

**Junction  
Independent School District**



**2023-2024  
Athletic Policy**

Prepared by:  
Athletic Director: Scott Freeman

## Junction ISD Athletic Code

Athletics is a privilege, so we expect you to uphold the great reputation that Junction ISD portrays. The Junction ISD athletic code was written to promote excellence and to establish a consequence if an athlete breaks a rule in our policy. We hope this never happens; however, if this does occur, we will administer to the prescribed discipline. We ask that our athletes work hard to follow our athletic policy.

**Please understand that each situation that occurs throughout the school year is unique. We as a coaching staff will try to make this policy as fair as possible to each student. Any situations and issues that may not be addressed in this policy will be handled on a case to case basis**

1. **Athletic Period:** A student athlete must participate in at least one sport to be in the athletic period. All athletes that plan to compete in: volleyball, football, basketball, baseball/softball, and/or track, must be enrolled in the athletic period prior to the start of the school year.
  - a. **Cross Country, Powerlifting, Golf and Tennis.** Students do not have to be in the athletic period if they only compete in these individual sports. Students must still abide by the athletic code if they compete for Junction ISD in any capacity.
2. **Failure of random drug testing:** We will follow the Junction ISD code of conduct for punishment.
3. **Theft:** Taking things that do not belong to you will not be tolerated. The person caught will be immediately disciplined and could face removal for the athletic program. The person caught may also be prosecuted by the law.
4. **Conduct:** We expect our student athletes to be the leaders of the school district. We expect our young women and men to act first class at all events. The Junction Eagles will be known for how they compete and behave on the court and field. We will praise our opponents and play beyond our ability. At Junction ISD, we will always conduct ourselves as ladies and gentlemen, including class time. Failure to adhere to the above will result in disciplinary action or possible suspension.
5. **Ejection from a game:** We will follow the UIL guidelines for suspensions. Ejection will also result in running before an athlete can compete for Junction ISD again. Each head coach will develop their own policy.
  - a. **UIL Guidelines for a suspended player**
    - i. **Football:** Ejected player misses the rest of the game in which they were ejected plus the first half of the following game.
    - ii. **Other Sports:** Ejected player misses the rest of the game in which they were ejected plus all of the following game.

6. **Attendance:** If you are going to be absent from athletics or school, we expect a phone call or email informing us of why you will not be attending. The head coaches of each sport will have the right to determine the excused/unexcused absence makeup for missing a practice or game.
  
7. **ISS/DAEP:** A student athlete who is sent to ISS or DAEP may not participate in any competition until they have successfully served their punishment. The student athlete must still come to practice every day (if in ISS) but may not travel with the team to home/away games or be with the team during home games. Student athletes sent to ISS/DAEP will have an unexcused make up (determined by the head coach) for all games missed.
  - a. Students in DAEP may not practice with the team until their time is complete
  
8. **Dress:** We will dress professional in uniform or travel gear to and returning from games. Everyone will wear the uniform in the same manner.
  - a. We will follow the Junction ISD dress code.
  
9. **Quitting:** All student athletes will have a 2-week grace period to try a sport and quit without punishment. After the grace period, any student athlete that quits will not be allowed to start another sport (practice or competition) until the end of the season of the sport they quit. Student athletes will also have 15 miles of running to complete before they can practice or compete in their next sport. If an athlete is participating in two or more sports at once and wants to quit one of the sports, then she/he will have to quit all sports unless it's a mutual decision by the coach and the athlete.
  
10. **Removal of an athlete:** If a student athlete is removed from a sport by a coach for disciplinary reasons, the athlete must complete 20 miles of running before she/he can practice or compete in another sport. Any student athlete that is removed from a sport will not be allowed to start another sport (practice or competition) until the end of the season of the sport they quit.
  - a. **All removal cases will be reviewed by the Athletic Director.**
  - b. **If a student athlete is removed from a sport more than once, it will be a one calendar year suspension.**
  
11. **Social Media:** Junction ISD recognizes and supports the student athletes' rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social networks. In the education extra-curricular context, each student athlete must remember that playing and competing for Junction ISD is a privilege. As a student athlete she/he represents the school district in a positive manner both on and off campus. This extends beyond and outside of the competitive season, as well as during season and summer.

The following guidelines will be the standard for social media/networking use by all student athletes grades 7-12 within Junction ISD. Consequences for non-compliance will vary based on severity and frequency of violation.

All student athletes will refrain from posting, submitting, sending, or publishing inappropriate, slanderous, derogatory, sexually suggestive, sexually explicit, or any form of negative comments, photos, texts, etc. to any electronic, public or private entity which includes, but is not limited to: Snapchat, Tik Tok, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, personal email accounts, personal web pages, personal or private chat rooms, personal texting/cell phone accounts, etc.

Sending any form of inappropriate (as determined by Junction ISD) photos, comments, etc. will not be tolerated regardless of who the intended recipient may be. Once sent, consequences designated by the Athletic Director, Girl's Coordinator and head coach/sponsor in conjunction with district administration will occur. Punishment will be determined by the Athletic Director and could be but not limited to extra conditioning, suspension from contests, or removal from the athletic program.

**12. Tobacco, Alcohol, Vaping, E-Cigarettes** are not allowed to be used in our athletic program. Any use of these products will be subject to disciplinary action.

**\*\*A student being investigated for committing a felony of any type will be suspended from all extra-curricular activities until the charges have been dropped or dismissed.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:**

- a) 20 miles of running (only 4 miles per day allowed, must be observed by a coach) Must run before or after school, not during the athletic period.
- b) 2-week suspension from all contests involved in.
- c) Conference with parent/athlete
- d) The player may travel with the team (as long as not in ISS/DAEP on day of game) but not participate.
- e) If the incident happens at school, and is also a violation of the student code of conduct, we will take the greater of the two suspensions.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:**

- a) 30 Miles of running (only 4 miles per day allowed, must be observed by a coach) Must run before or after school, not during the athletic period.
- b) 6- week suspension from all contests involved in.
- c) Conference with parent/athlete
- d) The player may travel with the team (as long as not in ISS/DAEP on day of game) but not participate.
- e) If the incident happens at school, and is also a violation of the student code of conduct, we will take the greater of the two suspensions

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:**

- a) Will result in a one-year calendar suspension.

If the offense occurs while school is not in session, the punishment will start once school is back in session.

Examples include but are not limited to: Vaping, MIP, MIC, DUI's, DWI's Burglaries, Serious Misdemeanors, Felonies, Unlawful Acts, etc. Students receiving a citation, caught in the act by school personnel or admit to the behavior will be subject to the above penalties.

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

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Signature of Student Athlete

Date

Amendment to article 8 section A of the 2022-2023 athletic policy.

**8) Dress:** We will dress professional in uniform or travel gear to and returning from games. Everyone will wear the uniform in the same manner.

**a.** We will follow the Junction ISD dress code.

Change: New Hair Policy for boys' athletics:

Boys in the athletic period and or boys competing in Cross Country, Powerlifting, Golf, and Tennis must not have hair longer than shoulder length and must keep hair out of their face. Athletes will not be allowed to have facial hair or piercings of any kind during practice or competition.

Girls in the athletic period and or girls competing in Cross Country, Powerlifting, Golf, and Tennis must have a natural hair color. No piercings of any kind will be allowed during practice or competition.

Athletic Director

Scott Freeman

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Superintendent of Schools

Ken Wimberley

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High School Principal

Trampus Pierson

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Junior High Principal

Amy Simon

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