

**WHITNEY ISD
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**



WILDCAT ATHLETICS

“DAY BY DAY THROUGH INTEGRITY”

Dear Parent, Guardian and Student Athlete,

Your child has expressed a desire to be in **THE PROGRAM**. It is a great honor to be a part of a team atmosphere and our staff is excited of the choice your student athlete has made. The decision we feel is one of great expectations and demands that are a privilege. By taking this step, we feel your child is more engaged in their grades, the campus and the community of Whitney. They represent a Program of integrity, character and self-esteem all through discipline.

These choices are unique and carry an obligation to uphold if they are to be a part of the Program. We look forward to truly working with your student athlete and giving them and you a great experience of success. It is truly an agreement and commitment of all three parties.

WE EXPECT:

1. RESPECT
2. ABIDING BY THE UIL POLICY
3. RESPONSIBILITY OF PRACTICE, COMMUNICATION AND TRUST
4. REPRESENTATION OF WHITNEY ISD ATHLETICS
5. ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Any violation of these basic expectations will result in immediate disciplinary action. We are here to put a product out to society that can function through great structure, tough love and respect for others. The motivation starts at the house, fostered through student athlete and polished through our staff as we will push for the finest.

The following hand book is for guidance and policies your student athlete will follow. It is also a guide for you as a parent on chains of command and hopefully guide you as well as far as what our expectations of your child is to be in the Program. Please read and review and if you have any questions, please know we have an open door policy to discuss.

Please know that your child's athletic ability is not a reflection of you, but their attitude is. If we can help in any way, lean on us!!!!

Thank you,

Mark Byrd
Whitney ISD
Athletics Director

WHITNEY ISD ATHLETIC MISSION STATEMENT

The Athletic Department and Coaching Staff of Whitney ISD, who are concerned with the total educational development of the student athlete feel that a properly controlled, well organized program can meet the needs of the student athlete through self-esteem, mental toughness and physical growth. It is our forge at Whitney ISD to have a culture of sound purpose, educational / physical and individual maturity.

We have an understanding, that as a program, that being a student athlete is a dual role, and it's a taxing choice. A student who elects to participate is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and sacrifice. Athletics is a privilege and is NOT a right.

Our Mission:

We will provide a positive athletics experience for all stakeholders. The aims of this program are to develop a high level of competition without losing sight of our values of sportsmanship, honor, integrity, commitment and team work; wrapped with the understanding that we are a part of the Program and its process.





Philosophy of a Championship Culture

The philosophy of the Whitney ISD Athletic program is to foster the culture of a Championship atmosphere. We obtain this through a dynamic program for students to be academically, athletically and socially recognized not only locally, statewide, but nationally as well. This Championship culture philosophy is built through integrity, discipline and effort. These habits permeate our program, community and will be lifelong built here in the Athletic Program. Through tough love, adversity, spirit and fanatical effort, this culture will thrive.

Building Blocks of the Culture:

Assignment

Alignment

Execution

Fanatical Effort

Finish

These building blocks are not just athletic, they are life blocks!!

WHITNEY ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

VOLLEYBALL
FOOTBALL
CROSS COUNTRY
BASKETBALL
GOLF
TRACK
TENNIS
BASEBALL / SOFTBALL
FALL / SPRING TENNIS
POWERLIFTING
CHEER



GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

- PROVIDE A CHAMPIONSHIP EXPERIENCE
- EXCELLENCE IN REPRESENTING SPORTSMANSHIP
- MAXIMIZE COMPETITORS AND NOT HARBOR PARTICIPANTS
- PROVIDE LIFELONG AND TEAM SKILLS
- TO BUILD SELF-ESTEEM, CONFIDENCE AND PURPOSE
- CREATE A DESIRE TO SUCCEED AND EXCEL
- TO HAVE VALUE AND WHAT YOUR VALUE IS WORTH
- TO STAND TALL IN PRESSURE AND THRIVE OFF OF IT
- HAVE A DAY BY DAY MENTALITY



DEPARTMENT OBJECTIVES:

- **ACADEMIC SUCCESS WITH GPA OF 92 AN ABOVE**
- **FEED A CHAMPIONSHIP CULTURE**
- **CONTINUAL EXPECTATION OF SUCCESS**
- **ELEVATE ATHLETES, NOT ELIMINATE**
- **EXPECT CHAMPIONSHIPS**
- **A LIFELONG EXPERIENCE THROUGH DISCIPLINE**
- **INVOLVE ALL STAKEHOLDERS OF WISD**
- **PROMOTE THE PRODUCT**

ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS:

- **ACADEMIC SUCCESS**
- **EFFORT**
- **INTEGRITY**
- **REPRESENTATION OF WISD**
- **ELEVATE DO NOT ELIMINATE DUE TO NEGATIVES**
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE - WE ALL GROW TOGETHER**
- **COMMUNICATION TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS**
- **COMPETE DAILY!!**

PYRAMID OF SUCCESS

TEAM

FAMILY NAME

COMMITMENT TO UIL PLAY-OFFS

CHAMPIONS OF DISTRICT 9-3A-D1 / 17-3A

WIN BIG GAMES ON THE ROAD LEAVE NO DOUBT!!

THE UNDERSTANDING WE ARE ALL WE NEED FOR WISD

WIN AT HOME & MAKE IT PERSONAL FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS

AN ATTITUDE, CHEMISTRY, FAMILY, ACCOUNTABILITY, DISCIPLINE

FAITH, WHERE EVERYTHING WE DO IS DICTATED BY THE MENTALITY

DAY BY DAY WE COMMIT TO WINNING THE DAY!!!!!!

BE BUILT FOR SUCCESS AND MAKE A DREAM
BECOME THE REALITY!!

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

All athletes must meet all requirements of the UIL for eligibility, current scholastic eligibility, physical forms and all UIL paperwork of acknowledgment. This will be kept in the Athletic Department and with the Athletic Trainer. This can be obtained through the Athletic Department and on the WISD Athletic website for download.

DISCIPLINE PHASE

The Student Athlete conduct will be stricter than the specified Code of Conduct for WISD. Misconduct by athletes will be dealt directly and immediately. Misconduct by athletes, which occurs under a coaches' supervision, or is specifically stated below will be subject to the disciplinary provisions of the Athletic Department and may be subject to the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct. Misconduct by athletes, which occurs at times when the athlete is on school property or at a school related activity and the athlete is not under the coach's supervision will be subject to the Student Code. The AD and Principal will review misconducts that violate both the athletic policy and the Student Code.

Phases:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Corporal Punishment under consent of parent
3. Conditioning Punishment - 400 yards of sled push in 20 minutes. 24-hour rule to finish
4. Game suspension
5. Team Removal

*** Please note, that this is our general policy and that some sports will have some policies built within, but will be cleared by the Athletic Director for approval ***

PERSONAL/ TECHNICAL FOUL AND EJECTION POLICY

Personal fouls in competition will be dealt with immediately starting with removal from the competition. This will be addressed as a teaching moment.

Player Ejections will result in 3 phases:

1. First time offense will be a half game suspension
2. Second offense will be a full game suspension
3. Removal from the team for the remainder of the season

*** All player ejections will be under full review by the AD, Principal and the Supt. ***

Improper Language

Cursing is not acceptable and will be dealt with immediately as deemed. We do not condone nor accept from the athlete nor the adult around players nor students.

Practice Gear

All athletes will be issued practice gear for work outs. This gear is to remain in the facility as we wash daily. Any gear lost will have a price tagged to it.

Dress, Hair and Jewelry requirements

In addition to the Student Code of conduct, all athletes will have groomed and managed hair. All facial hair must be groomed and not deemed as an attention seeking item. All earrings will be taken off as you enter the Athletic facility and will not be allowed at any point during game day travel. **Hair bands, dew rags and pony tails are flat and managed not to exceed the bulk of the hair. Example, NO MAN BUNS or EXCEEDING PONY TAILS**

Travel

Athletes are to travel to and from all events with the team. If there are circumstances you feel that your child needs to ride with you as a parent, you will need to have that approval of alternative travel signed off by the building principal and delivered to the Athletic Department a day before the event takes place. The athlete will only travel with the assigned guardian on file. Any athlete leaving without permission will result in a game suspension and will adhere to the punishment phase. **Please identify by Wednesday at 3:30 of any travel accommodations to the coach.**

Theft

The Athletic Department will assign your athlete a combination lock for use. Any athlete engaging in theft will be subject to the Student Code, dismissal from athletics for a semester and can be under review for prosecution.

Quitting and Dismissal

Any athlete that quits or is dismissed from the program will be out of athletics for a full semester. To be reinstated, you must meet with the AD, Principal and Unity Council for consideration. An athlete will have a full 5 days to make their decision on whether they want to be on the team at the beginning entrance to the program.

Detrimental Substances

Tobacco / Alcohol / Juuling and Paraphernalia

1st offense reported with proof, the athlete will have 20 miles and a 10% season game suspension. 10 games = 1 game. 20 game = 2 game, 29 games = 3 games.

2nd offense reported with proof, the athlete will be removed for the semester with a 30-mile re-entry and game suspension moves to 20%.

3rd offense moves to semester suspension and return under review.

Drug Possession

1st offense will be removal from the Athletic team until charges have been settled with the County. To be reinstated from the offense, there will be a 30-mile entry and a 2-game suspension.

2nd offense will result in an Athletic removal for a full year. A full evaluation process will be taken into consideration after a full year of removal

***** All other consumption or use will follow the Student Code *****

Social Media Conflict

At no time will there be personal attacks from player to player or the PROGRAM. Anything that would embarrass or break down the team is unacceptable. This is to include vulgarity, profane actions, videos or images. Proof must be brought to the AD. Immediate game removal and action to be taken per punishment phase review.

Grades, Study Hall, Ladder to Success

Grade checks will be enforced every 3 weeks with your student. Study Hall will be on Thursday's during lunch due to the Ladder of Success. If an athlete falls below a 72 they will be in mandatory Thursday lunch study hall. The athlete can get out after 3 weeks if above a 78 avg. Daily Study Halls and Tutorials will take place daily after school for the first 20 minutes as we start practice at 4:00 p.m.

ISS/DAEP PLACEMENT

All student athletes will practice on the day of placement in ISS. Game day ISS will result in the game suspension that day and will result in 20 miles of entry. If it is a diffusing period, then it will be under review.

DAEP placement will result in removal from practice and team competition until re-entry. At that time a 30-mile entry will be in process and go before the Unity Council for re-entry.

ISS day placement will result in 400 yds. of plate push, done in 20 minutes. (This is a 35 lb plate pushed on the football field) Done in one day. If not, it will be repeated. Subject to game suspension

PRACTICE / ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. If you are going to be late or absent you need to communicate it to the coach on the day. Non-verbal communication will result in 400 yds
2. If you are to be late due to another activity, communicate it. And if it gets into practice time, there may be make up due to conditioning. The make-up conditioning is a mile, sport specific.
3. All make up work is done after practice. It will be done before game time.
4. Unexcused absence will result in game time suspension and under review.
5. Multi-Sport athletes and Multi-members of the student body are to communicate to all parties their time constraints and have all parties involved.

PLAYING TIME

All Sub-Level team members will get playing time as long as they have been to practice. We want to expose an athlete to as many game time reps as we can as a program.

Varsity Level team members will be placed on the field to give us the best chance to win. There are no guarantees at this level of play as we push for post-season success.

CHAIN OF COMMAND FOR PARENT CONFERENCE

Your first line of communication per your student athlete is their position coach or immediate coach of the team. I ask that you approach the coach after practice in a closed setting in the office. Do not approach the coach after any game as there will be a 24-hour barrier so that emotions do not become part of the process.

If you feel you need further communication of your concern, please schedule a conference with the AD/Principal.

All parent conferences will include the student athlete.

___ Corporal Punishment (HS only)

___ Decline Corporal Punishment (HS only)

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Thank you for your commitment to WISD Athletics



Mark Byrd
Athletic Director

