



Northern Local School District

Student Code of Conduct

For purposes of this document, "**Student**" refers to the student athlete or student participant of any extracurricular group.

This **Code of Conduct** refers to athletics and/or extracurricular groups; and includes but is not limited to all sports teams, National Honor Society, Student Council, Drama, Band, Show Choir, FFA, etc.

Northern Local School Board Approved
February 20, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

Welcome to the Northern Local School District Extracurricular Activities program. This Code of Conduct has been prepared to be used as a reference by our students and their parents/guardians in an effort to define responsibilities as they pertain to the rules and regulations, as well as the policies and procedures for participation in our athletic programs and extracurricular activities. We welcome your interest, participation and support of Northern Local School District.

Lisa Householder
High School Principal

Tyrone Davis
Associate High School Principal

Ed Wolfel
Middle School Principal

Mike Rodich
Middle School Assistant Principal

Lance Dupler
Director of Athletics

The Northern Local Community supports the idea that ***student participation is a privilege and an honor***, which carries with it inherent responsibilities. Students have every right to express an interest and try out for our athletic teams, band, choir, and extra-curricular activities. However, it is a privilege to be selected as a team member; a privilege that can be taken away at any time. When a student accepts the privilege, he/she must live up to a Code of Conduct beyond that of the general student body, on and off school property and between sport seasons and academic years.

Northern Local School District

Athletics and Extra-Curricular

Code of Conduct

A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the athletic department and extracurricular activities of Northern Local Schools. The community, school administrators, and the coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program. The welfare of the student is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration.

All students shall abide by a code of conduct, which will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team, or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality, fighting or violations of law, tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with Northern Local Schools. **The Code of Conduct will be in effect twelve months a year.**

Eligibility

In order to be eligible, a student must be currently enrolled and have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period. During the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent, which count toward graduation.

Note: In addition to the credit requirement for eligibility, all Northern Local students must earn a G.P.A. of a 1.0 in the immediately preceding grading period.

Individual Rules

Coaches/Directors/Advisors may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective sports/groups. Infractions of team/club rules may lead to dismissal from the team. Penalties will be designated and handled by the respective coaches/leaders.

Basic Training Rule

Any student involved in the following:

- Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages in any form
- Use or possession of tobacco or tobacco related products (including e-cigarettes, vapes, Juuls, etc.)
- Use or possession of illegal drugs
- Use or possession of prescription drugs for anything other than their intended use
- Being in the presence of illegal drugs or alcohol possessing, buying, or selling counterfeit drugs, look-alike drugs, illegal controlled substances
- Vandalism
- Stealing or being in possession of stolen property

- Sexual harassment
- Hazing
- Harassment
- Violent/aggressive behavior
- Endangering the safety of others
- Verbal or physical abuse
- Inappropriate use of an electronic device (Examples: cell phone, computers, gaming)

shall be denied participation in interscholastic athletics and/or extracurricular activities .

Note: This rule is to be enforced twelve months a year.

First Violation of the Code of Conduct

Denied participation from athletic competition/club/group for 50% of the scheduled contests of that sport/group. Any remaining percentage of the denial of participation not served shall be applied toward the next sport/performance in which the student participates. The student must follow all rules and requirements of the sport/group/club including practice during the period of denied participation.

- The Student must take a drug/alcohol test before continuing participation in extracurricular activities. The complete and approved drug screen (*at their own expense*), must be with a NLSA approved testing facility. Test results must be sent directly to the school administrator from the testing facility.
A positive result will constitute as a second offence.

Second Violation of the Code of Conduct

Upon confirmation of the second violation, student will be denied participation for one full calendar year and driving privileges to and from Sheridan High School will be revoked for one year. (12 months) The student may be permitted to practice with coach's/leader approval. The student must follow all rules and requirements of the sport team, club, or organization during the period of denied participation. Note: Students in grades 9-12 found to be in violation of rules for the second time will be given the option of getting remediation, which may include diagnosis, counseling, or treatment as deemed necessary by appropriate professionals. After successful completion in a pre-approved remediation program, the student may then petition for reduction of penalty to one full season. Documentation of such treatment, including a written report concerning the treatment given and results of such treatment, must be provided to the principal or athletic director. All costs are the responsibility of parent or guardian.

- The Student must take a drug/alcohol test *each month* of the twelve-month calendar year during the suspension before continuing participation in extracurricular activities. The complete and approved drug screen (*at their own expense*), must be with a NLSA approved testing facility. Test results must be sent directly to the school administrator from the testing facility.

Negative results on all re-tests are required for the student to be possibly readmitted to all activity privileges. A positive result will constitute as a third offense.

Third Violation of the Code of Conduct

The student found in a third violation of the rules shall be denied participation and driving privileges to and from Sheridan High School for the remainder of their high school career. The student may petition the superintendent for reinstatement one year following date of third offense, contingent upon a showing of substantiated rehabilitation.

Team Captain

Any student designated by their coach/director as a team captain will lose their captaincy for the remainder of the NLSD school year upon violation of the Code of Conduct. This takes effect after a first offense of the athletic code.

Penalty Definitions

1. To calculate the percentages of penalty for denial of participation, the number of regular season contests/performances scheduled will be used for each respective sport/group/club. Post season contests will not be considered in the calculation.
2. When a penalty results in a denial of a partial contest/performance, the fraction will be rounded off to the nearest whole contest.
Example: 3.49 contests will be 3 contests
3.50 contests will be 4 contests
3. A suspended student who has a carry-over penalty into a succeeding sport/group/club must complete the season in that sport/group/club in good standing in order for the suspension to be credited to that sport/group/club.
4. For the purpose of this code, a contest is defined using the OHSAA guidelines for scheduling.
5. For the purpose of this code, a scrimmage/practice performance is not considered as a contest. It is considered another practice session.

School District Administration is not bound to the same standards of burden of proof as a court of law.

Appeals Procedure

Any denial of participation resulting from a violation of any of the rules may be appealed to the Sheridan Appeals Board. The Sheridan Appeals Board will consist of the principal, the associate principal, and/or the athletic director/head coach/advisor. The appeal will require the following:

1. The written appeal must be presented to the principal or athletic director within 72 hours of the initial ruling.
2. The student shall have the privilege of representation although this appeal is not a legal process.
3. The Appeals Board shall render a decision within one day in writing to the student and his/her parents or guardian.

Transportation

Students are required to travel to the function on the school bus or transportation provided by the school district. Each team member (managers included) must return on district transportation unless otherwise released by a parent/guardian. This release must be in the form of a written note by a parent/guardian, or by adding signature to district approved sign out sheet. Our coaches/advisors will only release students to their parents/guardians for the purpose of transporting them.

Sportsmanship

Students are expected to demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship at all times! Students are to display personal control under practice and competitions toward their teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, and spectators. In addition, it is understood that any harassment, racial or ethnic slurs said anytime, is unacceptable and will be dealt with.

Spectator Sportsmanship at Events

The Northern Local School District administration, athletic director, coaches, and leaders have agreed to make a strong and united effort in support of good sportsmanship. We agree on the following goals:

- Cheers at events should be of a positive, and encouraging nature in support of one's team.
- Fan behavior, which baits and derides other teams, individual players, coaches or schools is inappropriate and will not be tolerated.
- Officials in games/judges at competitions have difficult decisions to make and need to be treated with respect, whether one agrees with the decision or not.
- Students should be encouraged to use humor, creativity and good taste in support of their own team.

Goals will be actively enforced at all games/events home or away. Event supervisors may talk with offending persons and request they change their behavior, excuse such persons from the game/event or recommend disciplinary actions by school officials and/or law enforcement agencies.

Code of Conduct Pledge

As a student in the Northern Local School District, I am serving as a representative of my school. As such, all of my actions, whether in school or not, reflect upon my school. Therefore, I will strive to uphold the reputation of my school to the highest degree. I will strive to give my best effort at all times.

I have read and agree to follow the guidelines outlined in this Student Code of Conduct, and to accept the responsibilities of a student enrolled in the Northern Local School District. I understand that a violation of this Code of Conduct subjects me to immediate disciplinary action by the school district, which can include but is not limited to a suspension from all extracurricular activities and events.

Student Name Printed	Student Signature	Date
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Parent Name Printed	Parent Signature	Date
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