

EXTRACURRICULAR TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE

The philosophy of the Hudson City Schools Extracurricular Code is to integrate the Hudson City School Student Assistance Program with the expected standards of all extracurricular programs. The District recognizes that extracurricular participation is an elective privilege and that participants are held to higher standards both academically and behaviorally to maintain eligibility to participate. This code was designed by students, administrators, coaches, advisors and parents to provide a behavioral and disciplinary framework of action for students, administrators, coaches, advisors and parents and to provide a deterrent to any use of tobacco, alcohol or other drugs.

The District recognizes the research stating that use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs is detrimental to performance in athletics and other performance-related activities and that use impairs rational thinking abilities and other physical and emotional functions. The District also recognizes that any student, coach or advisor representing the Hudson City Schools inside or outside of the community is a role model to others.

This policy prohibits the possession, transmission, concealment, consumption, showing evidence of having consumed (including presence on the breath, use or offer for sale) alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, unprescribed drugs, prescription drugs being used outside of directed expectations or by another person, look-alike drugs or mind-altering substances while on or off school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events; in other situations under the authority of the District or in motor vehicles. (Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as a controlled substance, nonalcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products or drug paraphernalia).

The prohibitions contained in this policy apply to students who are currently participating in any type of extracurricular activity, both athletic and non-athletic, or who participated in any extracurricular activity offered by the Hudson City School District. Students are covered by this policy starting the first day the student participates in any part of an extracurricular activity. The coach or activity advisor determines the first day of the beginning of an extracurricular activity and the last day of an extracurricular activity. For the purposes of interscholastic athletic participation, the start and end dates will coincide with the annual published dates as set forth by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Consequently, the prohibitions in this policy will typically be in effect from August 1st through June 10th. The only exceptions to this policy pertain to school sponsored activities scheduled between June 10th and August 1st. School sponsored activities during this time frame are also subject to the policy prohibitions.

Prior to a student being disciplined, the student is entitled to a meeting with the building principal or designee.

If it is determined that a student has violated this policy, and the student is currently participating in an extracurricular activity, discipline will be imposed as soon as the determination is made that a violation has occurred. (NOTE: For athletic extracurricular activities, all penalties are percentages of total regular season games and/or events. Suspensions shall carry into playoffs and/or other post-season tournaments, games or events and count towards the total number of suspended games. In addition, any student formally charged with any felony offense will be immediately removed from participation in extracurricular activities until the case has been completely adjudicated.) The discipline can be carried over in to the next extracurricular activity in which the student participates. If the extracurricular activity or activities have already ended for the school year, any penalty will be imposed starting with the next athletic or non-athletic extracurricular activity in which the student participates.

Student-athletes who are confirmed to be in violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct will not be permitted to serve the required suspensions by participating in a sport in which they have not previously participated.

Required suspensions resulting from violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct may only be served in sports involving documented participation history by the student athlete.

Example:

Student-athlete has played football, wrestled, and run track since middle school. As a sophomore, student-athlete is found to be in violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct during the fall season. Student-athlete decides to go out for the bowling team, serve the suspension during bowling season, and then go out for track in the Spring. This would not be permitted.

If a student is involved in more than one extracurricular activity at the time the discipline is imposed, the discipline will be applied to all of the student's extracurricular activities. The penalty applied to non-athletic activities will be effective immediately.

All offenses are cumulative; each violation is considered an offense.

The discipline administered for a violation is directly related to the number of the offense (first, second, third, etc.).

Within five (5) days of discipline notification, the student and/or the student's parent, guardian or custodian may appeal the discipline decision to the Superintendent/designee. An appeal must be made in writing to the Superintendent. Discipline will be imposed unless otherwise notified, regardless of

appeal. If an appeal is filed and a hearing is held, notice of the decision will be sent, in writing, by the Superintendent/designee to the student and/or the student's parent, guardian or custodian. **The appeal to the Superintendent/designee is the final step in the appeal process.**

Role of Students

Student/participants must recognize the fact that underage alcohol use, drug use and underage tobacco use are not only illegal, but also detrimental to one's health. Students participating in extracurricular activities recognize that they are role models and that their academic and behavioral standards are higher in order to maintain eligibility. Students commit to the non-use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs for the following reasons: 1) to ensure strong role modeling messages; 2) to ensure continued participation in the activity; 3) to communicate respect and integrity for themselves, their parents, advisors and their health; 4) to maximize performance to benefit teammates, fellow organization members and the Hudson City Schools and; 5) to pledge oneself to a healthy lifestyle. **It is mandatory that the "Eligibility and Extracurricular Code Agreement" be signed by the student in order for the student to be eligible to participate.**

Role of Coaches and Advisors

Coaches and advisors recognize that they are role models and that they are the second most integral component in communicating direct, positive messages about tobacco, alcohol and other drug-free participation in activities in what they say and do. Coaches and advisors, as employees of the Hudson City Schools, will adhere to all expectations and possible consequences and follow through with recognition of a violation, confrontation of a violation and consequences of a violation no matter how detrimental it would be to team or organization activity and/or success. In addition, all coaches and advisors will commit to devoting a minimum of 5-10 minutes weekly during their activity time to directly addressing the issue of making healthy choices with their participants.

Role of Parents/Guardian/Custodian

Parents recognize that extracurricular participation is an elective privilege and that they are the primary role models and the most integral component in communicating direct, positive messages about tobacco, alcohol and other drug-free participation in activities in what they say and do. Parents recognize that they will support alcohol-free, tobacco-free, and drug-free participation by their students and they will consistently follow through with consequences for not adhering to these expectations and this policy. Parents recognize that the health, well-being and educational success of their students always are more important than any participation in extracurricular activities. **It is mandatory that the "Eligibility and Extracurricular Code Agreement" be signed by a parent/guardian/custodian in order for the student to be eligible to participate.**

Role of the Administration

The administration recognizes that student use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs is dangerous, harmful, and unlawful. The administration recognizes that they are role models and another integral component in communicating direct, positive messages about tobacco-free, alcohol-free and drug-free participation in activities in what they say and do.

1st Offense:

Immediate suspension from 33% consecutive regular or post-season games, performances or organization functions. ***In addition to suspension from participation, the student athlete/family must attend Saturday Family Workshop and complete the formal assessment process. Prior to formal reinstatement to contest participation, the student athlete must continue to follow the recommendations as set forth by the assigned case manager from the Student Assistance Team.***

1st Offense: Special Situation Self-Referral:

Student athletes who come forward voluntarily, prior to any violation or discovery, will have the opportunity to reduce their athletic suspension to 10% contingent upon successful completion of Saturday Family Workshop, a formal assessment, and the specific guidelines set forth by the Student Assistance Team.

2nd Offense:

Immediate suspension from one (1) year of the consecutive regular or post season games, performances or organization functions.

Subsequent Offenses:

Immediate suspension from participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of high school career. Consideration for future participation in extracurricular activities will be evaluated on an individual basis contingent upon documentation of rehabilitation.