

## WISD EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

### **Extracurricular Activities**

Sponsors and coaches of extracurricular activities, including interscholastic athletics and marching band, may develop and enforce codes of conduct that are more stringent than this policy and may condition membership or participation in the activity on adherence to that code of conduct. Extracurricular codes of conduct may take into consideration conduct that occurs outside of the schools' usual jurisdiction. No provision of an extracurricular code of conduct shall have the effect of discriminating on the basis of sex, race, disability, religion, or ethnicity.

Such codes shall be approved by the principal and the Superintendent before they are communicated to the students. Students shall be informed of any extracurricular code of conduct at the beginning of each school year or, in the case of interscholastic athletics and marching band, at the time the students report for workouts or practice that occur prior to the actual beginning of classes. Students and their parents shall sign and return to the sponsor or coach a statement that they have read the extracurricular code of conduct and consent to it as a condition of participation in the activity.

Extracurricular activity codes of conduct may include disciplinary measures related to participation in the activity, including removal or suspension from participation. If the conduct for which a student is removed or suspended from the activity is also conduct that violates the general code of student conduct and the conduct occurs while the student is not under the school's jurisdiction, the student shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

### **Extracurricular Student Code of Conduct**

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Waxahachie ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with one important difference; participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent themselves, but also other students and school districts when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the students to the community or public in any setting as a Waxahachie ISD student. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total Waxahachie ISD student body at all times and places.

An important goal of the extracurricular program is to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Waxahachie ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in extracurricular activities. Therefore, the Extracurricular Code of Conduct extends beyond the Waxahachie ISD Student Code of Conduct not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline.

A student is not required to take part in extracurricular activities, nor are they for graduation. Therefore, extracurricular activities are a privilege, and it is recognized that some of the expectations for participants in extracurricular activities will exceed the expectations for the general student body.

This Extracurricular Code of Conduct will include all students in grades 7-12 participating in extracurricular activities, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, three hundred sixty-five days a year.

It is possible that a student who violates the Waxahachie ISD Student Code of Conduct will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her activity supervisor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the Extracurricular Code of Conduct and may be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the Waxahachie ISD Student Code of Conduct.

Refer to the WISD Extracurricular Substance Abuse Policy in the Discipline Management Program Student Code of Conduct Manual for additional guidelines.

### **Conduct Expectations**

The following is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor.

Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however without both activity sponsors permission, students may not quit on sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active. Students removed for disciplinary reasons must wait until the conclusion of the previous activity. A notification must be sent to the Athletic Director or District Wide Supervisor.

Students involved in outside organizations are committed to the school program over outside programs, such as YMCA, club teams and select teams. Any involvement in outside activities that interfere with or affect performance in school activities without permission of the activity supervisor could be reason for dismissal from the team.

Student who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition between school and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as opponent's fans. Waxahachie ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough competitive play. Praise your opponents and play beyond your ability.

Students should arrive for practices, meetings, and events on time and prepared.

Students are responsible for use of all equipment and its return to the school in the best possible condition.

Students on school trips must travel to and from events with team or group. Exceptions may be requested in writing prior to the event through the activity supervisor. All paper

work will be initiated through the activity sponsor (acceptable request: church, school, or emergency).

Students who cannot be present for a practice, meeting, or event will be responsible for calling the activity supervisor as soon as they are aware they will be absent. Missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made-up; however, unexcused absences will incur disciplinary action plus a make-up. Excessive absences may lead to removal from the activity. Extended excused absences will be adjusted at the discretion of the activity supervisor.

Practice or competition may not always fall on school days. Failure to practice on these days will lead to disciplinary actions. Activities on Sundays are prohibited by the U.I.L. except injury treatment.

Injured or ill students, who are unable to participate, but are able to attend practice, meetings or events are required to dress appropriately and follow the direction of the activity supervisor. All injuries must be reported to their activity sponsor and the athletic trainer. Any injury not reported may not be covered by school insurance.

Students are required to show respect at all times to coaches, sponsors, and school personnel.

Student athletes will not wear hairstyles or hair colors that draw attention to themselves, or those that interfere with safety or performance of a particular activity. Male student athletes' hair will remain off the ears and collars and may not be longer than three inches. Sideburns will not extend below the ear lobe. Spiked hair, multicolored hair, dreadlocks, artificially colored cornrows, design cuts, or any hairstyle that is disruptive is not allowed. Male athletes will not wear earrings. Body piercing will not be allowed on students involved in extracurricular activities. The activity supervisor's decision of grooming and dress code will be final and unappealable. A copy of each activities grooming and dress code additional guidelines must be approved by a District Supervisor (Athletic Director for athletes and Principal for all others).

Students should follow the rules found in the Waxahachie ISD Student Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor. Failure to comply with the code of conduct could lead to disciplinary action or removal from all extracurricular activities. A list of disciplinary actions for violation of these rules must be given to the Athletic Director or District Wide Supervisor.

### **Prohibited Conduct**

Violations of prohibited conduct will receive the follow disciplinary actions.

- First Offense: Lose 10% of current activity or next scheduled activity.
- Second Offense: Lose 20% of current activity or next scheduled activity.
- Third Offense: Removal for one calendar year.

Any offense not reported by the student before the end of the next school day following the incident will receive double disciplinary action as stated in this policy.

Waxahachie ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:

- Any conduct resulting in arrest and/or citations other than traffic violations from law enforcement officers.
- Persistent misbehavior (list not inclusive) ISS, AEP, discipline referrals, using profanity, lewd or vulgar language, obscene gestures, fighting, hazing, vandalism, or damaging school property or any school district. Any violation of persistent misbehaviors may result in removal from the activity by a district wide supervisor. Discipline for persistent misbehavior will be handled by the activity sponsor and approved through the District Wide Supervisor.

Any violation of these rules will lead to removal from all extracurricular activities for one full calendar year.

- Violating the substance abuse policy regarding drugs.
- Possession or using any illegal weapons.
- Stealing at school or at a school related activity.

**Alternative School Placement:** If a student is removed from an activity for more than five days because of disciplinary reasons, the activity sponsor will establish re-entry requirements. A copy of re-entry requirements will be sent to the Athletic Director or District Wide Supervisor.

**Any excessive failure of classes:** Any student that has excessive failures for a continued length of time will have a parent conference and be placed on probation for six weeks. If substantial improvement is not made during this time then the student will be removed from that extracurricular activity and cannot join another activity until the previous activity is completed. Once a student has passed all classes he/she may go through a re-entry program to be reinstated to the activity.

**Removal from activity:** In certain cases, students removed from extracurricular activities will have the opportunity to go through a voluntary re-entry program to regain eligibility. The length of time missed will determine the amount of time spent in the re-entry program.

**In-School Suspensions:** Extracurricular participants placed in ISS will adhere to the same guidelines as “No Pass, No Play.” They will practice before or after school but will not be able to participate in outside competition until completing their ISS assignment. Any athlete that does not make up on these days for practice will be given an unexcused absence and an appropriate make-up.

### **Extracurricular Activities Substance Abuse Policy, Grades 7-12**

The Waxahachie Independent School District believes that student use of alcohol, tobacco, NCAA banned substances, marijuana, and illicit drugs is illegal, wrong and harmful. Consequently, the district has established a code of student conduct that prohibits the use, sale, possession, and distribution of alcohol, tobacco, NCAA banned substances, marijuana, and illicit drugs by students on school premises or during any school activity, regardless of its location. In addition, this policy covers student conduct during non-school related activities. Compliance with this code of conduct is mandatory, and students shall be disciplined if they are found to have violated this code.

The WISD also recognizes that participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right, under state and federal law. Students who participate in extracurricular

activities are well-known in the community and represent our school district at all times. In addition, these students are role models for the student body, and have a special obligation to conduct themselves in a manner that will not bring discredit to the school district and its student body. Therefore, the school district holds students who participate in extracurricular activities to higher standards than students who do not represent WISD before the student body, other school districts, or the general public.

The WISD believes that adolescence is a difficult stage of life during which many lifelong values are acquired. Students often need additional assistance in the development of positive physical, mental, and social skills.

The abuse of alcohol by our students is a serious concern in our community as evidenced by the ever increasing number of “Minor-In-Possession” violations registered and information gained through local surveys. The district therefore takes a firm stand regarding its expectations for those who represent this district.

Therefore, students who participate in extracurricular activities may lose the privilege of participation in those activities for any possession, consumption, distribution, or sale of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, NCAA banned substances, marijuana, or illegal drugs. This code of student conduct shall contain language that ensures that this policy applies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to all WISD students who participate in extracurricular activities.

A student can be found to have violated this policy only on the basis of credible reports from school district personnel, or law enforcement agencies. Credibility of the report will be determined by the principal or assistant principal. Criminal charges that have been filed against the student will automatically be considered credible. The student will have the opportunity to respond to the report in an informal, oral conference with the principal or assistant principal.

### **Rules**

THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY AT ALL TIMES, 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR TO ALL WISD STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ALL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

- NO POSSESSION, CONSUMPTION, DISTRIBUTION OR SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO PRODUCTS, OR NCAA BANNED SUBSTANCES WHICH INCLUDES “MINOR-IN-POSSESSION” WHICH CHARGES PENDING.

### **CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS**

- Removal from all extracurricular activities for a period of up to five calendar days to allow for investigation of the violation, if needed. These days will count toward the length of any suspension which is imposed due to the student’s violation of these rules.
- **FIRST STRIKE:** Removal from all activities for ten (10) percent of the scheduled contests that the student participates in if the student turns himself/herself in by the end of the first school day following the incident. Removal from all activities for twenty (20) percent of the scheduled contests that the student participates in if the student does not turn himself/herself in by the end of the school day following the incident. The student may still continue to

practice, and may be with his/her team at the scheduled contests during the term of removal. The student will not be allowed to suit out. As a condition of reinstatement, the student will be required to attend counseling with parents, guardians, or managing conservators in attendance and perform community service projects assigned by the supervisor of the activity. Consistency will be developed for all activities. Proof of participation will be required for re-entry into the activity.

- **SECOND STRIKE:** Removal from all extracurricular activities for thirty (30) percent of the scheduled contests that the student participates in.
- **THIRD STRIKE:** Removal from all extracurricular activities for a period of one (1) calendar year (365 days). All other rules with alcohol, tobacco, and NCAA banned substances violations are the same and apply as set herein.
- Any subsequent violations after the third strike of these guidelines will result in the student's privilege to participate in any extracurricular activities to be revoked for the remainder of his/her high school eligibility.

➤ **NO POSSESSION, USE, DISTRIBUTION OR SALE(S) OF A USEABLE AMOUNT OF MARIJUANA**

**CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS**

- **FIRST STRIKE:** Removal from all extracurricular activities for thirty (30) percent of the scheduled contests that the student participates in.
- **SECOND STRIKE:** Removal from all extracurricular activities for a period of one (1) calendar year (365 days).
- The student will be allowed to practice with his/her activity.
- As a condition for reinstatement, the student will be required to attend district approved drug counseling sessions. Attendance of the parent, guardian, or managing conservator is required.
- As a condition for reinstatement, the student will be required to participate in community service projects as assigned at the discretion of the supervisor of the activity and a re-entry requirement will be met.
- As a condition for reinstatement, the student will be subject to drug testing at the discretion of the district designee.
- **THIRD STRIKE:** Any subsequent violation of these guidelines will result in the revocation of the student's privilege to participate in any extracurricular activities for the remainder of his/her high school eligibility.

➤ **NO POSSESSION, USE, DISTRIBUTION, OR SALE(S) OF ANY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

- **FIRST STRIKE:** Removal from all extracurricular activities for a period of one (1) calendar year (365 days).
  - The student will not be allowed to practice with his/her activity.
  - Conditions for reinstatement will be same as described above for a violation involving a useable amount of Marijuana.
- **SECOND STRIKE:** Any subsequent violation of these guidelines will result in the revocation of the student's privilege to participate in any extracurricular activities for the remainder of his/her high school eligibility.

### **Monitoring Guidelines**

The high school and junior high principals are directly responsible to ensure that these guidelines in all activities, except athletics, are strictly adhered to. The District Athletic Director is responsible to ensure that these guidelines in athletic activities are strictly adhered to. Consistency throughout the district is imperative. No variance will be allowed.

The supervisor of the activity along with the coaches, sponsors, and all other district employees will be responsible to watch for violations of the above rules. A student can be found to have violated these rules only on the basis of credible reports from school district personnel, or law enforcement agencies. Credibility of the report will be determined by the principal or assistant principal. Criminal charges that have been filed against the student will automatically be considered credible. The student will have the opportunity to respond to the report in an informal, oral conference with the principal or assistant principal. Suspension decisions shall be based upon a complete investigation by school officials under the guidelines set herein and under the supervision of the Superintendent.

If the student is involved in more than one (1) extracurricular activity when the violation occurs, then the student will miss the percentage for each activity in which he/she may be involved. Percentage of games, events, or activities missed is the exact percentage. It will not be rounded up or down and could involve quarters, minutes, or partial events as the percentage relates to the activity.

A junior high student who violates these guidelines and has completed the required remedial procedures will be given a fresh start upon entrance at the high school level. No student will be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity until the acknowledgement of the rules and these guidelines has been signed and returned to the sponsor or coach by the student and the parent, guardian, or managing conservator.

### **Other Activities**

Students suspended from extracurricular activities under this policy shall not miss any academic class related to any extracurricular activity.

### **Procedures**

Any student removed from participation in all extracurricular activities under this policy shall be given:

- The reason(s) for the removal
- The time and provisions of the removal
- The procedures for re-entering the program
- Information on availability of counseling, as appropriate
- The process to appeal the removal

THE ABOVE PROCEDURES MAY BE AVAILABLE IN WRITING AND A COPY MAY BE GIVEN, OR MAILED TO THE PARENTS OF THE STUDENTS AS NEEDED.

**THE WISD EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY & GUIDELINES ARE LOCATED ONLINE AT  
<http://www.hs.wisd.org/athletics.htm>.**

If you do not have internet access or would like a hard copy of this policy for your records, please contact your head coach, sponsor, or the staff athletic trainers.

Please read the guidelines stated in the Extracurricular Student Code of Conduct, sign, and return this acknowledgement to the appropriate sponsor or coach of the activity in which you are participating. For athletics, this acknowledgement will be on file in the athletic training room after it is turned in to the appropriate coach.

*I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the guidelines stated within the WISD Extracurricular Student Code of Conduct and the WISD Substance Abuse Policy & Guidelines.*

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**Student's Signature**

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**Date**

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**Parent/Guardian/Managing Conservator Signature**

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**Date**