

HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT



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The Interscholastic Athletic Program is an integral part of the total educational process of the Hudson City School District. It is a natural extension of the educational program. Participation in athletics is considered an opportunity and a privilege. Exemplary behavior is expected from the representatives of the school system; therefore, anyone participating in athletics is required to maintain a high standard of mental and physical fitness.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

Our athletic program hopes to provide athletes the opportunity to:

1. learn new skills and improve upon old skills
2. develop physical vigor and desirable habits in health and safety
3. have the opportunity to compete
4. observe and exemplify good sportsmanship
5. realize that athletic competition is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities
6. learn that violation of a rule brings a penalty
7. widen a circle of friends
8. share views about team improvements

#### **ATHLETIC TRAINING RULES**

The athlete is prohibited from:

1. The use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcohol, tobacco (including snuff, chewing and smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping products, or other tobacco products), illegal drugs, illegal performance enhancing drugs, prescription drugs not prescribed to the athlete, synthetic or look alike drugs, and any substance commonly referred to as a designer drug.
2. Illegal behaviors including but not limited to: drinking/drug parties, stealing, vandalism, assault or hazing.
3. Offenses resulting in arrest or the filing of formal charges in court. Athletes who participate in activities resulting in arrest or formal charges being filed in court may face additional penalties under this Code, the district's Code of Conduct, and/or other district Codes and Policies. If the district has adequate and competent evidence that the student participated in the offense for which he or she is charged and that offense violates the district's Code of Conduct or any other district Code or Policy, a penalty may be imposed according to the relevant Code or Policy prior to completion of the criminal proceeding. If the district does not have such evidence and the student is convicted of a crime, the penalty pursuant to this Code will be imposed upon conviction. In those cases, the athlete will continue to participate in his/her sport until resolution of the matter by the judicial system.

**DUE PROCESS-** Prior to imposition of the penalty, the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator will notify the athlete of the nature of the infraction and the student will be given an opportunity to explain his or her side of the story.

**APPEAL PROCEDURE-** THE STUDENT AND/OR PARENT/GUARDIAN HAVE THE RIGHT OT APPEAL ATHLETIC PENALITES TO THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC COORDINATOR. APPEALS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING WITHIN THREE DAYS OF ASSIGNMENT OF A PENALTY FOR A CODE VIOLATION. WITHIN THREE DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE LETTER BY THE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC COORDINATOR, HE/SHE WILL RESPOND TO THE APPEAL.

#### **VIOLATION OF TRAINING RULES**

The Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator will investigate reports of violations outside of the school day generated by district personnel or other community member who are reliable, objective and competent. Any report will result in the following:

1. A written report will be generated. This information will be shared with the building principal.
2. After meeting with the alleged violator, the Building Principal with the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator will investigate the alleged violation and issue a determination.
3. If the report is found to be accurate the penalties outlined below will take effect after any school suspension is applied.
  - First offense in an athletic season– The athlete will be suspended from 20% of the remaining regular season games (a 2 game minimum). If there are not enough games remaining in the season, post-season games will be included. A suspension will carry from one season to another if needed. Athletes will be encouraged to attend counseling regarding the violation with a school based counselor.
  - Second offense in an athletic season–The athlete is suspended for the remainder of the current season and the next 2 seasons. The student may reenter play the next year in the season in which the violation was committed. Example: violation occurs during winter season 2013, student must sit out remainder of winter season 2013, all of spring season 2014, all of following fall season 2014. Student may reenter sports program in winter season 2014.
4. Violations of Student Handbook due to violent behavior, disrespectful behavior or insubordination that result in out of school

suspension or full day in school suspension will result in the following:

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> offense in a season- student will serve a 1 game suspension immediately following return to school
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense in a season- student will sit out remaining 20% of games for that season immediately following return to school.
  - c. 3<sup>rd</sup> offense in a season- student is removed from the team.
5. **The Superintendent of the Hudson City School District reserves the right to dismiss any athlete for conduct unbecoming a student athlete in the Hudson City School District.**

**Students and their parents have the right to appeal decisions as outlined in the student handbook**

#### **Self-Referral:**

An athlete who requests assistance with a problem prior to any violation will be directed to assistance. He/She will not be suspended from competition. A one-year probationary period becomes effective and a future violation will be treated as a first offense.

### **TEAM STANDARDS**

In addition to observing regular school policies that are in effect at all times, Athletes must:

1. Attend all practices, contests and team events unless excused by the coach.
2. Follow specific rules set up by the coach
  - a. First offense of #1 or #2 will result in athlete not starting the next contest
  - b. Second offense will result in a one game suspension
  - c. Third offense will result in a 2 game suspension
  - d. Any further offenses will be referred to the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator and Principal for action which may include immediate removal from a team.
3. Never provoke, cause or engage in a fight or hazing whether in person or using social media.
4. Never engage in any activity that may cause criticism of his/her team or school whether in person or using social media.
5. Never be disrespectful to coaches or officials.
  - a. First offense to #3, 4, or 5 will result in a one game suspension
  - b. Second offense will result in a 2 game suspension
  - c. Third offense will be referred to the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator and Principal for further action which may include immediate removal from a team.
6. Never wear jewelry during practice or games (exceptions must be approved by School District and Section II). Penalty imposed by Section II

Continued violations may result in dismissal from the team. **If an athlete is dismissed from a team the athlete, parents, and Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator must meet before that athlete can try out for another team**

### **STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

Students must be present in school no later than 8:30 a.m. Anyone entering after 8:30 a.m. without a legal excuse (medical, legal, religious) will not be eligible to practice or play that day. Any illegal absence from study hall or class will result in ineligibility for the day. If a team member is on suspension or detention for any disciplinary infractions, they will not be able to practice or play that day. Repeated offenses may result in dismissal from the team.

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

**Winter and Spring Sports:** All grades will be checked at the progress report and quarter mark. Students failing two classes on the progress report or quarter mark will be deemed ineligible until the next progress report or quarter mark. Failing grades are grades that are below 65% or an "F" if the class is Pass/Fail. If a student is deemed ineligible, they will be allowed to participate in practices only, but may not participate in games, competitions, or other activities for five weeks. During this period the student cannot dress, travel with the team to competitions or sit with the team. The student may attend home games and competitions. The student must attend 90 minutes of extra help sessions per week with any teacher, (but preferably with teachers that the student is having difficulty with) if deemed ineligible. Students ineligible must pick up a teacher sign off sheet at the beginning of the week and turn it in at the end of the week. The teacher sign-off sheet must include teacher signatures for the 90 minutes of work for the week. After a minimum of two weeks within the five week period, if the student's situation improves to where they are no longer failing two classes, the student may request reconsideration of ineligibility and be able to fully participate. However, the student will still be required to complete weekly extra help sessions and turn in teacher sign off sheets for the remainder of the five weeks. Students that request consideration must do so in writing to the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator and provide documentation that they are no longer failing two classes. The two weeks will begin the following school day after teachers are required to turn their grades into the guidance office.

**Fall Sports:** Eligibility for fall sports is contingent upon academic standing from the final course grades from the previous school year. Summer school can be used to achieve eligibility. In the event that a student fails two courses from the previous year and they are not offered during summer school, the student may begin the fall season as ineligible. The two week time period would be the first two weeks of school. If the student's situation improves to where they are no longer failing two classes, the student may request reconsideration of ineligibility and be able to fully participate. However, the student will still be required to complete weekly extra help sessions and turn in teacher sign off sheets for

the remainder of the five weeks. Students that request consideration must do so in writing to the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator and provide documentation that they are no longer failing two classes.

**A passing grade in physical education is required of all student athletes during each sport season. Students must change and participate in physical education each class period in order to play or practice that day. Not changing or participating results in ineligibility for that day.**

#### **EXTRA HELP SESSION RULES:**

1. Student is responsible for picking up and dropping off completed teacher sign off sheets each week. (Junior High students in the Junior High Office and High School Students in Room 29. Student must return completed teacher sign off sheets with 90 minutes of extra help for the week, by the end of the week. Failure to turn in completed teacher sign off sheet will extend the two week period to be considered ineligible.)
2. Student must get 90 minutes of extra help each week before/after school, study halls and/or during lunch. (Students cannot use class time towards meeting the 90 minute requirement.)
3. Student must complete 5-weeks of the Extra Help Sessions.

#### **Failure to follow the Extra Help Session Rules results in:**

1. The student being unable to practice or participate in any team activities for the following week. The student would also need to turn in the completed teacher sign off sheets for the following week to be placed back on the team.
2. Coaches have the discretion to remove students from their team for failure to comply with Extra Help Session Rules.

#### **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

According to the NYSPHSAA regulation, a pupil shall be eligible for interscholastic competition provided that he/she is a bona fide pupil enrolled during the first 15 days of the semester, is registered in the equivalent of three regular courses, is meeting the physical education requirement, and has been in regular attendance 80% of the time. Bona fide absences caused by illness are accepted.

The State sets regulations concerning daily attendance at practices and the minimum number of practices before being eligible for competition for each sport. Your coach will inform you of these rules.

Mixed competition: The deadline for those signing up for a team of the opposite sex is two months prior to the first day of practice. A letter of interest must be submitted to the Administration.

#### **DURATION OF COMPETITION**

A pupil shall be eligible for senior high school athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons of such sport commencing with the pupil's entry into the ninth grade and prior to graduation. A pupil reaching the age 19 on or after July 1 may continue to compete during that school year in all sports.

**Transfer rule:** A student transferring into the Hudson City School District or from the District must be approved for competition according to the Section II rules. Violations may result in forfeiture of athletic contests. Both coaches and the Athletic Director must approve any transfer of athletes between teams in the same season.

#### **QUITTING A TEAM**

A student, who qualifies for and makes a team, participates in one practice after making the team and then quits that team, will be ineligible to participate in any other sport during that season unless agreed upon by both coaches involved and the Interscholastic Athletic Coordinator.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Students will be transported to and from all away athletic events by school authorized vehicles. Parents may transport their child home after signing out the student with the coach. **Prior approval** by the administration is required for a student to be transported by anyone other than custodial parent.

#### **SPORTS PHYSICALS**

The school physician will examine all candidates for interscholastic sports teams as scheduled by the school nurse unless the student completed a physical with their primary care provider. The school physician will review sports physicals completed by the student's primary care provider. The physical is good for one calendar year. The school physician will review and sign pre-participation (general medical history) forms prior to the commencement of each sports season for all athletes and make final determination regarding fitness of students desiring to participate on athletic teams. Parents must fill out a pre-participation form and return it to the coach or school nurse. **The school nurse must initially approve the pre-participation and/or physical forms before a student is allowed to try out.** The school physician will review and sign weight cards for members of the wrestling team.

## SCHOOL UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

It is the responsibility of the athlete to return to the coach all clothing and equipment issued. Failure to do so will result in an athlete paying for the missing articles. If payment is not made, students will forfeit the right to receive any further equipment from the school, be ineligible for certificates and have report cards held.

## ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

Athletic Placement Process is for Middle School athletes being considered for a high school level team. This process is for those sports not offered at the modified level and occasionally for those athletes recommended by their coaches due to significant talent.

The Junior High athletes (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) must meet the New York State Education Departments Selection Classification Guidelines **before they may try out. Please visit [www.hudsoncityschooldistrict.com](http://www.hudsoncityschooldistrict.com) and click on the Athletics link on the lower left side of the page. Follow the link to Athletic Placement Process to access the process that is necessary to follow.**

## TRAVEL ATTIRE

On away trips, those students not wearing their uniform to the event shall dress in a manner that displays respect for themselves, the school and the opposing teams. Dress pants, khaki pants, button down shirts, sweaters are all good examples of this.

## ATHLETIC AWARDS

General requirements for awards: A player must complete the season although the coach and Athletic Director may make exceptions in unusual cases. The athlete must be a good representative of the school and team and abide by the Athletic code of conduct. Letters and awards will be given only upon the recommendation of the coach.

- Freshmen athletes will receive a certificate and a pin
- JV athletes in 1<sup>st</sup> year will receive a small H
- JV athletes in 2<sup>nd</sup> year will receive a pin
- Varsity athletes in 1<sup>st</sup> year will receive a large H
- Varsity athletes in 2<sup>nd</sup> year will receive a pin

## HUDSON JR/SR HIGH CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECTATORS

1. Spectators are an important part of the games and are encouraged to conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.
2. Spectators must at all times respect officials, visiting coaches, players, and cheerleaders as guests in the community and extend all courtesies to them.
3. Enthusiastic cheering for ones' own team is encouraged.
4. Booing, whistling, stamping of the feet within the bleachers, and disrespectful remarks shall be avoided.
5. There will be no ringing of bells, sounds of horns, or other noisemakers at indoor contests during play. Anyone who does not abide by this rule will be asked to leave the premises.
6. Pep bands or school bands, under the supervision of the school personnel, may play during timeouts, between periods, or at halftime. Bands must coordinate their play so as not to interfere with a cheerleading squad on the floor or field.
7. The throwing of debris, confetti, or other objects from the stands is prohibited. Offending individuals will be asked to leave.
8. During a free throw all courtesies shall be extended.
9. Courteous behavior is an expectation.
10. Spectators will observe the rules of the local school concerning smoking, food and drinking consumption, littering, and parking procedures.
11. **Spectators will respect and obey all school officials and supervisors at athletic contests.**

## HUDSON HIGH SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

Learn and understand the rules of your sport. Play hard; play to win but play fairly within the rules. Do not allow your temper to distract you from the fundamentals of good sportsmanship. Maintain self-control. Respect your opponent. Never taunt. Congratulate him or her at the game's end. Acknowledge good play. Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials. Decisions of the officials can only be questioned by appropriate team members in a courteous manner. Be an example for your school, teammates and opponents. A player who is disqualified from a contest for unsportsmanlike behavior is prohibited from playing in the next regularly scheduled contest/game. An intentional physical confrontation with an official or coach is any incident in which a player strikes, bumps or otherwise physically intimidates an official prior to, during or after a contest/game and results in the removal of the player from team.

## N.C.A.A REQUIREMENTS

Any student enrolling in a Division I or II College or University and interested in participating in athletics must meet specific eligibility requirements. You must be registered and certified by the N.C.A.A. Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse prior to participation. Please contact your guidance counselor at the end of your junior year for the proper clearinghouse registration forms or visit [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) and [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

## DIRECTIONS TO SCHOOLS

For driving directions to schools in the Patroon Conference, please visit [www.hudsoncityschooldistrict.com](http://www.hudsoncityschooldistrict.com) and click on the Athletics link in the quick links menu. Directions to all conference schools are under the "Directions to Patroon Conference Schools" link.

## HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

ATHLETE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(last name, first name)

SPORT: \_\_\_\_\_ LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: HOME \_\_\_\_\_

WORK \_\_\_\_\_

CELL \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the guidelines, procedures, training rules and consequences. I give my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to participate.

I have knowledge, understanding and agreement with the rules and regulations and have reviewed them with my child.

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that I have knowledge, understanding and agreement with the guidelines, procedures, training rules and consequences and I agree to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in order that I may participate.

Athlete signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_