

2100  
CITIZENSHIP

A STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ATHLETICS IF, IN THE JUDGEMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL, COACHING STAFF, AND FACULTY, HE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SCHOOLS IDEALS IN MATTERS OF CITIZENSHIP, INTEGRITY, AND SPORTSMANSHIP. PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that his behavior be above reproach in the following:

1 . In Competition

In the area of athletic competition a real athlete never uses profanity or illegal tactics. He respects the person and authority of officials and coaches. Any behavior contrary to that which is usually accepted as good sportsmanship is a direct reflection on the school, team, and coaches and will not be tolerated. Violations of an immediate nature will result in removal from the game. Those of a serious nature will result in suspension and possible dismissal from the team.

2. In The Classroom

In the academic area, a good athlete strives to be a good student and is always prepared. He plans his time so that he gives sufficient energy to his studies to insure acceptable grades. He must also meet the eligibility requirements as established by the O.H.S.A.A. and the Evergreen Local Schools Board of Education. In addition to maintaining eligibility an athlete must give respectful attention to classroom activities and be courteous to teachers at all times. An athlete because of any misconduct may be removed from the squad until such time that his conduct is acceptable to all concerned.

3. In General Appearance

Athletes should set and keep a high standard of appearance at all times. Exhibitionism and radical departure in clothing and hair styles shall be avoided. An athlete's hair must be cut and well groomed at all times. The very simple standards of being neat and well groomed should not present a challenge to the disciplined and dedicated athlete. If this does create a problem to the individual athlete, he should not be involved in athletics. You may find that your requirements may be more strict than your non-athlete friends, but the rewards that you reap may be more beneficial to you.

2150  
TRAINING RULES

The most important goal of the interscholastic athletic program is to provide every participant the opportunity to grow mentally, morally, physically, and emotionally. To assure that the program provide these opportunities, a degree of self-discipline is required of each participant. Self-discipline involves compliance with rules and regulations concerning personal behavior. Rules promote order and safety, and assists participants to reach maximum performance potential.

The Evergreen Athletic Department believes that, due to their high visibility , the student athletes have a strong influence on members of the student body as well as the community. Their conduct, while representing a team, traveling to or from an event, as well as in the community, is seen as a direct reflection upon the athletic program and the standards of Evergreen Local Schools.

With this belief we set the following policy as a minimum standard for the Athletic Department of Evergreen Local Schools, fitting within the rules and regulations of the Evergreen Board of Education and the Ohio High School Athletic Association. It must also be remembered that participation in athletic activities is not a right but a privilege that will be regulated.

Compliance with the rules can help each participant learn values that carry beyond the extracurricular program and into daily living. In addition, research has shown that use and abuse of tobacco, drugs, and alcohol have harmful effects on the social and intellectual development of children and youth, and on their mental, physical, and emotional health. Therefore, regulations concerning tobacco, drugs, and alcohol will be in effect for all athletes and other extracurricular participants with the beginning of Fall practices while enrolled as students in grades 7 through 12 in any Evergreen Public School.

The Athletic Code applies to all student athletics in grades 7-12 of the Evergreen Local Schools. It must be adhered to by the student athlete during the full duration of his/her season including conditioning and post season tournaments. Consequences may extend beyond the school year into a new school year.

## I. DEFINITION

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| 1 . Athlete .    | Any student participating in an athletic sport as a contestant, manager, or cheerleader.   |
| 2. Sport Season  | The season begins with the first day of organized practice and terminates when that athlete is no longer eligible for State Tournament Competition as per O.H.S.A.A. handbook. |
| 3. Possession    | The custody and control of property.   |
| 4. Self-Referral | Seeking help before a violation is detected.   |

- 5. Drug/Alcohol Rehabilitation Program A recognized treatment program with a history of tangible positive results. (all cost of assessment, treatment, rehabilitation, or counseling shall be the responsibility of the athlete and his/her family.)
- 6. Penalty Carry Over Consequences carried over into another sport season or school year.

## II. ELIGIBILITY RULES

- A. Athletes must meet all eligibility requirements of the Evergreen Local Schools and any governing agency, such as the Ohio High School Association, including but not exclusive to those requirements pertaining to age, residency, attendance, and academics.
- B. All parents/guardians and athletes will be asked to sign an athletic agreement certifying that they have read the Evergreen Local Schools' Athletic Code and will abide by all rules and regulations. Failure to abide by the agreement may result in denial of participation from the team or all athletics. (Prevention of attendance due to extreme circumstances will be considered and a subsequent meeting with the parents, student athlete, and school will be established at the earliest possible date.)
- C. Participation in practice may be allowed at the discretion of the coach/ advisor, but the athlete will travel with his/her team and sit with the team during the contest. All training rules and requirements of the sport must be followed by the participant during this time.

## III. CONDUCT RULES & CONSEQUENCES

- A. Do not use and/or possess tobacco in any form (cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, etc.)
  - 1. First violation: Denial of participation for 20% competition dates. If 20% of the competition dates are not available this would extend into the next season the athlete participates in.
  - 2. Second violation: Denial of participation for the calendar year and no local post season awards.
  - 3. All additional violations during the school year will be treated the same as a second violation. This would include B and C.
  - 4. Any additional Training rules that the Head coach deem necessary( curfew, length of hair, ect.)
- B. Do not sell, distribute, use, and/or possess alcohol
  - 1. First violation: Denial of participation for a calendar year and no local post season awards.
    - a. If the athlete in violation agrees to go through an alcohol rehabilitation program approved by the school administration, and to follow the program recommendations, the denial of participation will be lifted upon agreement of the program. (Minimum of 20% competition dates will be denied.)

- b. Self-Referral Policy: If an athlete seeks assistance for dealing with an alcohol problem by self-referral to a coach/advisor and/or administrator and agrees to participate in an alcohol rehabilitation program approved by the school administration and agrees to follow the program recommendations, the violation will be a minimum of 10% of competition dates.

C. Do not sell, distribute, use, and/or possess drugs (narcotics, hallucinogenics, intoxicants, or counterfeit drugs.) controlled substances, or other intoxicants at any time. The only exception allowed is supervised, doctor-prescribed medications.

1. First violation: Denial of participation for a calendar year and no local post season awards.

- a. If the athlete in violation agrees to go through a drug rehabilitation program approved by the school administration and to follow the program recommendations, the denial of participation will be lifted upon agreement of the program. (Minimum of 20% of competition dates will be denied).
- b. Self-Referral Policy: If an athlete seeks assistance for dealing with a drug problem by self-referral to a coach/advisor and/or school administrator, and agrees to participate in a drug rehabilitation program approved by the school administration and agrees to follow the program recommendations, the violation will be a minimum of 10% of competition dates.

D. Do not engage in criminal activity or violations of civil law.

1. Recognizing the varying degrees of severity of violations (misdemeanors VS. felonies), consequences for involvement may result in minor reprimand to the denial of participation for a calendar year, depending, upon the nature of the offense. Consultation between the coach, A.D. and principal will be conducted before the denial of participation.

E. All athletes are expected to behave in a manner which reflects positively on Evergreen Local Schools and their team. Behavior which reflects negatively would include such offenses as:

1. Repeated truancy from school or class.
2. Acts of vandalism or abuse of persons or property.
3. Repeated infractions of school rules or chronic incorrigible behavior.
4. Abusive language, gestures, or profanity.
5. Behavior, attitude, or unsportsmanlike conduct at or during athletic contests, practice sessions or school sponsored events.

The penalties for violations will be determined by the coach/advisor and/or the Athletic Director and/or Principal. Denial of participation may result.

F. If an athlete participating in "Sport A" either quits the team or is denied participation for a violation, he/she is not eligible to join the organized conditioning program or try out for "Sport B" until all the other members of "Sport A" are also eligible. If an athlete is "cut" from the team before the regular season begins and not because of a violation, he/she will be eligible for "Sport B".

G. Comply with all additional training rules or other requirements set by the coach/advisor.

#### IV. Denial of Participation and Due Process

A. In the event of an infraction of these rules and/or training rules established by the coach the following procedure will take place.

1. The coach/advisor will inform the student (in writing) of what the infraction is and what discipline might take place.
2. The coach then conducts an informal hearing to allow the student to explain his/her actions.
3. If the coach denies the student the opportunity to participate, he shall inform the student and his/her parents of that fact in writing.
4. The student and his/her parents shall be informed that they may appeal the decision to the Review Committee.

#### V. Voluntary Referral Period

Students have the opportunity for a voluntary referral procedure to seek information, guidance, counseling, and/or assessment in regard to the use of possession of tobacco, alcohol, and other controlled and non-controlled substances. Voluntary referrals may be made by the student, his/her immediate family, or from a fellow student. Voluntary referrals will not carry violation consequences on the first offence only; however it be counted as violation.

To avoid receiving a denial of participation, the student must complete an assessment and follow the recommendations of any evaluation or assessment. Completion of all assistance requirements must be met within the time schedule established by Intervention Assistance. The voluntary referral can be made to the principal, athletic director, coach/advisor, guidance counselor, or the on-site prevention counselor. Voluntary referral cannot be used by student participants as a method to avoid consequences of the Athletic Code of Conduct and must be made within 72 hours of the violation. Voluntary referral must occur prior to any report of violations, and 72 hours prior to a random drug test. **Involvement by law enforcement officials negates the option of voluntary referral.**

The student may use the option of voluntary referral once in his/her career at Evergreen High School. Voluntary referral, which results in no prohibition from participations, is considered a first violation. Any subsequent violations will be enforced accordingly. If the student requesting the voluntary referral opportunity does not complete the assessment recommendations by the established time schedule, the violation consequence will be put into effect immediately.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the training rules and regulations of the Evergreen Local School District.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student/Athlete \_\_\_\_\_