



# ATHLETIC MANUAL

2024-2025

## **THE ROLE OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS**

Organized athletics offers the school an opportunity to foster the physical, mental, emotional, social and moral growth of each participant. Through situations which arise during strenuous practice sessions and athletic contests, student athletes must not only learn how to react to their own capabilities and limitations, but how to appropriately react to the behaviors of others. These reactions result in physical and mental growth and change. Because of the competitive, emotional nature of athletic contests and the player's obvious interest in the outcome, they are more susceptible to change than in many educational settings. To ensure that these changes are positive, all phases of athletics should be expertly organized and conducted.

### **Philosophy**

The philosophy of the Kilgore Independent School District competitive sports program is to maintain a broad based program that will afford all students with athletic interests and abilities an opportunity for safe and healthful participation in the sports of their choice. This philosophy is based on the concept that there is a need for physical development and fitness for every student, as well as a variance of interest, abilities, and desires.

### **Objectives**

- Instill good habits, sound morals, exemplary citizenship, and a high standard of sportsmanship in the pupils of KISD.
- Encourage students to grow physically, mentally, morally, and socially.
- Teach students the values of hard work and sacrifice.
- Instruct students in the value of goal-setting and its rewards.
- Instill a strong desire to excel and win.
- To help students enjoy the rewards athletics has to offer.

### **Responsibilities of KISD**

- Provide safe transportation to and from athletic events.
- Provide excellent facilities to dress and train.
- Provide safe equipment and supplies.
- Provide clean, maintained athletic facilities.

### **Responsibilities of KISD Coaching Staff**

- Monitor the safety of athletes.
- Teaching skills geared to all sports with integrity.
- Teaching sportsmanship and respect for officials.
- Responsible for the overall discipline of athletes.
- Encourage and help students maintain their grades academically.
- Overseeing athletic tutorials when needed.
- Scheduling contests and travel arrangements.
- Proper procedures of the UIL needs and paperwork.
- Helping take care of equipment and facilities.
- Be a positive school and community role model.

### **Responsibilities of KISD Parents**

- Give positive support to your child and to their teams.
- Encourage your child to adhere to all of the rules and policies of their Individual sport.
- Encourage your child to attend all practices and contests.

### **Athletic Code of Conduct**

Athletics at KISD is a privilege, not a right. Each athlete is expected to follow guidelines and standards equal to and, at times, beyond that of a normal school student. Each athlete will be 100% accountable for his/her actions.

#### ***KISD Athletes will:***

*Strive to become positive role models at school and in the community.*

- Take pride in their appearance, in and out of school.
- Play extremely hard and give supreme effort.
- Play by the rules and play clean, but hard, at all times.
- Never give up, regardless of the circumstances.
- Learn the rules to their particular sport(s)
- Be in excellent physical condition
- Not use profanity
- Be responsible for all equipment issued to them through the athletic department
- Be on time for meetings, practices, and contests.
- Adhere to the dress code policies of KISD, all jewelry will be removed before athletic practices and contests.

### Chain of Command

Parents please use the following chain of command when dealing with issues, problems, grievances, and other situations that may arise. This will help speed up the process within the department.

	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact	2 <sup>nd</sup> Contact	3 <sup>rd</sup> Contact
KMS Girl Athletes	Team Coach	T. Harvey	M. Wood
KMS Boys Athletes	Team Coach	D. Swaim	M. Wood
HS Girls Athletes	Team Coach	M. Wood	M. Wood
HS Boys Athletes	Team Coach	M. Wood	M. Wood

### Athletic Discipline Plan

Normal daily problems that may occur will be handled by the coaching staff of that particular sport. These problems could include tardiness, attitude issues, locker and equipment issues, missed meetings and missed practices or violations of team rules and policies.

Any discipline problems deemed “of serious nature” will be handled jointly, through the head coach, athletic director, and possibly the superintendent.

#### **Criminal Activities:**

If a student athlete is arrested and charged with a felony crime he/she will automatically be suspended from the athletic activities until the case is decided. If the student is found guilty they will be suspended from all athletic activities for one calendar year from the first date of the suspension.

A misdemeanor offense will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the Athletic Director and possibly the Superintendent.

#### **Absences:**

Attendance - mandatory for all team functions. If unable to practice, dress out and take mental reps and support your teammates. If you cannot attend practice the student or parent will need to contact the coach before practice. Unexcused absences may result in removal from the next contest. Makeup conditioning/consequences for absences will be the responsibility of the head coach.

**Academic Progress:**

Coaches will monitor the academic progress of student athletes. In the event that an athlete encounters chronic academic problems, the coach, along with the Athletic Director will consider if continuation in the athletic program is in the best interests of the student athlete regarding their academic progress.

**Behavior on the Field:**

Student athlete's behavior on the field should be unquestionable. Athletes are on display. They not only represent themselves but their community, school, coaches, team and family. Inappropriate displays of anger or disrespect will not be tolerated. The student athlete must learn to deal with situations where things fail to go as they might desire. An athlete should never use profanity or illegal tactics. Any type of expulsion from a contest will result in some type of game suspension in the next scheduled contest.

**Classroom Behavior**

In addition to maintaining good grades, KISD athletes will be expected to give attention and show respect for students and faculty members at all times. Athletes are expected to not engage in inappropriate disciplinary behavior. Any athlete who consistently exhibits repeated poor classroom behavior will be reviewed and may result in suspension or permanent suspension from the team, depending on the nature and consistency of the problem.

**Suspension from School:**

If an athlete is suspended from school for any reason, he/she will be ineligible during the period of the suspension. Repeated suspensions will result in a review by the Athletic Director and may result in total expulsion from athletics.

**Dismissal/ Quitting:**

Commitment is the backbone to a highly successful athletic program. As the coaching staff and administration at KISD, we encourage athletes to "finish what you started". Perseverance leads to long term success in life.

An athlete, who quits one sport, will not be allowed to move into another sport until the completion of the season. Quitting multiple times can result in permanent removal from all athletics. The situation will be reviewed by the coaches involved and approved by the athletic administration.

## **DRUG TESTING**

### **Statement of Purpose and Intent**

Participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities in the Kilgore Independent School District (District) is a privilege. Students who obtain a parking permit or participate in extracurricular activities at the high school or middle school level represent the school within the community. They have a responsibility to conduct themselves at all times in a manner befitting their positions, which includes avoiding the use of illegal drugs.

The Kilgore ISD Board of Education has implemented this random drug testing program for students in grade eight (8) through twelve (12) who voluntarily participate in extracurricular activities at the high school or middle school level as part of the effort to prevent injury, illness and harm resulting from the use of illegal drugs; help enforce a drug-free educational environment and deter student use of illegal drugs. The Kilgore ISD drug testing program shall include, but is not limited to, testing for the following: Amphetamine, Cocaine, Marijuana, Opiates, Meth-Amphetamine, Ecstasy, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Benzoylgonine, Propoxyphene, Tricyclic Antidepressants.

### **Participation in Extracurricular Activities**

School-sponsored extracurricular activities for which testing is required include all extracurricular activities. In order for a student to participate in the school-sponsored extracurricular activities or obtain a student parking permit, the student's parent/guardian must consent to their student's participation in the random drug testing program. A student participant's name will remain in the random pool throughout his/her extracurricular career within the District. Therefore, a student participating in competitive athletics may be selected for a random drug test during his/her "off season." Students are randomly selected from among other student participants at the same school. As a result, a particular student might be selected more than once, while another student may not be selected at all. A student who is randomly selected will be privately notified to report to a designated site at his/her school to provide a urine sample for drug testing. A licensed professional from a state-approved, certified drug testing agency will conduct all sample collection. If a student refuses to provide a sample at the time of collection, or provides an adulterated or fraudulent sample it will be counted as a positive test. If a test result is positive, parents will be contacted by a school administrator, and given an opportunity to discuss the test results. If a student's test is positive, he/she will be subject to the consequences outlined in District Policy FNF (Local).

**Consent of Parent/Legal Guardian:**

1. I hereby consent to have my son/daughter undergo urinalysis testing for the presence of drugs or alcohol in accordance with the KISD Drug Testing Policy.
2. I understand that this testing will occur according to the guidelines of the KISD Drug Testing Policy.
3. I understand that any urine sample taken for drug testing will be sent only to a certified medical laboratory for actual testing.
4. I hereby give my consent for the medical laboratory selected by the Kilgore ISD Board of Education, its doctors, employees, or agents, together with any clinic, hospital, or laboratory designated by the selected medical laboratory, to perform urinalysis testing on my son / daughter for the detection of drugs.
5. I further give my permission to the medical laboratory selected by the Kilgore ISD Board of Education, its doctors, employees, or agents, to release all results of these tests to designated School District employees or agents.
6. I hereby release, waive, and discharge the Kilgore ISD Board of Education, its individual members, employees, agents and anyone acting on its behalf from any and all liability claims, or causes of action arising from or related to the urinalysis drug / alcohol testing for the athletic participation and / or the release of related information as authorized in this form and in the Drug Testing Policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian's Name (Print)      Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature      Date

**Student:**

I understand and agree to abide by this policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (Print)      Student's Signature      Date

**Anticipated Extracurricular Activities:**

Please provide a list of activities in which you plan to participate. This list is for information purposes only and neither obligates you nor prevents you from participating in other activities.

**A consent form must be completed at least annually.**

I have received a copy of the Athletic Handbook and Code of Conduct. I understand that all students will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

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Name of Student (Please print)

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Signature of Student

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date\_\_\_\_\_ School\_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level\_\_\_\_\_