

## **Monroeville Athletic Code Of Conduct**

The purpose of this discipline code is to establish a uniform set of general standards, regulations and procedures governing student conduct and eligibility in the extracurricular activities of the Monroeville Local Schools. Student conduct in extracurricular activities has a direct reflection upon the Monroeville Local School District and should exemplify the high standards of our school. Eligibility in extracurricular activities is a privilege and those desiring to participate should meet academic standards as well as meet appropriate behavioral standards. All students shall abide by a code of conduct, which will earn them the honor and respect which participation and competition in the interscholastic programs affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the student, team, program, or school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of the law, or acts which tarnish the reputation of those associated with the school will not be tolerated. The code shall be in effect twelve (12) months a year.

### **PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING AN ISSUE REGARDING YOUR ATHLETE**

As 98% of problems can be resolved by dealing directly with the coach who is immediately responsible for son or daughter it is essential to approach them initially with your issue. This meeting should be scheduled by contacting the coach and requesting a time to meet. (This should never be done before practice or before or after a game.) When the meeting is arranged it is also mandatory for your son or daughter to be present at the meeting to help resolve any discrepancy between what the coach and parent feel has resulted.

Once this step has been taken a conversation with the Athletic Director would be appropriate. If still unresolved the next step would then be the Principal, the Superintendent and finally the Board of Education. Any deviation from this process would be directed back to the appropriate level.

#### **Quitting a sport**

If an athlete quits a sport during the season, that athlete is unable to participate in another sport during that same season. For example, quitting basketball would prevent an athlete from going out for wrestling that same season.

Quitting a sport is defined as ending participation on an athletic team more than two weeks after the athlete's first practice.

Additionally, if an athlete quits a sport and wishes to engage in conditioning programs, such as open gyms, or other out of seasoning activities, they must wait 30 days from the date they quit before they can participate in those activities.

## **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The administration, directors, and coaches of Monroeville High School believe that scholastic endeavors are the most important part of the educational program. As a result, minimum standards are established for students participating in extracurricular activities. This includes, but is not limited to, all athletic teams, academic teams and performing groups. Performing groups include stage band, pep band, participants in plays, musicals, and other similar groups as determined by the Principal. Students participating in extracurricular programs shall be required to meet certain academic standards in order to be eligible to participate in contest, programs or performances.

- 1) According to OHSAA rules, any student enrolled in grades 9-12 is required to receive passing grades in a minimum of five, one credit courses or the equivalent, which count towards graduation, during the preceding grading period to maintain eligibility for the next grading period. Likewise, students must maintain a minimum grade point average of 1.5 per grading period.
- 2) Students in grades seven and eight must have passed five of those subjects carried in the preceding grading period and have maintained a minimum 1.500 GPA for the same grading period to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.
- 3) No student receiving more than 2 F's will be eligible for athletic participation.
- 4) The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5) school day of the grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. EXCEPTION: Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season.
- 5) A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement. Thereafter, the student must meet the school's eligibility requirements.
- 6) A student who is ineligible is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team he/she desires until such time that their grades allow them to compete, but ultimately it is up to the coach's discretion to allow participation.
- 7) Age limitation: If a student enrolled in Junior High becomes 15 before August 1, the student must participate at the High School level. Similarly, if a student enrolled in High School becomes 19 before August 1, the student will then become ineligible to

participate in interscholastic athletics.

## **TRAINING RULES**

The Monroeville High School student code of conduct will apply for all students involved in extracurricular activities.

Anyone involved in extracurricular activities will set an example of acceptable citizenship, sportsmanship, and conduct.

All athletic department rules apply to both MHS students and MCAL students.

- 1) No use of tobacco, alcohol, or use of, or involvement with, illegal or counterfeit drugs. No illegal use of a legal substance or possessing drug paraphernalia.
- 2) No involvement with any theft, vandalism, or assault.
- 3) No excessive profanity.
- 4) Curfew hours at the discretion of the head coach or supervisor.
- 5) All personal jewelry will be removed during athletic participation.
- 6) Students must attend school in order to participate in any extracurricular activity. Students must be in school prior to 10:30 am the day of an activity (except for students who are in work-study programs, who must be in school prior to 8:45 am). The next school day after an activity, students are expected to be in school. A doctor's medical excuse is the only exception.
- 7) If a student goes home ill during the school day, they may not participate in extracurricular activities for the remainder of that day. A written doctor's excuse is the only exception.
- 8) Coaches/advisors/directors are responsible for the administration of the programs to which they are assigned. In this capacity they also have the option to make judgments and decisions on items and procedures not specifically designated in these guidelines which they believe necessary to insure the continued high ideals of the extracurricular activities, clubs, and athletic programs of Monroeville High School.
- 9) Dress and appearance for athletes will be determined by the head coach or supervisor.
- 10) Athletes may not wear any garment or equipment belonging to the athletic department for any reason other than practice or competition.
- 11) An athlete/participant or his/her parents will be financially responsible for damage to, or destruction of, school property occurring as a result of his/her carelessness or misbehavior.
- 12) Bus behavior for activity trips: No walking around on the bus. Everyone must be quiet while crossing railroad tracks. No food on the bus. Behavior at away activities is expected to be of a high standard. Respect is to be shown for other school's property &

equipment

13) Students who take school transportation to an extracurricular event must also return via school transportation. Requests for students to leave from an event with parents will only be granted in extenuating circumstances, as determined by the Principal and Athletic Director. Students will not be permitted to ride home with a parent just for convenience.

14) Any student who does not attend the banquet or does not make prior arrangement with his/her coach or the Athletic Director will not be eligible for their awards. If the extenuating circumstances arise, it is at the Athletic Director's discretion.

15) Athletes who quit or are removed from a varsity sport are not eligible to receive a varsity letter or any end of the season awards.

## **VIOLATION OF THE EXTRACURRICULAR CODE**

Violations involving drugs, alcohol, tobacco, theft, vandalism, assault, illegal use of a legal substance or any other illegal activities will be dealt with in the following manner:

**SELF-REFERRAL** - (One time only grades 9-12) Any student who voluntarily informs their coach, athletic director, or principal of a violation of the above offenses prior to discovery by their coach, athletic director, principal, police authorities or other school officials will be eligible for a reduction of the penalty, appropriate to the given offense. Any student using the one-time self-referral for violations of the drug, alcohol, or tobacco policy, will be subject to an assessment by a licensed counselor and must follow through with their recommendations. If the violation pertains to theft, vandalism, or assault the student must complete five (5) hours of community service arranged by the athletic director in conjunction with the police department. If completed there will be no denial of privilege to participate. Failure to follow through with the assessment of community service will result in the application of the full penalty at the appropriate level of the offense. If a student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the following season until the full penalty is met.

**FIRST OFFENSE** - The first time a student violates the drug, alcohol, tobacco, theft, assault, or vandalism policy the penalty will be an automatic suspension from 50% of scheduled contests for that sport. (i.e. football has 10 scheduled games the suspension would then be 5 games.) A reduction to 20% of the scheduled contests is possible if the following steps are taken:

1) If the student has violated the drug, alcohol or tobacco policy they must be assessed by a licensed drug and alcohol counselor and then must meet the requirements of the assessment. The cost, if any, of the program will be

the responsibility of the parent.

2) If the student violates the theft, vandalism, or assault policy the student must complete 10 hours of community service to be arranged by the Athletic Director in conjunction with the police.

3) The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not be allowed to dress in uniform.) If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the next activity the student participates in. The student must complete the activity he/she is involved in for it to count towards the suspension.

4) Finally, if any of the criteria are not met, the reduction of the suspension will be void and the full penalty will be assessed. If a student is academically ineligible, they will not be able to complete their suspension until they have reinstated their eligibility.

**SECOND OFFENSE** - The second time a student violates the drug, alcohol, tobacco, or theft, vandalism, assault policy, the penalty will be automatic removal from the activity the student is currently involved in and the next activity in which they participate. A reduction to removal from the current activity and 40% of the scheduled events in the next activity is possible if the following steps are taken.

1) The student must be assessed by an approved drug and alcohol counselor and then must meet the requirements of the assessment. This must include a 6 week Drug/Alcohol course to be **attended by the student as well as their parent**. The cost, if any, of the program will be the responsibility of the parent.

2) If the student violates the theft, vandalism, or assault policy the student must complete 20 hours of community service. This could include but is not limited to, working in the school, helping the activity coordinator/coach/Athletic Director, assisting student council, key club, etc.

3) The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not dress.) If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over into the next activity in which the student participates. The student must complete the activity in which he/she is involved in for it to count towards the suspension.

4) The student forfeits his/her leadership roles in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as well as any special awards for that activity. **This includes the students letters and/or numerals.**

5) Finally, if any of the criteria are not met, the reduction of the suspension will be void and the full penalty will be assessed.

**THIRD OFFENSE** - The third violation of the drug, alcohol, tobacco or theft, vandalism, and assault policy will result in a twelve (12) month suspension from all activities beginning from the date of the violation. There is no reduction for this offense.

**FOURTH OFFENSE** - The fourth violation of the drug, alcohol, tobacco or theft policy will result in the permanent removal from all extracurricular

activities for the remainder of that student's career at Monroeville High School. There is no reduction for this offense.

Students are still subject to disciplinary actions for violations of any of the other training rules or rules determined by the advisor, coach, or Athletic Director. In the instance that any of the above stated infractions occurs on school property, the student will also be subject to discipline under the school's code of conduct.

If violation percentages cannot be served completely during the remaining season, denial of participation will continue and be completed in the next season in which the student participates. Denial of Participation will not be deemed completed by the participant serving the violation if the student becomes academically ineligible. In that instance the student must regain academic eligibility before the remainder of the suspension is served. Denial of all privileges includes all facets of team membership.

If a student loses all privileges of participation in a sport or extracurricular activity, and the student is currently not involved in a sport or extracurricular activity, the next sport or activity in which the student participates must be one in which the student has a sincere interest. The student cannot simply choose to go out for a sport or elect another extracurricular activity in order to satisfy the loss of privileges rule. Therefore, the sport or activity must be one in which the student has a sincere interest or past history of participation. First time participation will be subject to strict scrutiny.

## **CONDUCT UNBECOMING A MONROEVILLE STUDENT/ATHLETE**

**MISDEMEANOR** - A misdemeanor charge/conviction brought by a law enforcement agency against a participant may result in denial of participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the administration in accordance with the disciplinary code.

**FELONY CHARGE** - A felony charge brought on by a law enforcement agency against a participant shall result in the denial of all extracurricular activities for the balance of the current season/session or forty-five (45) school days (whichever is greater). The forty-five (45) school days of exclusion shall carry over into the next season/session. If the charge/conviction is brought over the summer, this rule applies to the ensuing school year (season/session). An appeals committee comprised of the Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director and one (1) teacher will review the circumstances surrounding the charge/conviction and determine the future eligibility of the student based upon the best interest of the student and the school district. A probationary period shall be imposed upon a student charged with/convicted of a felony in which the participant may be permitted, upon the recommendation of the appeals committee, to practice, but not participate in

competition, with the team or activity during the ensuing season/session. Upon

successful completion of the probationary period (as determined by the appeals committee), the participant may be determined to be eligible to resume complete participation with the team/activity.

### **Social Media**

The athletic department realizes that the use of social media is a big part of the lives of our athletes. Athletes are encouraged to use social media in ways that are responsible and represent their team and school in a positive way. Similarly, the use of social media by athletes in negative ways that reflect poorly on the school and program or personally attack other players or coaches will not be tolerated. Consequences will be determined by the coach and athletic director and can range from warnings to removal from the sport based on the severity of the situation.

## **FIRELANDS CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY**

The Firelands Conference holds sportsmanship in the highest regard for its athletes and coaches, as well as spectators. The following are ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS at an athletic contest in the Firelands Conference:

As a spectator, I will

- \*Cheer for my team, not against my opponent.
- \*Not use profane or inappropriate language.
- \*Treat the game as a game, not a war.
- \*Lead positive cheers in a positive manner.
- \*Applaud the efforts of both teams at games end.
- \*Show concern for injured players regardless of team.
- \*Demand sportsmanlike behavior from those fans near me.
- \*Depart the game in a dignified and ethical manner.
- \*Respect the official's judgment at all times.
- \*Understand that my admission does not excuse my behavior.

The following are considered UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS and SUBJECT TO SANCTION ranging from WARNINGS to DISMISSAL and SUBSEQUENT SUSPENSION FROM ATTENDANCE.

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As a spectator, I will NOT

\*Use profanity, taunt, trash talk, or heckle our opponents, and coaches, the officials, our team and coaches, or other spectators.

\*Wear derogatory or offensive attire.

\*Enter the playing surface before, during or after the contest.

\*At any time throw any objects or projectiles.