

*Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau
School District*



**Athletic/Activities
Code**

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It is the policy of the Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District that no person may be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES CODE

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

The Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau School District believes co-curricular activities are an integral part of the Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau High School and Middle School curriculum. Therefore, the Board of Education encourages programs that expand upon experiences begun in the classroom that enhance the school climate.

One of the primary roles of the athletic department is to oversee the conduct of our student athletes. We urge parents to take an active part in the guidance and supervision of their son or daughter while supporting the schools in our endeavor to develop positive and productive citizens. Participation is a privilege and should elicit great pride in both the student and his/her family.

The Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect 365 days of the year, 24 hours a day, and 7 days per week. While the number one goal as a school district is to provide a sound academic experience for all students, co-curricular activities provide unique opportunities for students to promote their mental, physical, social and emotional development. Co-curricular participants who comply with this code of conduct demonstrate a desire to dedicate themselves to self-improvement as well as to enhance the best interests of fellow teammates, advisors/coaches and school. If accepted, this privilege carries certain responsibilities represented in this handbook. Violations of the Athletic Code will be reported to the Administration. The Administration shall investigate the alleged violation and make a decision based on the information gathered. Violations and subsequent actions will be reported in writing to the parents/guardian. An appeal by the athlete and/or parents/guardian shall be handled as outlined in the "Appeals" Procedures.

ATHLETIC / ACTIVITY CODE

- Activities Participation Agreement - All student participants must submit verification documents signed by themselves and their parent(s), indicating they have received the Activities/Athletic Handbook and are aware of the rules, regulations and policies regarding activities participation.
- Concussion and Head Injury Information Agreement – Each year, athletes and their parent/legal guardian must sign this agreement in order for the athlete to participate in a high school sport.
- Travel - All participants are expected to travel to and from the activities with the team and/or coach when transportation is provided. Participants may be allowed to use alternate transportation by having their parents complete forms provided by the school district. The school district does not provide transportation to practices.
- Specific Team Rules - Coaches or Advisors of individual activities may establish more specific rules for their programs with the approval of the administration. Any specific training rules and other regulations set up by individual coaches shall be written, on file with the Activities Director, and available to all members of the squad. Items that may be covered include but not limited to: conduct, actions, appearance, diet, practice attendance, curfew, etc.
 - WIAA, Conference and school rules will also apply to activity participants.
 - Coaches Rules may not supersede National, State, WIAA, conference or school rules.
 - Notification - Copies of specific rules will be provided and explained to all participants before or during the first practice.
 - Co-curricular activities may be restricted to maximum sizes, therefore it is sometimes necessary for teams or groups to make cuts when they are developing rosters. The following guidelines will be followed when cuts are necessary:
 - Before the first evaluation of the participants takes place, an explanation will be given to the participants outlining the expectations and guidelines of the evaluation.
 - Once final cuts have been made, a conversation must take place with participants that have been cut prior to any posting of the final rosters.
 - Equipment - The school attempts to provide both the best and safest equipment. Students are expected to take excellent care of this equipment. The care and maintenance of equipment will be the co-responsibility of participants and the school district.
 - Participants are responsible for returning the original equipment issued to them within 7 days of the close of the season.
 - Students will be held responsible for any lost, damaged or misplaced gear. Parents are asked to see that students return to school any athletic equipment not purchased by the individual.
 - Fines for the replacement of equipment or uniforms will be assessed when participants lose or do not return equipment that is property of the Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau School District
 - Fines will be determined by the Athletic Department based upon the replacement cost of the items that are not returned.
- Participation - Conflicts with activity participation shall be worked out with individual students and their coaches or advisors. These solutions must be agreeable to all involved or the participant shall make a choice of one activity. A student may participate in only **one** school sponsored interscholastic sport at a time.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES COVERED BY ACTIVITIES/ATHLETIC CODE

GROUP A

Dance Team
Interscholastic Athletics

GROUP B

Band (Pep, Jazz)
Drama
Forensics
Show Choir
Deca
FCCLA
FFA
High Quiz Bowl
Link Crew
National Honor Society
Student Senate
SkillsUSA

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES NOT GOVERNED BY ACTIVITIES/ATHLETIC CODE

Spanish Club
Tech Club
Robotics
Art Club
All Curricular Bands
All Curricular Choirs
Yearbook

Activity Participants Must Comply with:

Group A

WIAA Codes
G-E-T High School Activities Code
Coaches Rules

Groups B

State Organization Codes
G-E-T High School Activities Code
Advisor's Rules

A student, participating in more than one activity at the time, when a suspension is being applied, will be suspended from both group A and group B/C activities chronologically in order of occurring events using the combined seasons for determination of the suspension within the specific group.

- In sport/activity season violations – suspension begins immediately upon discovery.
 - If a suspension is served while a student is active in a group A and/or B activity and extends beyond the end of such activities, the suspension must be completed in the next participated respective group activity (Group A activity suspension must be completed in a group A activity and a group B activity suspension must be completed in a group B activity chronologically in order of occurring events).
 - Out of sport/activity season violations –suspension begins at the start of the next participated group A and B activities chronologically in order of occurring events.
 - Scrimmages do not count as part of the suspension.
 - Students must serve their suspensions at the level they are participating at. If students are participating in multiple levels which occur on different dates, the levels will be combined as one season and the suspension will be determined from the combined schedule of events they would participate in.
 - Suspensions can only be served on competition/program/performance dates they are eligible to participate in.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

The athletic code becomes effective when a student declares himself/herself to be an athlete. Any student who participated in any middle school athletic activity, or signed up with the high school athletic director or any high school coach indicating he/she intends to participate in high school athletics is a "declared athlete." On the last day of the 8th grade year, any middle school violations are not considered to be part of a student's high school record. Also, after the last day of the 8th grade year, any new training violations become part of the student's high school record, and are dealt with accordingly. * A high school student who has never participated in athletics before becomes a "declared athlete" when he/she signs up for a sport, indicating intent to participate. *Thus, training violations occurring in the summer following grade 8 are punished as high school offenses. In accordance with W.I.A.A. regulations

and conference by-laws, student-athletes in grades 6-12 cannot compete in non-school competitions in the same sport during that season.

TYPES OF VIOLATIONS

I. ACADEMICS

Students in grades K-12 will be expected to do passing work. Passing will be determined in each class at the grade reporting time periods. Teachers will report F's at mid-term and end-of-term for the ineligible list. The ineligible list will become active on the day following the published Guidance Department grade reports. High School and middle school teachers should provide students with grade information and inform the students of placement on an ineligible list. Parents of high and middle school students may reference information on the Student Information System-PowerSchool Parent Portal in respect to grades. Unless extenuating circumstances exist, students who turn in work, assignments, tests, etc. should have this work graded by the teacher who placed them on the ineligible list within two school days, with the purpose being to assist students in regaining a passing grade and eligibility. Eligibility for participation in fall sports will be based on fourth quarter grades. Students entering the 9th grades will be exempt from this requirement. Participation of students receiving special education services shall be in accordance with administratively approved IEP guidelines.

- A. Any student on the ineligible list, shall be ineligible for a period not less than 15 consecutive days in which school is in session. Special consideration may be given by the administration to students with exceptional difficulties. (Special Note: For term 1, the period of ineligibility will be the lesser of (1) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed competition in a sport or (2) one-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction.)
- ~~B.~~ Any student who is on the mid-term ineligible list will be ineligible for competition or performances until he/she is at a passing level in the class or classes.
- ~~C.~~ Any student receiving more than one "F" shall be ineligible until the next grading period.
- ~~D.~~ Students with incomplete grades will regain eligibility immediately if incompletes are made up within two weeks.
- E. A student may erase a second semester ineligibility status by making up failures during the summer months.
- F. Extenuating circumstances must be approved by the administration.

Clarification of Rules - If currently in season, the athlete is expected to practice and accompany the team, but is not eligible for competition. Any student-~~athlete~~ who becomes ineligible due to grades must complete the suspension period and demonstrate that he/she is passing all classes at the time of reinstatement and also at the time of midterm progress reports. Failure to meet this minimum requirement will result in additional suspension time until the requirement is met. Special consideration may be given by the Administration to students with exceptional difficulties.

II. DRUG, TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL USE, POSSESSION OR DISTRIBUTION

A student, grades 6 - 12, shall be subject to disciplinary action at any time for violations involving (a) the use, possession, buying or selling of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, banned performance enhancing substances** as listed by the W.I.A.A. including steroids, or any controlled substance as defined by state statute, [includes "non-alcohol beer" and controlled substance "lookalikes"] (b) attendance at events/parties where drugs and/or alcoholic beverages are being illegally consumed or used, and (c) flagrantly violating School Board policy on "Students Rights and Responsibilities". Exceptions to this rule would be (a) the use of alcoholic beverages in a formal religious ceremony or (b) the use of a drug legally prescribed by a physician for one's personal health. Any suspensions will occur immediately as per W.I.A.A. provisions following notification to the student by the Administration or their Designee.

Students who refer themselves to a guidance counselor regarding concerns about their own alcohol or other drug use/abuse, or students who are referred by parents or other students or friends, can be assured that such referrals are completely confidential, and counselors will not or cannot by law report such referrals to school administration officials. *The G-E-T board of education encourages students to seek this confidential help to deal with personal concerns.

If the participant self refers within 48 hours of an offense to the administration or athletic director the suspension will be half the penalty listed below. However, should the Administration or their Designee develop separate evidence about code violations, this type of self-referral would not protect this student from disciplinary action. However

*As per Wisconsin State Statute 118.126 Conversations with guidance counselors are confidential. **Androstenediol – Androstenedione – Nor-Androstenediol – Nor-Androstenedione – Dihydrotestosterone(DHT) – Dehydroepiandrosterone – Pro-Hormones – Pheromone – Masking Agents(Diuretics) – Peptide Hormones(EPO) – Insulin(for non- diabetics) – Phenylephrine – Ephedra - Ephedrine Student Assistance Program

In order to encourage students to do something to help improve their performance, a student's voluntary participation and completion in the Student Assistance Program will result in a reduction in the consequence for alcohol or drug related violation. The SAP

Coordinator sets the requirements, which generally involve individual counseling, participation in a support group and/or an assessment to determine if a chemical problem exists. Failure to complete the requirements will result in the full suspension being served. To be eligible to compete again, the student must present a "Completion Form", signed by the SAP Coordinator, to the Athletic Director and to his/her coach. If the penalty period has been served, but the SAP portion has not been completed, the signature will indicate that the athlete is working to complete the SAP requirements. Failure to complete SAP will result in reinstatement of the remaining portion of the suspension.

Penalties (Appendix A)

A. First offense / violation: The penalty will be 50% of the regularly scheduled events for that season. This can be reduced to 25% if the student participates in the Student Assistance Program for up to twelve weeks and completes the requirements as set down by the SAP Coordinator. If the suspension cannot be completed in the current season, the percentage that is not served will be rounded up and carried over to the next athletics season the athlete participates in.

B. Second offense / violation: The penalty will be 75% of the regularly scheduled events for that season. If the student has not previously participated in the Student Assistance Program this can be reduced to 50% upon completion of up to twelve weeks of SAP and the completes the requirements set down by the SAP Coordinator. If the suspension cannot be completed in the current season, the percentage that is not served will be rounded up and carried over to the next athletics season the athlete participates in.

C. Third and subsequent offense / violation: The penalty will be a one-year suspension. A meeting with athlete, parents, and counselor/SAP Coordinator will be offered for the purposes of guidance toward appropriate, professional intervention help for the athlete. School counseling, as appropriate to support the student, will continue. The athlete will be allowed to return to practices (but not competition in games) one month prior to the expiration of his/her penalty.

Special Note

An athlete "working off" his/her penalty in a sport (especially a sport he/she previously had not participated in) must complete the entire season in that sport, attending all practices to the coaches' satisfaction. The coach will determine by his/her signature on the "Completion Form", that the athlete finished the season in "good standing". Failure to complete the season in good standing will result in reinstatement of all or part of the penalty (Determined by the Administration).

III. ATTENDANCE – TRUANCY

Daily attendance in school is paramount to participation in all extra-curricular activities. The basic premise is one who is too sick to be in school should also be too sick to participate in athletics. Students must be in school and participate in class the day of a performance/competition or practice to be eligible for that day's activity. Participation in a co-curricular activity is not an excuse for less than full school attendance the following day.

- A. Students with a medical excuse may participate if the absence is excused by administration and provided the student is in attendance for at least half of the scheduled school day. (Written verification may be requested from physician/dentist)
- B. Students with a family emergency may participate if the absence is excused by administration.
- C. Students attendance mark as "Personal" for more than half the scheduled school day may not participate that day.
- D. Students attending a college visit may participate that day provided they show proof of the visit and/or have made prior arrangements with the attendance office.
- E. An athlete shall forfeit one performance and/or competition for each day, or part of a day, he/she is found to be truant during his/her sport season [s. 118.6 (1)(c)].
- F. An athlete shall forfeit one performance and/or competition for each offense resulting in either an in-school or out-of-school suspension which occurs during his/her sport season.

IV. GENERAL CONDUCT

Any student who is involved in any conduct unbecoming an athlete contrary to the ideals, principles and standards of this school and the W.I.A.A. will be referred to the Administration for action.

A. Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Other Unacceptable Behavior

Unsportsmanlike conduct and other unacceptable behaviors not specifically covered in the Athletic Code, but which are contrary to the spirit of the Athletic Code, are subject to an appropriate penalty at the discretion of the Administration, taking into consideration the seriousness of the offense, any harm or injury to person or property, the remorse of the athlete and any other relevant factors.

B. Unlawful or Delinquent Behavior

An unlawful or delinquent act that is a violation of any civil or criminal statute, ordinance, regulation or court order (except for minor traffic offenses) including, but not limited to civil rights violations, theft, vandalism, destruction of property, or other misdemeanors and felonies as defined by the Wisconsin Criminal Code. An athlete charged with an unlawful act, pleads guilty, pleads no contest, is

found guilty, or found to have committed a delinquent act by any court of law the penalty shall be:

- A. **First offense / violation:** The penalty will be 50% of the regularly scheduled events for that season. This can be reduced to 25% if the student participates a guidance program and completes a minimum of 20 hours of community service. If the suspension cannot be completed in the current season, the percentage that is not served will be rounded up and carried over to the next athletics season the athlete participates in.
- B. **Second offense / violation:** The penalty will be 75% of the regularly scheduled events for that season. This can be reduced to 50% if the student participates a guidance program and completes a minimum of 20 hours of community service. If the suspension cannot be completed in the current season, the percentage that is not served will be rounded up and carried over to the next athletics season the athlete participates in.
- C. **Third and subsequent offense / violation:** The penalty will be a one-year suspension. The athlete will be allowed to return to practices (but not competition in games) one month prior to the expiration of his/her penalty.

Special Note

An athlete who commits an unlawful behavior that is considered extreme or heinous by the administration will be placed on a one-year suspension. An athlete "working off" his/her penalty in a sport (especially a sport he/she previously had not participated in) must complete the entire season in that sport, attending all practices to the coaches' satisfaction. The coach will determine by his/her signature on the "Completion Form", that the athlete finished the season in "good standing". Failure to complete the season in good standing will result in reinstatement of all or part of the penalty (determined by the Administration).

V. DUE PROCESS AND APPEAL PROCESS PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The "Appeal Process" outlined below is the procedure for an athlete and/or parent/guardian to follow in appealing decisions relating to eligibility. All appeals must be made in writing and be received within seven (7) working days of the suspension and each appeal decision. The written statement shall include the reason for the appeal. The athlete shall be allowed to have his/her parent/guardian, and any other pertinent representatives present at the hearings. The athlete will be provided with an opportunity to testify and present other evidence on his/her behalf. Appropriate school personnel and any witness, as determined by the Principal, shall also attend and present arguments for suspension. A hearing on the appeal will be conducted within fourteen (14) working days after the Principal receives the Notice of Appeal. The appeal decision shall be mailed to the party requesting the appeal within five (5) working days after the hearing.

1. If an athlete is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the athletic director he/she can appeal to the Building Principal.
2. If an athlete is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the Building Principal he/she can appeal to the Co-curricular council. The Co-curricular council shall consist of voting members including a head athletic coach (not currently coaching the athlete), a non-coaching faculty member, and a co-curricular activity advisor.
3. If an athlete is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the Co-curricular council he/she can appeal to the Superintendent.
4. If an athlete is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the Superintendent he/she can appeal to the School Board. The School Board's decision shall be final.

VI. PARENT/ATHLETE MANDATORY MEETINGS

Each athlete and at least one of his/her parents must attend a fall or winter meeting scheduled by the Athletic Director to be eligible to participate in G-E-T athletics. The information from these meetings will be available on a video, a PowerPoint presentation, and/or printed PowerPoint slides for parents who are unable to attend the meeting. Following the meeting, parents and athletes must sign the pledge sheet agreeing to abide by the conditions described in the athletic code and the pledge sheet.

GALE-ETTRICK-TREMPEALEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC CHAIN OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Education believes it has the duty to provide open communications with the constituents of the school district. It also feels that many problems, conflicts and concerns can be resolved through a proper sequence of communication. Listed is a sequence of communications that needs to be followed to help resolve athletic issues that may arise.

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|--------|--|
| STEP 1 | Conference between athlete and coach |
| STEP 2 | Conference between parent and (possibly athlete) and coach |
| STEP 3 | Conference between athlete and athletic director (Coach may or may not be involved in the meeting) |
| STEP 4 | Conference between parent and or athlete and athletic director (Coach may or may not be involved in the meeting) |
| STEP 5 | Conference between parent and or athlete with principal and athletic director |
| STEP 6 | Conference between parent and or athlete and superintendent of schools |
| STEP 7 | Conference between parent and or athlete and the Gale- Ettrick-Trempealeau Board of Education. |

It is the hope of the athletic department that most conflicts and concerns can be corrected in step 1. Teaching our athletes to be self-

reliant and to problem solve, are desired qualities in today's society.

Amended: July 2019, July 2021

Appendix A

| Sport | Weeks | Max. Games | 25% Penalty | 50% Penalty | 75% Penalty |
|---------------|-------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Baseball | 13 | 20 | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| Basketball | 18 | 26 | 7 | 13 | 20 |
| Cross Country | 12 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Dance | 17 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Football | 15 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Golf | 13 | 16 | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| Gymnastics | 15 | 16 | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| Hockey | 17 | 25 | 6 | 13 | 19 |
| Softball | 13 | 20 | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| Track | 13 | 14 | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Volleyball | 13 | 18 | 5 | 9 | 14 |
| Wrestling | 15 | 18 | 5 | 9 | 14 |