

Competitive and/or Performance-Based Student Activities Code of Conduct (Policy 7:240, 7:300)

Preamble

In order to establish the ideals of good sportsmanship and respect for rules and authority; to establish leadership, school pride, teamwork, and discipline; to provide conditions promoting health, safety, pride in the school and the individual, the following principles are established for all students participating in extracurricular activities at Warren Township High School. Participation in student activity programs is considered an extension of, although separate from the regular school day. **Participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege and as such carries substantially increased expectations, exceeding expectations applicable in the daily classroom environment.** By choosing to participate in an athletic or activity program, the student is choosing to extend his/her school day, as well as the expectations for appropriate behavior and conduct. This Extracurricular Code defines expectations of acceptable behavior and details the consequences which will occur when acceptable behavior is not met. As in any set of expectations, it is not possible to specify every conceivable situation. Therefore, the student participant may be disciplined for unacceptable conduct even if such conduct and the appropriate disciplinary actions are not specified in this Code of Conduct.

Principle I: Participation Requirements

The student must comply with the following requirements before the student participant is allowed to participate in meetings, auditions or any performance or competition.

- 1.1 The parent or legal guardian of the participant must complete an online permission form, accept the terms of the code of conduct and pay associated participation fees if applicable.
- 1.2 The student must be enrolled as a full-time student at Warren Township High School and be enrolled in a minimum of 5 academic classes.
- 1.3 The student must maintain passing grades in a minimum of five academic classes per week if participating in any capacity in a school-sponsored, school-supported extra-curricular activity participating in an IHSA sanctioned event, participating in competition or resulting in a public performance.
- 1.4 The student must have passed a minimum of five academic classes the previous semester to be eligible to participate in any capacity in a school-sponsored, school-supported extra-curricular activity participating in an IHSA sanctioned event, participating in competition or resulting in a public performance. Summer school may be an option available for those students who did not pass five academic courses during the spring semester.
- 1.5 Participants in any extracurricular activity must be in class every period to be eligible to attend meetings, rehearsals, practices, competitions or any other extra-curricular event. (No-count, medical with a doctor's note, and administrative approved absences are excluded).
- 1.6 If a participant is academically ineligible for three consecutive weeks or four total during a season, the student will be removed from the activity for the remainder of the current season.
- 1.7 If a freshman, sophomore, or junior student is ineligible they will need to attend one after school study table and would not be able to attend rehearsals, meetings or practices on that day.
- 1.8 Failure to attend a study table will result in the student having to attend the study table the following week even if they are eligible.

Principle II – Personal Conduct

Students participating in extra-curricular activity programs must commit themselves to the following:

- 2.1 Present themselves with a positive image through good grooming and appropriate dress.
Continued development of leadership skills.
- 2.2 Continued development of leadership skills.
- 2.3 Growth of a productive philosophy including leadership and an awareness of school and community pride while always acting in a FIRST CLASS manner.
- 2.4 Each sponsor will distribute written rules for his/her activity regarding attendance and expectations for participation. A copy must be turned into the Activity Director prior to the first meeting or event.
- 2.5 Curfew of student-athletes is the same as set by the Municipalities of Lake County.
- 2.6 All policies are to be consistent with the IHSA and North Suburban Conference.
- 2.7 All student participants that represent Warren Township High School must exemplify the highest standards of integrity and character, while in school and in the community.
- 2.8 Sponsors, directors and coaches will monitor and determine appropriate consequences to address personal conduct concerns.
- 2.9 Any inappropriate content discovered on a social media could lead to consequences within the Code.

Principle III – Participation Rules

The activity program is an integral part of the educational opportunity of all students. Insubordination, poor character, disorderly behavior or violation of District policies and rules are detrimental to the organization and to school spirit. Student participants must comply with the following participation rules at all times throughout the calendar year regardless of location.

- 3.1 Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages of any kind is prohibited.
- 3.2 Hazing is defined as any intentional or reckless act or ritual for the purpose of initiation into, affiliation, or maintaining membership in any organization, club, or team, or any action or statement that harasses, threatens, humiliates, or intimidates another student.
- 3.3 Use or possession of tobacco in any form is prohibited, including smoking of any substance which includes e-cigarettes.
- 3.4 Use or possession of illegal drugs, controlled substances or drug paraphernalia and any intoxicants is prohibited unless prescribed by a physician.
- 3.5 Any use of performance enhancing drugs as defined by the IHSA By-law 2.170 is prohibited.
- 3.6 Students may be tested after IHSA State Series events.
- 3.7 Attendance at an event where there is the illegal use of alcohol, drugs, or hazing occurs is prohibited.
- 3.8 The student participant must leave the premises immediately if any illegal activity is taking place.
- 3.9 Any involvement in an activity that could be defined as a criminal act or any involvement in a criminal activity resulting in police intervention (ex. acts of violence, criminal damage, hazing, harassment, etc.) is prohibited.
- 3.10 Repeat violations of school policies may result in a violation of the Code of Conduct.
- 3.11 Gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in a one or two day out of school suspension will be disciplined according to the sponsor, coach or director's discretion based upon the expectations set at the beginning of the season.
- 3.12 Any other violation of the School Code of Conduct that is determined to be gross disobedience or misconduct resulting in a minimum of three (3) days out of school suspension is a violation of the Code of Conduct.
- 3.13 The student participant must comply with all rules and regulations established by the school administration and the sponsor of the activity program the student athlete wishes to participate.
- 3.14 Inappropriate use of telecommunication devices capable of receiving or transmitting digital photographs as specifically referenced and described in the Student-Parent Handbook is prohibited.
- 3.15 Maintaining or being identified on a social media site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior will be considered a violation of the code.
- 3.16 Committing a hate crime is prohibited. Hate Crime: Every student is entitled to attend school free from harassment, threats or fear. Specifically, students should not be subject to hate crimes. Hate crimes are defined as: Any threat, intimidation, harassment, harassment by phone, harassment through electronic communications, assault, battery, aggravated assault, physical touching, vandalism, property damage, or any act which would constitute a violation of Federal or Illinois criminal laws, committed by reasons of the actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or national origin of another individual or a group of individuals.

Principle IV – Non-Compliance

Failure of the student participant to abide by the above rules may result in suspension from extracurricular activities and forfeiting the privilege of future participation as a member in any activity program or athletic team. At the time of a suspension, the student participant and parent(s) will be notified as to the reason for the suspension, the length of suspension, the requirements and expectations for improvement. Student participants are expected to comply with the Code of Conduct throughout the year. Violations are cumulative over the student participant's high school career. The following levels of discipline are in effect. Furthermore, students will be subject to the disciplinary rules of the District, including Board policies and procedures and the provisions in the Student Handbook.

- 4.1 Violations relating to drugs, alcohol, and inappropriate use of telecommunication devices (including being present where the illegal use of alcohol or drugs occurs).
 - 4.1.1 After a confirmation of a first offense, the student participant shall lose eligibility for 30% of the current or next season in which they participate. A student athlete shall lose eligibility for 50% of the current or next season if the violations occur on school grounds or a school sanctioned event.
 - 4.1.2 After confirmation of a second offense, the student participant will be suspended from extra-curricular activity participation for a period of one calendar year.
 - 4.1.3. If there is a confirmation of a third offense, the student participant will be suspended for the remainder of their high school career.
- 4.2 After a confirmation of a first offense involving drugs or alcohol, the student participant and parent or legal guardian must complete an assessment from an approved agency or hospital and successfully complete the recommendations from said assessment. This assessment is at the parent's or legal guardian's expense. Proof of the completed assessment and recommendations must be submitted to the Asst. Director of Athletics and Activities Coordinator. Failure to complete the assessment and recommendations will result in the loss of eligibility until the assessment and recommendations are completed.
- 4.3 Any student participant confirmed or committing the act of hazing will be suspended from extra-curricular activities for one calendar year from the time of the incident. A second confirmed offense the student participant will be suspended from extra-curricular activities for the remainder of their high school career.
- 4.4 Any violation of the IHSA By-law 2.170 will result in additional consequences by the IHSA, and may result in a suspension of up to one calendar year.
- 4.5 Any three activity code violations not resulting in either a one year suspension or career suspension already would result in a one calendar year suspension beginning on the date of the last violation.
- 4.6 Violations of training rules will result in disciplinary action ranging from suspension for a percentage of season to suspension for the remainder of their high school career. Any combination of training rule violations will result in the student athlete advancing on the discipline scale.
- 4.7 Any student participant confirmed or committing a hate crime will be suspended from extra-curricular activities for one calendar year from the time of the incident. A second confirmed offense the student participant would be suspended from extra-curricular activities for the remainder of their high school career.
- 4.8 Any student participant confirmed of a tobacco violation will be suspended from extra-curricular activities for 10%. If it occurs on school grounds or a school sanctioned event, the student participant will be suspended for 20% of their current or next season. A second offense would result in a 50% suspension of their current or next season.
- 4.9 Any student who participates in both athletics and activities who violates the athletic and activity code of conducts will split equally the suspension time between the two extra curricular activities.
- 4.10 Official self-reporting is the act in which a student, accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, voluntarily turns themselves in to the Asst. Athletic Director and Activities Coordinator for a violation of the Athletic and Activity School Codes of Conduct, school rules or school policies. Self-reporting must occur prior to school personnel or law enforcement officials becoming aware of the incident. This initiative, along with any act of self-reporting, **may** be taken into consideration by the Asst. Athletic Director and Activities Coordinator or school administration. Self-reporting is limited to the student's first violation of misconduct during their enrollment at the high school.

Principle V: General

- 5.1 If the percentage of the competitions or performances which remains after a violation of training rules is less than the percentage of ineligibility, the consequence will extend into the next season in which the student athlete participates.
- 5.2 Student participants are required to report possible code violations to their sponsor, coach, or director and/or the Activity Director.
- 5.3 The District reserves the right to impose discipline, in addition, to that specified by this policy for serious misconduct at its discretion.
- 5.4 In order to be eligible to participate in school-sponsored, school-supported extra-curricular activity participating in an IHSA sanctioned event, participating in competition or resulting in a public performance the student participant and his/her parent/guardian must attend a parent meeting at minimum once per school. Individual programs may also require participation in additional parent meetings in order to participate.

Principle VI: Due Process

- 6.1 A student participant and his/her parents or legal guardians will be notified by the Activity Director of the charges against the student participant.
- 6.2 The student participant and the student participant's parents or legal guardian will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge in a meeting scheduled with the Activity Director.
- 6.3 The student participant and the student participant's parents or legal guardian will be advised and notified in writing by the Activity Director of any disciplinary action taken as a result of the charges.
- 6.4 The student participant and the student participant's parents or legal guardian will be provided an opportunity to appeal the disciplinary action to the Student Activities Review Board (two building administrators and one activity sponsor) within three school days.

Parent Permission

1. The parent's or legal guardian's electronic signature on the online Permission Form indicates that you have read and understand the Code of Conduct and gives consent for your student participant to participate in the Warren Township High School extracurricular program and to travel with the school representative on necessary school trips.
2. The parent's or legal guardian's electronic signature indicates that you agree to be responsible for the return of all materials issued to your student in good condition less normal wear and tear.
3. The parent's or legal guardian's electronic signature indicates that you assume the liability and risk of the student's participation in the program and further agree to hold harmless the Board of Education of Warren Township High School District No. 121, its members, employees and volunteers, from the responsibility or liability for any and all personal injuries and damages and expenses which may be incurred as a result of participation in an extracurricular activity. The undersigned gives permission for qualified school employees, volunteers or a physician and/or medical attendants to administer emergency treatment.