

Student's Last Name: _____ Student's First Name: _____

**Moore County Schools
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

Participation in any athletic activity is an important part of the educational experience in the Moore County Schools. A primary goal of such activities is to teach students character and self-discipline skills that will enable them to develop to their highest potential. As role models for their peers and younger students, students who participate in athletic activities ("participating students") are held accountable for their actions at a higher standard than other students. Because of the public nature of the athletic programs sponsored by the Moore County Schools, participating students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect the high standards and ideals of their school and community. The participating student athlete becomes subject to this Code of Conduct upon the student's signature and date below and continues until graduation from high school. Participating student athletes are subject to this code at all times during the calendar year, including summer months, whether on or off campus. For summer month violations, any discipline or punishment imposed would go into effect at the next scheduled athletic activity by the student athlete. This Code of Conduct is, in addition to, any specific team/activity or regulations established by the individual programs.

1. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL *

The possession, use, distribution and/or sale of illegal or counterfeit drugs/alcohol, including possession of paraphernalia for ingestion of such substances by participating students is not acceptable and prohibited. If school officials receive credible evidence, such as a police report or criminal charges related to a drug or alcohol offense, or have a reasonable suspicion that a violation under this section has occurred, the school officials will investigate. If after investigation of the charges, school officials determine that the participating student committed the violation, he/she shall be subject to disciplinary action as outlined below.

Every effort will be made by the school and individual activity programs to make participating students aware of the detrimental effects of drugs and alcohol. Students and/or parents of students suspended under this section will receive information regarding counseling. Any participating student found in violation of this offense at any time while on any school premises, including activity buses or other school-approved transportation, will be suspended from further participation according to the Moore County Student Code of Conduct. All offenses occurring off campus will be determined as specified below:

First Offense: The principal will suspend the student athlete for a minimum of 20 days from athletic activities not including scrimmages. At the discretion of the principal in consultation with the athletic director and/or coach, the student athlete may/may not practice with the team during this suspended time frame and /or be allowed to travel with the team, as well as on the sideline or bench with the team *in appropriate attire*.

With the first violation, the student athlete must be evaluated by a drug/alcohol counselor as recommended by the school, must comply with all recommendations and treatment programs, and must furnish a negative drug test (at the student athlete's cost) prior to resuming participation.

Additionally, the student athlete must agree to be drug tested for a period of 365 calendar days following the violation of the drug and alcohol policy. He/she must agree to pay for any random drug tests selected by the school representatives.

Second Offense: The student athlete will be excluded from all athletic activities for the *remainder of his/her high school career* in the Moore County School.

2. TOBACCO USE * (Principal's decision is final)

Participating students found to have used tobacco while subject to this Code will be suspended from participation as outlined:

First Offense: The student athlete will be suspended for a minimum to **20 days from athletic contests, not including scrimmages. To be allowed to participate again, the student athlete must have completed an approved county counseling program on substance abuse.** At the discretion of the head coach, the student athlete may practice with athlete may be on the sideline or bench with the team *in appropriate attire*.

Second Offense: The student athlete will be suspended for a minimum of 40 days, not including scrimmages (if near the end of the season, the suspension could result in being served over two seasons). At the discretion of the head coach, the student athlete may practice with the team during the suspended time frame and be allowed to

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travel with the team. Also, at the head coach's discretion, the student athlete may be on the sideline or bench with the team *in appropriate attire*.

Third Offense: The principal will suspend the student athlete from all interscholastic activities for 90 days or the remainder of the season whichever comes first.

***NOTE: These rules are meant as minimum consequences. The principal, athletic director or coach has the discretion to increase the consequences as he/she feels is most beneficial to his/her athletic program or team.**

3. CRIMINAL CHARGES

A participating student athlete charged with a criminal offense, misdemeanor or felony, other than a minor traffic offense, will be suspended from athletic participation until further review by the principal and director of student activities. A student convicted of a felony offense will be immediately suspended from all athletic participation according to the NCHSAA policy. The participating student athlete as must inform his or her coach or appropriate staff of any criminal charges against them as soon as practicable, but no later than the student's next participation in any athletic event, to include practices, rehearsals, etc. Failure to do so may result in further disciplinary action.

4. SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS

In School: A participating student serving a disciplinary in-school suspension for a full day or days will not participate in any athletic activity on the particular day(s) the student is serving the suspension.

Out of School: A participating student serving a short or long-term suspension for less than the remainder of the year will not participate in any athletic activity for that suspension period. A student serving a long-term suspension for the remainder of the school year, a 365-day suspension, or disciplinary assignment either with or without the option of attending the alternative school, will not be allowed to participate in any athletic activity.

5. INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

A participating student athlete who engages in any conduct or behavior, which is inconsistent with the student's position as a role model or representative of the Moore County Schools, is subject to disciplinary action, including suspension as determined by the Principal. Coaches or school officials may also establish additional training regulations and rules of conduct.

6. REVIEW PROCEDURE

- i. A participating student may request a review of the disciplinary action by providing written notice of the Superintendent, or his designee within two (2) school days of the date of the Principal's notification to the student and/or parent. The notice shall state the review reason for review.
- ii. The Superintendent, or his designee, will review the record of the disciplinary action and issue a decision within five (5) school days of receipt for review. The Superintendent or his designee will inform the student and parent of the decision of whether to uphold, modify, or overturn the disciplinary action. The decision of the Superintendent shall be final.
- iii. Any disciplinary action, including suspension from participation, will remain in effect during the review process.
- iv. Failure by the participating student to adhere to appeal content requirements and timelessness as set forth will result in immediate dismissal of the appeal.

We, the parent/legal custodian and the student/athlete, have read and understand the Athletic Code of Conduct and agree to comply. We also understand that participation in athletic activities is a privilege and participating student athletes possess no property right to continued participation. We also understand that the student athlete is a representative of the school and role model to others at all times, whether on or off campus. The parent/legal custodian and participating student/athlete further understands that inappropriate behavior, whether illegal or not, may result in suspension from athletic participation.

Signature of Student/Athlete: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Custodian: _____

Date: _____