be tested again within 6 weeks' time at the expense of the parent / guardian.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Under this drug testing program, any staff, coach, or sponsor of Fairfield Schools who may have knowledge of the results of a drug test will not divulge to anyone the results of the test or the disposition of the student involved, other than in the case of a legal subpoena being made upon that person in the course of a legal investigation. Once again, this will underscore the Fairfield Community Schools commitment to confidentiality with regards to the program.

Social Media Policy

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

1. Posting photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, tobacco, ex., holding cans, shot glasses etc.

2. Posting photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.

3. Posting pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.

4. Using inappropriate or offensive language in all comments, videos and other postings. This includes threats of violence and derogatory comments against race and/or gender.

5. Posting photos, videos, comments or posters that demean other Fairfield students, athletes, teammates, coaches, or school personnel.

6. Posting photos, videos, comments or posters that are derogatory towards opposing schools or opposing student-athletes.

If a student-athlete's profile and its contents are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above behaviors, he/she will be subject to an Athletic Code of Conduct violation and penalties as determined by the school administration, athletic department, and coaching staff.

OTHER PROVISIONS

Honesty Clause If a student-athlete is found to be dishonest during an investigation, the consequence imposed will advance to the next highest level for their infraction.

Calculating Consequences

An athletic season is defined as the time from the first official practice until elimination from the IHSAA tournament or completion of the scheduled contests if there is no IHSAA tournament. The percentage of contests suspended will be calculated using the total number of scheduled contests including pre-season IHSAA interschool scrimmages if applicable. The minimum penalty is one contest. All suspensions will be based on the number of scheduled contests at the lowest level at which the student athlete participates. If a student-athlete participates in two athletic teams during the same athletic season, the same penalty will apply to each sport. Any penalty imposed under this policy shall apply to any athletic team in which the student-athlete is participating at the time the penalty is imposed and to any athletic team in which the student-athlete might choose to participate during the term of the penalty. In the event the penalty is not completed in the student athlete's current athletic season, the number of suspended contests remaining on the penalty will carry over into the next athletic season. If a student-athlete is not participating in an athletic season at the time a violation of this policy is confirmed, the penalty will apply to any subsequent athletic season in which the student-athlete participates and shall remain in effect until the suspension is successfully served. A suspension is only considered fulfilled if the student-athlete completes the athletic season in good standing. A student-athlete must serve a suspension in a sport that he/she participated in during the previous school year. If a student athlete did not participate in a sport during the previous school year, the student-athlete will serve the suspension in the next sport season in which he/she participates.

APPEAL PROCESS

A student-athlete who has an alleged violation of Section VI C may only appeal a finding of guilt, but may not appeal the length of the suspension.

A. FIRST APPEAL

- Any athlete who is penalized, or his/her parents, may request an appeals hearing by notifying the Principal in writing; within 5 days after the receipt of written notification of the athletic suspension. A hearing panel consisting of up to 5 faculty members will be selected by the Principal. (If the Principal is not available, the Assistant Principal shall assume the Principal's responsibility.)

B. SECOND APPEAL

- Any athlete or his/her parents whose appeal has been reviewed by the hearing panel may request an appeals hearing before the Superintendent by so notifying the Superintendent in writing within 5 days of the receipt of written notification of the hearing panel's decision.

C. THIRD APPEAL

● Any athlete or his/her parents whose appeal has been reviewed by the Superintendent may request an appeals hearing.