

DCSD Activities, Policies, and Regulations

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT

The Davenport School Board believes participation in school activities is a privilege. School activities provide the benefits of promoting additional interests and abilities in the students during the school years and for a lifetime.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the District throughout the year, whether away from school or at school. Students who wish to have the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from activities that are illegal, inappropriate, or unhealthy.

Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures.

GOOD CONDUCT RULE

To retain eligibility for participation in all Davenport Community School District High Schools and Intermediate Schools extracurricular activities, students must conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school at all times. Students who represent the school in an activity are expected to serve as good role models to other students and to the members of the community.

Definition of Terms:

- **Extracurricular** – Any activity in which students are representing their school and the Davenport Community School District and where their participation does not directly impact an academic grade or the achievement of established standards and benchmarks.
- **Co-Curricular** - Any activity in which students are representing their school and the Davenport Community School District and where their participation has a direct impact on an academic grade or the achievement of established standards and benchmarks.
- **Curricular** – Any course of study offered by a school that directly impacts an academic grade and the established standards and benchmarks.
- **Competition/Performance** – A specific event that is a component of an extracurricular program whether it is a contest, a special activity, such as but not limited to prom or homecoming, or a school-sponsored trip that is part of an extracurricular activity.

Applicable Activity Programs:

The Good Conduct Rule applies to all extracurricular activities, including but not limited to:

- Interscholastic sports (sanctioned or non)
- Dance Team
- Cheerleading
- Color Guard
- ROTC Drill Team
- Royalty Courts
- Elected Offices
- National Honor Society
- Extracurricular clubs (ex. Chess Club, Game Club)
- Class Officers and Student Senate
- Band and Choirs, including Show Choir
- Speech and Debate
- Any other activity where the student represents the Davenport Community School District outside the classroom

Behavior:

A student may lose eligibility under the Good Conduct Rule for any of the following behaviors:

- Possession, use or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the student's age
- Possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine.
- Possession, use or purchase of illegal drugs or the unauthorized possession, use or purchase of otherwise lawful drugs
- Engaging in any act that results in an arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses.

- Any act that would result in an Out of School Suspension (OSS) from the school day is considered as a violation of the Code of Conduct. Each OSS will be considered on an individual basis for determination of violation and consequence.
- Bullying/Harassment in any form pursuant to District policy 504.07 which can be seen at www.davenportschools.org/schoolboard/bpolicy/504.asp
- Exceedingly inappropriate or offensive conduct such as assaulting staff or students, fighting, gross insubordination, etc.

In the event a situation occurs that is not covered by the above, the building administrator will provide a ruling based upon the intentions of this Rule.

If during the investigation of the alleged violation, when questioned about a violation, the offending student makes a statement he/she knows to be false with the intent to deceive, the suspension will automatically advance to the next succeeding level.

Transfer Eligibility:

If a student transfers in from another Iowa school or school district and the student has not yet completed a period of ineligibility for a violation of a Good Conduct Rule in the previous school or school district, the student shall be ineligible if the administration determines that there is general knowledge in our school district of the student's violation in the previous district. The period of ineligibility shall follow the guidelines of the DCSD penalties and will take into account the amount of the penalty already served at the previous school.

A student who transfers from one high school to another within the DCSD and had not yet completed the period of ineligibility at the first school for violation of the Good Conduct Rule will finish the period of ineligibility at the new school when it is determined the student would otherwise be eligible.

Reporters:

All reports and information from a reliable source will be investigated by school administration. Reliable information may include, but is not limited to student self-reporting, police reports, notification from juvenile court services, statements from adult witnesses, statements from student witnesses, or information from social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, Instagram, or others. Anonymous reports will not be considered. Each school administration will determine the reliability of a reporting source and any information presented.

Determination of violation:

A student who is accused of violating the Good Conduct Rule will be notified of the alleged violation and attend a review of the information that supports the allegation. The school administration shall also contact the parents/guardian verbally and follow up in writing. A member of the school administration will conduct the review. The student will be given an opportunity to present his/her case in response to the alleged violation. The school administrator shall review all information and circumstances relevant to the allegation and shall make a decision regarding the alleged violation of the Good Conduct Rule.

If a student is arrested or cited by law enforcement, the District may not await the outcome of the case in court but will conduct its own investigation, reaching a result under the Good Conduct Rule independent of the juvenile or criminal justice system.

Penalties:

Any student who, after a review before the administration, is found to have violated the Good Conduct Rule, during the school year or summer, on or off school grounds, in or out of session, is subject to a loss of eligibility as follows:

- **First Offense:** Suspension from one-third of the season's allowed contests or performance dates
- **Second Offense:** Suspension from one-half of the season's allowed contests or performance dates
- **Third Offense:** Suspension from athletic competition or participation in activities as outlined in the Applicable Activity Programs for 365 calendar days.

The number of contests or performance dates served on suspension is computed using the allowed number of games or completion dates as set by the IHSAA or IGHSAAU for a season. Postseason competitions are not part of this formula but will be used as part of the ineligibility period. (See Appendix A)

The period of ineligibility attaches immediately upon a finding of a violation if the student is currently engaged in an extracurricular activity and, if not, or if not completed during the current activity, is begun, or carried over to the time the student seeks to go out for the next activity or contest. If the period of ineligibility is not completed with the current activity, the balance of the ineligibility will carry over to the next activity. If the student is involved in multiple activities at the time the ineligibility is to be served, the ineligibility shall apply to all applicable activity programs. However, if the period of time between a violation and an activity is 365 calendar days or more, the student shall not serve an ineligibility period for the violation.

Students are not allowed to join any sport after the official first competition date of the season and apply their ineligibility to that sport in order to avoid the consequence during another sport. A student must complete a season or sport in good standing for an ineligibility period to be accepted. If a student drops out of an activity prior to the completion of the period of ineligibility and season, the entire penalty will be applied to the next activity the student participates in, subject to the 12-month limitation above. An ineligible student shall attend all practices or rehearsals but may not "suit up" or participate in contests (any level) during the designated ineligibility period.

If the student is ineligible at the time of the violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the penalty for the violation of the Good Conduct Rule shall not begin until the student regains eligibility.

The penalties shall accumulate in intermediate school, and then the student will begin again at the start of ninth grade and the penalties will accumulate during grades 9-12. No partial games/events will be served. A fraction of a game/event will be rounded up. Example: one half of a basketball season is ten and one-half games. This would be rounded up to eleven games.

Reduction of Penalty:

On the first offense, if a student comes forward and reports within forty-eight (48) hours of the violation of the Good Conduct Rule (or in the event the student is unable to report, the parent/guardian may) to a coach, administrator, or activity sponsor (or can prove a good faith effort was made to do so) the penalty may be reduced by the administration to one playing date. This reduction shall only apply to the first offense.

If at a later date, it is determined the conduct at issue was more serious than that reported by the student (or parent/guardian), the greater suspension will apply.

Suspension/Expulsion Under the Good Conduct Rule:

If a student receives a disciplinary out-of-school suspension or expulsion because of a violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the applicable penalty will include competitions/performances during the time of the suspension or expulsion. If the student is serving a suspension or expulsion when the Good Conduct Rule is violated, the applicable penalty will be applied at the end of the suspension or expulsion.

If the student is suspended under the Good Conduct Rule and not suspended from school, the student is expected to attend all practices and contests during the time of suspension. The student is not allowed to dress for the contest but must sit on the bench.

Appeals:

A student found to have violated the Good Conduct Rule may appeal the determination. The appeal:

- Must be made in writing.
- Must specify a reason for the appeal and include all supporting information and facts (note, a parent's approval of the conduct does not automatically excuse a violation);
- Must be made within three (3) business days of being advised of the suspension for violation; and
- Must be provided to the District Director of Athletics.

Appeal is made to the Good Conduct Rule Appeal Committee, consisting of the assistant principals of athletics from the three high schools, the District Director of Athletics, and one disinterested high school administrator. A meeting of the Good Conduct Rule Appeal Committee will take place within five school days of the receipt of the letter of appeal during which the student, parent/guardian will have the opportunity to meet with the committee and present their case. Student and parent/guardian may obtain legal counsel. A decision will be made and communicated to the student and parent/guardian within three days of the committee meeting. The Good Conduct Rule Appeal Committee decision is final.

During the appeal process, the student shall remain ineligible pending a decision on the student's appeal. If the Committee reverses the suspension, the student shall be immediately eligible and shall have any record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record.

IGHSAU/IAHSAA Consequences of Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- Any student-athlete at any level grades 7-12 who is ejected from an IHSAA sanctioned sport will be required to take the NFHS Coach Education/Certification Program elective course: "**Sportsmanship-It's Up to You.**" The course must be viewed prior to being able to return and participate in an interscholastic contest, and the certificate of course completion must be sent to the IHSAA office. This mandate is in addition to missing the next regularly scheduled game/meet which is defined as the next scheduled, rescheduled, or contracted date. There is no cost for this course.
- The second violation carries a four-game ineligibility.

Health Certification:

Every year each athlete must have a physical examination valid for one calendar year. The parent/guardian permission and release is part of this medical form and must also be signed. The health certification must be turned in prior to participation in practice or events.

Concussions in High School Sports:

Every school year parents and athletes must sign the Heads Up Concussion Fact Sheet to show they understand the risks involved in receiving a concussion. In addition, all athletes are required to receive a concussion test from the school Athletic Trainer at least once per school year. This is at no cost to the athlete. (See Appendix B)

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY RULES (Should this be here? The following is true for all sports and activities)

Attendance in School:

1. Student participants will be allowed to practice or participate in contests only if they are in school for one-half of their school day (minimum of two blocks). If not in attendance for the student's full day, the absence(s) must be excused (SRO, personal illness, death in the family, religious holiday, family emergency, doctor's appointment, court, college visits) (not acceptable examples: oversleeping, transportation problems, business that could be held outside the school day) If you feel there is an exception, please contact the Athletic Director.
2. If the student is only scheduled into two blocks, he/she must be in school for two blocks.
3. Student participants are expected to be in school the day following an activity.
4. Student participants administratively suspended out of school will not be allowed to practice during the suspension or compete in events.
5. In-school suspension will be evaluated by the coach/advisor and administration and handled on an individual basis.

Transportation:

Students will return from all out-of-town contests with their teams/groups by school transportation. Exceptions can be made by a parent or legal guardian sending a written note (24 hours before the contest) to the Activities Director or Coach/Advisor requesting the change because of a special circumstance.

Whenever possible and practical, it is our practice to furnish school transportation to contests in the local area. However, occasionally it is necessary for us to have students report to the site rather than furnish school transportation.

Photos:

Representatives from DCSD take pictures at athletic events. These pictures are used in the yearbook, Activities Program, websites and media. Please use the form provided in this packet to give your consent or not.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

All students who wish to compete on an interscholastic athletic team must pass all coursework that is taken for credit. Essentially, this is a "no pass no play" rule. **SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY RULE Summary of Scholarship Rule, 281—IAC 36.15(2)**

- If at the end of a *grading period, a student receives a failing grade in any course, he/she is ineligible to dress for events and compete for the next thirty (30) calendar days in his/her next or current sport.
*Grading period – the period of time at the end of which a student receives a final grade and course credit is given.

- If a student receives an Incomplete at the end of a grading period, the Incomplete will count as a failing grade and deemed ineligible. The student has 10 school days to complete the course and receive a final grade. If after ten days, the incomplete is changed to a passing grade, the student athlete will regain eligibility immediately.
- If a student has a "W" on the transcript at the end of a grading period the student must meet the required minimum 2 block requirement to remain eligible. If the "W" reduces the course load to one block the student will be deemed ineligible for the 30 calendar days.
- An athlete has to finish the season in good standing in order for the thirty days to count. If a student does not finish in good standing, the penalty starts over again with the next activity.
- The ability to use summer school or other means to make up failing grades for eligibility purposes is not available. The rule now also requires that all original failing grades (even those remediated for purposes other than athletic eligibility) be reported to any school to which the student transfers.
- A student is academically eligible upon entering the 9th grade.
- All athletes must complete their eligibility within four years after entering the 9th grade.
- All athletes must be enrolled in a minimum of 2 of the 4 blocks offered each grading period.
- An athlete in baseball or softball who receives a failing grade in any course in the final grading period of the year is ineligible to dress or compete in baseball or softball for thirty (30) calendar days starting immediately.
- A student with an IEP shall not be denied eligibility if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by school officials, toward the goals and objectives on the student's IEP.
- Students must be under the age of 20.

Study Tables:

It is mandatory for all athletes receiving a current term grade of 69% or below at the midterm to attend study table two times per week for a two-week period. Following that two-week period, grades will be reviewed again. If the athlete has raised his/her grade to 70% or above, the requirement is removed. Following mid-term, grades are reviewed every two weeks, and if the grade is 69% or below, the requirement returns. Study tables are also an opportunity for all athletes, regardless of their grade, to do homework or receive extra help.

Strength and Conditioning Expectations:

The district has made a clear commitment to the strength and conditioning program in partnering with Rock Valley Physical Therapy by providing DCSD high schools with a certified specialist. Student-athletes are expected to enroll in a class during the school day or enroll in the early/late bird courses. Student-athletes are expected to be enrolled in some form of the class. Student athletes will be expected to lift 3 days per week in the summer, and attendance will be taken by coaches. This is not optional; it is expected.

Uniforms/Equipment:

Participation in a sport or extracurricular activity may require the use of school-owned uniforms or equipment that are loaned to the student. Students are expected to take care of these items and return them in a timely manner in the condition they were signed out to, with exception of normal wear and tear. Failure to do so will result in charges to the student and/or parent/guardian to replace the item. Athletes who fail to turn in uniforms at the completion of the season will not be allowed to participate in a subsequent sport until the uniform is returned.

All extracurricular participants must have on file a signed acknowledgment form. This form must be signed by both parent and student and filed each school year with the Activities Office.

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

A student will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities until the participation acknowledgement form and other administrative forms as required by a coach/advisor have been submitted to the Activities Office. **Athletes must also have on file a parent signed current physical.** Failure to comply with this ruling means that you will not participate in any extracurricular activity until all items have been submitted. This signed form allows your good standing for one school year.

I agree to assume full responsibility for all equipment issued to me and to confine the use of that equipment to school athletics, practice, contests, games, or meets.

ATHLETES: I am aware that playing or practicing in any sport can be dangerous in nature involving risk of injury. I understand that the dangers and risks of playing or practicing to play/participate in the sport include, but are not limited to, death, serious neck and spinal injuries which may result in complete or partial paralysis, brain damage, serious injury to virtually all bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons, and other aspects of the muscular skeletal system, serious injury to virtually all internal organs, and serious injury or impairment to other aspects of my body, general health and well-being. I understand that the dangers and risks of playing or practicing in a sport may result not only in serious injury, but in a serious impairment of my future

abilities to earn a living, to engage in other business, social and recreational athletics, and generally to enjoy life.

Checklist

_____ We understand all rules and regulations as summarized in this Participation Packet. I am fully aware of the penalties for violation.

_____ We have reviewed and understand the expectations for the weight room for athletes at DCSD.

_____ We have received a copy of the **Scholastic Eligibility for Students**, and I understand I must comply with the policy to remain eligible including understanding the expectations for the Study Tables.

_____ We have received a copy of the **Davenport Community School District Code of Conduct (board policy 504.08)** and I understand the consequences of violating the policy.

_____ We have received a copy of the **HEADS UP: Concussion in High School Sports** as outlined by the Iowa Legislature.

_____ I give my permission for a certified Athletic Trainer and/or any medical professional to treat the student athlete listed below in the event of an injury.

Davenport Community School District
Internet Posting of Student/Athlete Photo
Permission Form

The DCSD, our schools, and other media take pictures at our athletic events. Photographers may then post them to a website, share with local media outlets, or post approved social media sites to promote Athletic Programs and showcase our teams/individuals' successes. Below is a form needed for your son/daughter to be photographed. Please complete this form. If you do not wish to have your child photographed, please indicate so on this form.

Please complete and return to school granting permission to use your student's photo.

By agreeing to the terms of this document you also agree to permission to use your student's photo.

If you do not want your student's photo to be used, you must contact the athletic office to request it not be used.

APPENDIX A

A FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

HEADS UP: Concussion in High School Sports

The Iowa Legislature passed a new law, effective July 1, 2011, regarding students in grades 7-12 who participate in extracurricular interscholastic activities. Please note this Important Information from Iowa Code Section 280.13C, Brain Injury Policies:

1. A child must be immediately removed from participation (practice or competition) if his/her coach or a contest official observes signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or brain injury in an extracurricular interscholastic activity.
2. A child may not participate again until a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and other brain injuries has evaluated him/her and the student has received written clearance from that person to return to participation.
3. Key definitions:
"Licensed health care provider" means a physician, physician assistant, chiropractor, advanced registered nurse practitioner, nurse, physical therapist, or athletic trainer licensed by a board.
"Extracurricular interscholastic activity" means any extracurricular interscholastic activity, contest, or practice, including sports, dance, or cheerleading.

What is a concussion? A concussion is a brain injury. Concussions are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body. Even a 'ding,' 'getting your bell rung,' or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious.

What parents/guardians should do if they think their child has a concussion?

1. **OBEY THE NEW LAW.**
 - A. Keep your child out of participation until she/he is cleared to return by a licensed healthcare provider.
 - B. Seek medical attention right away.
 2. Teach your child that it's not smart to play with a concussion.
3. Tell all of your child's coaches and the student's school nurse about ANY concussion.

What are the signs and symptoms of a concussion?

You cannot see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days after the injury. If your teen reports one or more symptoms of concussion listed below, or if you notice the symptoms yourself, keep your teen out of play and seek medical attention right away.

STUDENTS:

If you think you have a concussion:

- **Tell your coaches & parents** - Never ignore a bump or blow to the head, even if you feel fine. Also, tell your coach if you think one of your teammates might have a concussion.
- **Get a medical check-up** - A physician or other licensed health care provider can tell you if you have a concussion, and when it is OK to return to play.
- **Give yourself time to heal** - If you have a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is healing, you are much more likely to have another concussion. It is important to rest and not return to play until you receive the OK from your

health care professional.

Signs Reported by Students:

- Headache or 'pressure' in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Just not "feeling right" or is "feeling down"

PARENTS:

How can you help your child prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps your children can take to protect themselves from concussion and other injuries.

- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity. It should fit properly, be well maintained, and be worn consistently and correctly.
- Ensure that they follow their coaches' rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to practice good sportsmanship at all times.

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes
- Can't recall events prior to hit or fall
- Can't recall events after hit or fall

Information on concussions provided by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information visit www.cdc.gov/Concussion

IT'S BETTER TO MISS ONE CONTEST THAN THE WHOLE SEASON.

APPENDIX B

Fall

Boys golf – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates
Boys cross country – 10 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 5 dates
Girls cross country – 10 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 5 dates
Football – 9 games	1 st offense – 3 games	2 nd offense – 5 games
Girls swimming – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates
Volleyball – 14 dates	1 st offense – 5 dates	2 nd offense – 7 dates

Winter

Boys basketball – 21 games	1 st offense – 7 games	2 nd offense – 11 games
Girls basketball – 21 games	1 st offense – 7 games	2 nd offense – 11 games
Boys swimming – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates
Wrestling – 15 dates	1 st offense – 5 dates	2 nd offense – 8 dates
Boys bowling – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates
Girls bowling – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates

Spring

Boys golf – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates
Boys track – 12 meets*	1 st offense – 4 meets	2 nd offense – 6 meets
Girls track – 12 meets*	1 st offense – 4 meets	2 nd offense – 6 meets
Girls soccer – 17 dates	1 st offense – 6 dates	2 nd offense – 9 dates
Boys soccer – 15 dates	1 st offense – 5 dates	2 nd offense – 8 dates
Boys tennis – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates
Girls tennis – 12 dates	1 st offense – 4 dates	2 nd offense – 6 dates

*Ineligibility for track meets will start with the first outdoor track meet and not include indoor meets.

Summer

Softball – 40 games	1 st offense – 14 games	2 nd offense – 20 games
Baseball – 40 games	1 st offense – 14 games	2 nd offense – 20 games