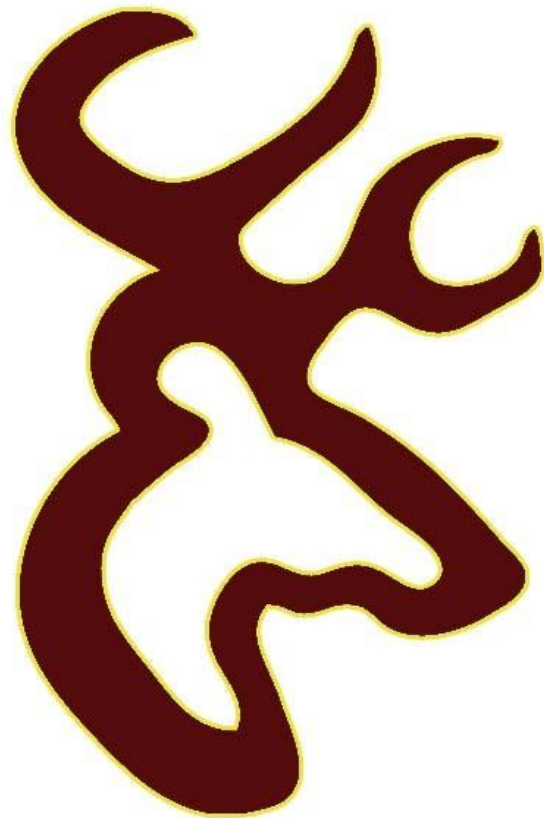


DEER PARK INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC



CODE OF CONDUCT

2018-2019

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DEER PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

The Deer Park Independent School District believes that being an athlete in this District is an honor demanding many responsibilities. Being an athlete is a privilege, not a right.

The following are expectations for our athletes:

- Be intense competitors during the contest while exhibiting good sportsmanship and courteous behavior.
- Display positive leadership.
- Aspire to the highest in moral and ethical values.
- Conduct yourselves as ladies and gentlemen.
- Show respect for others (faculty, students, opponents, and officials).
- Strive to obtain a quality education, keeping this as the primary reason for attending school.
- Develop and exhibit school pride.

As athletes in the Deer Park Independent School District, students present an image that reflects the District to both opponents and our school community. This image should be one of sportsmanship, competitiveness and pride through positive action.

Participation in athletics sponsored by the Deer Park Independent School District and the University Interscholastic League is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, all students taking part in the program shall conform to all rules contained within the Deer Park I.S.D. policies, the Student Code of Conduct, and the Athletic Code of Conduct. When any rules or laws are violated, on or off school premises, during or after school hours, the administration and coaches, at their sole discretion, shall have the right to deny the privilege of participating.

Coaches are responsible for decisions affecting the teams they coach. Such decisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Composition of the team
- Verification of eligibility of athletes
- Schedules
- Playing time for individual students
- Practice time (within the U.I.L. guidelines)
- Disciplinary action
- Awarding letters to athletes
- Selection of individuals to be recognized for outstanding performance
- Other rules not contradictory to the Athletic Code of Conduct

SECTION 1; STUDENT ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

PRACTICE AND GAME REGULATIONS ON THE FIELD OR COURT

Practice is an essential part of athletics and students are expected to participate except when injured or sick. During practices or games, athletes shall:

1. Consult the team coach as far in advance as possible when absence from a practice or game is necessary. Missing a game or practice without permission may result in suspension or removal from the team.
2. Avoid using profanity
3. Be a team member, not an individual.
4. Make every effort to see the trainer before school and not during practice time.
5. Refrain from the use of illegal tactics.
6. Understand that both winning and losing are part of the game
7. Understand that exhibitions of temper, flagrant rule violations, taunting, and unsportsmanlike actions will not be tolerated.
8. Game officials **MUST** be respected and treated with courtesy. Any discussion of decisions made by officials should be left to the coaches.

Any behavior that is contrary to that specified in the Athletic Code of Conduct, or any other behavior which is not conducive to good sportsmanship, may result in suspension or removal from the team.

SCHOOL VS CLUB EXPECTATIONS

Athletes that participate in both school and club sports should consult with their coach when scheduling conflicts occur. All school practices and games will take priority over club practices and games. An effort will be made to work with an athlete in club sports.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND GROOMING

As voluntary participants in the athletic program, students in the Deer Park Independent School District shall meet and maintain certain acceptable grooming and personal appearance standards. In addition to upholding the standards established in the school district's dress code, athletes shall set examples for the school and community in the area of grooming and personal appearance. It is the responsibility of each head coach to convey his/her expectations pertaining to personal appearance and grooming.

To be eligible to participate in competitive sports or practice sessions, athletes shall adhere to the following rules:

1. Hair shall be clean, well groomed, and styled in a way that is not distracting or conspicuous.

2. Remain clean-shaven. **Facial hair, including moustaches, beards, goatees, and extremely long side burns, is not allowed.**
3. Be neatly dressed, including shoes and socks.
4. School issued or approved clothing shall be worn during contests. No exceptions shall be made to the team uniform.
5. Male athletes shall not wear earrings and/or similar body piercing items at school or at school activities.
6. Comply with all other school rules relating to dress and grooming as described in the dress code policy for students.
7. Tattoos and body art of any kind must be covered at all times.

DISRESPECT TO ADULTS

Any act of disrespect by an athlete to a teacher, coach, administrator, referee, or community member shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension of one game or more and/or removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

DISRESPECT TO TEAMMATES

Any act of disrespect or hazing, by an athlete to a teammate, shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension of one game or more and/or removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

REMOVAL FROM THE REGULAR SCHOOL SETTING

An athlete who is suspended from school or removed to the DAEP or In-school Suspension (ISS) from the regular school setting for any disciplinary reason under the Student Code of Conduct shall be ineligible to participate (including practices) in all interscholastic activities during the periods of suspension or removal. A second suspension from school or removal to the DAEP or ISS during the same school year may result in removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

LOCKER ROOM

Safety is of primary concern in locker rooms. The following rules shall be observed:

1. No horse play (hitting, wrestling, throwing items, popping towels, etc.)
2. Maintain school equipment as directed by coaches.
3. Keep school facilities clean and help ensure their continued good maintenance.
4. Keep stereo volume at a comfortable level.
5. Music must not contain profanity.
6. No photography in the locker room; Do not take pictures or video, or pose for pictures or video while in a locker room.

TRAVEL

Because athletes represent the community, parents, school, and coaches, as well as themselves, proper conduct is expected on athletic trips. Athletes shall dress in accordance to school policy and athletic code requirements. Specific travel details are:

1. Be on time for all trips.
2. All athletes must wear school approved clothing when out of uniform.
3. Be mannerly and courteous in restaurants and other public places.
4. Be quiet and orderly on the bus to avoid distractions to the driver.
5. Show respect for opponent's facilities.
6. Travel with the team when leaving and returning except in emergency situations and/or when permission is given by the coach, the athlete may return with parents (parent signature required).

QUITTING

1. Discuss the situation with the head coach of the sport before quitting.
2. An athlete must wait until the end of the season for the sport that they are currently participating before quitting and joining another sport.
3. Turn in all equipment that has been issued by the school.
4. Forfeit the right to an award for the sport.
5. Will remain responsible for the Athletic Participation Fee.

SANCTIONS

Any student athlete who experiences a pattern of academic difficulties that result in ineligibility and/or demonstrates a pattern of classroom disruption, shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action including, without limitation, suspension of one game or more and/or removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

TRAINING RULES

The training rules apply to all athletes at all times throughout their school athletic careers. Violations may result in disciplinary action including, without limitation, suspension of one game or more and/or removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year or removal from athletics for a period not to exceed one calendar year from the date of the incident.

1. No use or possession of tobacco of any kind
2. No use or possession of alcoholic beverages
3. No use of any type of anabolic steroid or any derivative
4. No use of an illegal drug
5. No inappropriate use of social media
6. No profanity

It is the responsibility of each head coach to convey to his/her team the expectations and need for adherence to these rules.

SECTION 2; ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATIONS

The Athletic Director must be consulted when the following violations occur:

- Use of tobacco by an athlete
- Use of an illegal drug
- Use of alcoholic beverage
- Use of any type of anabolic steroid, any steroid derivative, or performance enhancing drug
- Any other such violations of which the head coach deems necessary to inform the Athletic Director

Infractions that involve alcohol, drugs, or criminal activity, shall be referred to the District Athletic Advisory Council for review. Punishment will be assessed according to Deer Park I.S.D. policy, Student Code of Conduct and Athletic Code of Conduct.

TOBACCO

Student athletes are not permitted to use or possess on or off school premises tobacco products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping, cigars, pipes, snuff, or chewing tobacco. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension or removal from athletics. The athlete will receive an automatic one-week suspension for the first violation. The second violation will be taken to the Athletic Advisory Council and the athlete will receive an automatic two-week suspension. The third violation will result in the athlete being suspended from all athletics for the remainder of school year or for a period not to exceed one calendar year.

DRUG OR ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS

Student athletes shall not possess, use, transmit or attempt to possess, use, or transmit, or be under the influence of any of the following substances on or off school premises:

1. Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by the Texas Controlled Substance Act, without regard to amount including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate.
2. Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage
3. Any abusable glue, aerosol paint, or any other chemical substance for inhalation
4. Any other intoxicant or mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-altering drug

If the Athletic Director or administration has reasonable belief that a student athlete is selling, giving, possessing, or under the influence of abusive drugs (marijuana, narcotics, steroids, crack, cocaine, etc.), he/she shall be suspended from the athletic program until guilt or innocence is determined. If the administration determines the student athlete has engaged in prohibited conduct under this

section, then the student athlete shall be sanctioned in a manner that includes suspension or removal from the athletic program for one calendar year from the date of the incident. If the administration determines that the student athlete has not engaged in prohibited conduct under this section, then the student athlete shall be reinstated to the athletic program. The administration shall make its determination of guilt or innocence in an expeditious manner. Sanctions for the prohibited conduct will be assessed notwithstanding any prosecution under the juvenile/criminal justice systems.

THEFT

Criminal theft or theft from other players, students, opponents, schools, or Deer Park I.S.D. school equipment shall not be tolerated. Punishment will be decided on an individual basis and may result in suspension and/or removal from all athletic activities for up to one calendar year from the date of the incident.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

School equipment is purchased for student use during athletic activities. The taking or wearing of athletic equipment which is the property of Deer Park I.S.D. on or off school premises at any time other than specified practices and competitions shall be considered a manifestation of theft of such equipment and punished as provided in the Student Code of Conduct and this Athletic Code of Conduct.

ALLEGED FELONY CRIMES

Any athlete who has been referred for prosecution to the juvenile justice system based on alleged felony level delinquent conduct or charged with a felony in the criminal justice system shall not be allowed to practice or participate in contests.

If the prosecution is unconditionally dismissed or the athlete is found not guilty, then the athlete shall be readmitted to the athletic program.

If the prosecution results in a disposition other than an unconditional dismissal or a finding of not guilty, then the athlete shall be removed from all athletic activities for one calendar year from the date of the offense.

INTERNET OR OTHER PUBLIC MEDIA DISTRIBUTION OR EXPOSURE

Students who participate in extracurricular activities may be suspended or removed from the activity if they engage in inappropriate conduct related to internet or other public media distribution or exposure.

- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student has knowingly and voluntarily allowed himself or herself to be photographed resulting in an image that is considered lewd by community standards or that depicts behavior that is sexually explicit or

suggestive or illegal as determined by the administration, and that image becomes accessible to the public irrespective of the means by which it became accessible to the public.

- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student has an internet site such as Instagram, Twitter or Face Book that contains any images that are considered lewd by community standards or that depict any behavior that is sexually explicit or suggestive or illegal as determined by the administration.
- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student sends any text messages or images that are considered lewd by community standards or that depict any behavior that is sexually explicit or suggestive or illegal as determined by the administration.
- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student sends text messages or post messages on social media that contain profanity or explicit language as determined by the administration.

ATHLETIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Athletic Council will convene in cases of alcohol, drugs and other incidences of serious misconduct. The Athletic Director may convene the Athletic Advisory Council whenever he feels it is warranted or when the potential action taken could result in suspension or removal of a student from athletics. The Athletic Advisory Council will be composed of the District Athletic Director, Head Coach, a campus administrator, and a teacher. Its function will be to gather facts, interpret facts, and render a fair and just decision in matters of athletic discipline.

If an athlete appears before the Council twice in the same school year for serious misconduct, that athlete, if found to be guilty of the second violation, will be suspended from athletics for one calendar year.

APPEALS

The Athletic Director's decision or a ruling made by the Athletic Advisory Council concerning a penalty assessed may be appealed by the complaint procedure outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.

An appeal of the Athletic Director's decision or a ruling made by the Athletic Advisory Council shall be entered at Level 2 of the complaint procedure outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF POLICIES

I have read and understand the Deer Park I.S.D. Student Athlete Code of Conduct and agree that I will abide by the Athletic Code of Conduct and all Deer Park I.S.D. policies.

Date

Signature of Athlete

I have read and understand the Deer Park I.S.D. Student Athlete Code of Conduct and agree that my son/daughter and I will abide by the Athletic Code of Conduct and all Deer Park I.S.D. policies.

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian