

**CODE OF ETHICS AND GUIDELINES FOR ATHLETES**

1. To welcome the privileges of being an athlete but sincerely assume the responsibilities and obligations that go with it.
2. To know and practice correct health and training routines such as attaining and maintaining good physical conditioning, proper eating and sleeping habits, and avoid tobacco, alcohol and drugs.
3. To agree that "studies" come first – athletics, as important as they may be, are but a part of the educational process. In order to participate in competitive athletics, students in grades 6-12 must earn a C average (70% - Ewing High, 2.0 – Fisher) in 25 credits of work during the first semester for participation in spring sports; and for the final grades of the previous year for participation in fall and winter sports.
4. To strive always to be a positive example and representative of our school and community in appearance, conduct and performance.
5. To avoid "cliques" or "special groups" which are operating under selfish motives rather than for the good of the team, school, and community.
6. To respect the role of the parent, teachers, teammates, coaches, officials, students, and opponents in your daily life.
7. If an athlete or manager is tardy to school and does not report by 8:01 AM, he/she cannot practice or play that day, or evening. Exceptions are at the discretion of the Principal or designee.
8. If an athlete fails to participate in his/her scheduled physical education class he/she may not participate in practices, scrimmages or games that day or evening.
9. If a team associated student is found to use cigarettes or other tobacco products, including the chewing of tobacco or tobacco related substances, he/she will be suspended from the squad for one calendar week, or three games, whichever occurs first, for the first offense; on the second offense, for the season.
  - a. On the first offense, the parent/guardians of the athlete will be informed by mail that if a second offense occurs, it will result in his/her dismissal for the season.
  - b. The athlete must return the above letter to the coach, signed by the parent/guardian before he/she is reinstated to the squad. This letter will be filed in the Athletic Director's office.
10. If a student is found to use, or is in possession of alcoholic beverages, drugs, or weapons (excluding firearms-see #11):
  - a. **First offense:** Any student found to use and/or is in possession of alcoholic beverages, weapons, or illegal substances (excluding tobacco products – see policy #9) will be excluded from all school activities for 30 school days upon his/her return from the mandatory 10 day school suspension. It is important to note that "school days" do not include weekends, vacation periods, or holidays.
  - b. **Second Offense:** Student is ineligible for all sports for one calendar year from the date of the second offense.

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11. If a team-associated student is directly involved in creating or maintaining a disorder, fight, or riot prior to, during, or after an athletic activity, which results in suspension from school, he/she will also be suspended from all sports for one calendar year. Police notification may occur if warranted. Students placed in alternative programs for possession of firearms will also be suspended from sports for one calendar year.
12. If a team-associated student is suspended from school for habitual lateness, disrespect for a teacher, etc., he/she will not be permitted to practice or play during the period of suspension. Suspension ends at Midnight of the last day of suspension —this includes ISS at Fisher School.
13. If a team-associated student has detention, after serving the required time, he/she will then report to the coach and the coach will determine the additional practice.
14. If a team-associated student is late to practice because of make-up work to help, he/she must bring a note from his/her teacher with the time he/she was dismissed.
15. If a team-associated student is caught stealing equipment, money, valuables, etc., or is involved in vandalism, and defacing or destruction of property: A conference with the student, coach, Athletic Director, and/or the Principal will occur, followed by parental notification, and the suspension of privileges stated as follows:
  - a. **First Offense:** He/she is ineligible from all athletic activities for 40 school days.
  - b. **Second Offense:** He/she is ineligible for all sport for one calendar year from the date of the second offense.
16. During the season, an athlete may not leave one sport and go to another unless an agreement is made between both coaches involved.
17. The athlete should conduct himself/herself like a gentleman or lady at all times, especially while on the bus going to and from an event and at the event. No calling out, ridiculing, loudness, etc.
18. Profanity is not allowed and is looked upon as a sign of weakness by the staff. Discipline is subject to policy 5600, which could mean immediate suspension of privileges.
19. It is the wish of the coaching staff that all team-associated students be well groomed at all times.
20. A good athlete is humble in victory and proud in defeat.
21. Appeal of any of the above codes and/or guidelines are subject to Board of Education Policy #5710 Pupil Grievance.
22. Student athletes are reminded of the N.J.S.I.A.A Requirements for Participation:
  - a. Beginning in grade 9, all students must pass a minimum of 30 credits per year.
  - b. No athlete may compete if they reach their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year.
  - c. No athlete may compete more than four years, commencing with September 1 of the year his/her class begins ninth grade.