



# Code of Conduct for Athletics, Extracurricular, and Co-Curricular Activities

Revised July 12, 2016



**Code of Conduct  
for  
Athletics, Extracurricular, and Co-Curricular  
Activities**

## PHILOSOPHY

The Northern York County School District offers numerous activities, which are an extension of the classroom. The goal and purpose of these programs is to TEACH students the meaning and understanding of sportsmanship, commitment, fairness, sacrifice, teamwork, and hard work. Additional goals include knowing how to win and how to lose, increasing the knowledge of the activity, realizing potential, and developing a healthy lifestyle and skill development. The activities are laboratories for learning. The Northern York County School Districts school board, administrators, teachers, and coaches/advisors are committed to excellence and providing the best opportunities for students. The participants must keep in mind that they are often in the public eye and that their personal conduct must always be above reproach. They have an obligation to create a favorable image and to gain the respect of their peers and adult citizens of the community.

## EXPECTATIONS

In addition to the Northern York County School District Code of Conduct, the following rules have been developed for interscholastic athletics and all extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

1. Students are the responsibility of the coaches/advisors until the organization returns to the high school or middle school. When returning from a contest, students are expected to leave the premises immediately. No student may be released by a coach/advisor prior to returning to the school unless it would be to a parent or guardian with written notification at least 1 day in advance signed by the athletic director or principal. Participants are strongly encouraged to travel with their organization at all times. We are striving to promote team unity and loyalty.
2. Students will not practice or participate in any activity on the day of in-school/out-of-school suspension. Students may be dismissed from the organization for a second in-school/out-of-school suspension.
3. Stealing will not be tolerated and will result in immediate expulsion from the team/activity.
4. The students will be respectful and courteous during the playing of the national anthem and alma mater. Talking, laughing and horseplay will not be tolerated. The first offense is a warning. The second offense is suspension for 3 days; the third offense is expulsion from the team/activity.
5. The only excusable absence from practice, games or public performance is an emergency situation. The following are considered emergency situations:
  - a. A death in the family
  - b. Automobile accidents
  - c. Illness and not in school
  - d. Any other situation that may arise that the coach would consider an emergency.

Unexcused absences from practice, games or public performance will not be tolerated. An unexcused absence is any missing of practice or games in which the coach/advisor did not have prior knowledge of the absence. An emergency situation would be an exception to this rule. The first unexcused absence will result in suspension from practices and/or games for 3 days. The second unexcused absence will result in immediate expulsion from the team.

6. Equipment issued for practice and competition should be cared for properly. Loss or failure to turn in equipment at the end of the season will result in payment to replace it. Any awards due to the student will be held.

7. It is the student's responsibility to keep all facilities (home and away) as neat and clean as possible. This includes the student's personal locker and property.
8. Berating and criticizing officials will not be tolerated. Students should never have a dialogue with an official or judge. The only designated persons to talk to officials are the team captain and coaches/advisor. Being ejected from a competition will result in 3 days of suspension from scheduled activities. This suspension will take place over the days immediately following the ejection and will follow PIAA guidelines for athletic activities. A second offense is expulsion from the team.
9. The student must finish the season/activity as a team member in good standing to qualify for any awards sponsored by the school district or booster club. All awards will be presented at the end of the season. The coaching staff, advisors and athletic department will determine the types and numbers of awards to be presented.
10. The Northern participant must understand that he/she and his/her actions are representative not only of him/her self, but also the entire activities program and every other individual involved. Students are expected to represent Northern High School and/or Middle School, the community, and yourself in a positive manner. You are expected to show respect for all in authority as well as proper care for all school facilities, property, equipment and uniforms. Disrespect towards any member of the coaching staff, faculty and administration will not be tolerated. The first offense is a 3-day suspension from practices and/or games. The second offense is expulsion from the team.
11. Use of profanity is forbidden. The first offense is a warning. The second offense is a 3-day suspension from practices and/or games/public performance. The third offense is expulsion from the team.
12. **BENCH CONDUCT** - When you put on a uniform, spectators keep a keen eye on you. Show them what kind of team person you are. Demonstrate support and be prepared at all times to enter the game. During time outs, you are expected to listen and learn. Assist the managers if they need help. Horseplay, berating officials or opponents or fans and assuming a reclining position on the bench will not be tolerated. **DO NOT RESPOND TO FANS!!!!**
13. The JV team should cheer and support the varsity team and vice versa. Players are required to sit on the team bench with their teammates during games. Watching is learning. This is not a time for buddies and friends. Teams are required to stay and watch after their game is over. Only the coach can excuse you from leaving.
14. **Bus Rides** - you are expected to sit in your seat and get up only if necessary. The purpose of the bus ride is to get you to the game or public performance. Prepare yourself mentally while on the bus.
15. An athlete has not officially quit a sport until they have (1) talked to the head coach of the sport they are quitting, (2) handed in all of their equipment and (3) fulfilled all of their assigned responsibilities. Also, an athlete who quits a sport after the first 3 weeks of the season may not then participate in another sport during the same season. In addition, the athlete may not begin another sport, even if during another season, until they have completed all of the above.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

1. A student may not participate or practice for any athletic team or co/extra curricular activity unless he or she is in school by 9:00am the day of the scheduled contest or practice. If the event is on a Saturday or school holiday, the student must be in school by 9:00am of the preceding school day. This rule may be waived by the Athletic Director and/or Principal for extenuating circumstances. If a student leaves

school before the end of the school day and does not return to school, he or she must provide a medical excuse in order to be eligible to participate in any athletic contest or practice.

2. Students must demonstrate academic eligibility in order to participate in interscholastic athletics and co/extra curricular activities. The student must be passing four and one-third (4.33) credits on a weekly cumulative basis, starting with the beginning of the marking period. If students do not meet this standard they become ineligible for the following week (Monday through Saturday). Students must also be passing four and one-third (4.33) credits at the end of each grading period. If not, they will become ineligible for the first fifteen- (15) school days of the next grading period. The first time a student is ineligible he/she may practice but not compete during the time of ineligibility. For the second and subsequent periods of ineligibility (of that season), students may not practice or compete.
- 3.

### **DISCIPLINE**

1. **Controlled Substance Violation** – Participation in and attendance at extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, school districts are afforded broader discretion to enforce “good citizen” standards against students participating in extra curricular activities.

Students participating in extracurricular activities are required to abide by the Extracurricular Code of Conduct at all times (24 hours day, 7 days week, 52 weeks per year) regardless of location of incident and whether the student is actively engaged in the activity or not.

The following conduct shall constitute grounds for suspension from participating in extracurricular activities including but not limited to all competitions, performances, and practices:

1. Use, possession, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of any drug, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol as defined in Board Policy #227.
2. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (theft, weapon, assault, etc.) or interferes with school purposes.
  - First Offense = 21 Calendar Day Suspension (If the student is not actively engaged in the activity at the time of the violation, the extracurricular suspension will be enacted during her/his next historically participated season).
  - Second & Subsequent Offense = 1 Calendar year suspension

In order to return to competition and practice at the end of the suspension, the student must have successfully completed a Student Assistance Program evaluation or a comparable evaluation completed by an outside agency that has been approved by the school.

2. **Tobacco Policy Violation** - An activity participant who violates the tobacco policy of the school district will be suspended from participation for four (4) weeks. A second offense will result in an eight (8) week suspension; a third offense will result in a one (1) year suspension from the date of the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) violation.
3. **Other Circumstances** - Whenever other offenses occur pertaining to participants out of school and out of season, a committee consisting of the building principal, athletic director, advisor and/or head coach will review the individual situation and take appropriate action. The athlete will have an opportunity, if desired, to appear before the committee before final action is taken.
4. **HAZING** – According to Board Policy #247, hazing is defined as “any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a person or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition of continued membership in, any organization. The term shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding;
2. Forced calisthenics;
3. Exposure to the elements;
4. Forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance;
5. Any other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health and safety of the individual, and shall include any activity which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which is intended to or could result in humiliation, extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual; or
6. Any willful destruction or removal of public or private property.”

Any activity, as described above, upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with or continued membership in an organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be “forced” activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding.

Hazing of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in immediate removal from the team for the remainder of the season.

**Code of Conduct Signature Form  
for  
Athletics, Extracurricular, and Co-curricular Activities**

We have read the Athletic, Extracurricular, and Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct. We understand the guidelines, rules and philosophy of the athletic, extracurricular, and co-curricular program. In understanding that our signature does not signify agreement with all areas, it does signify that we will do all we are capable of to help follow and enforce these stipulations. Therefore, we are attaching our signatures below on this page:

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature:	Date
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Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date
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Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date
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