

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR LEADERSHIP CODE

Philosophy Statement

Participation in co-curricular activities is a significant component of a student's development. Through participation, students develop many life-long skills and positive values. These include cooperation, accountability, leadership, healthful living habits, self-discipline, integrity, teamwork and respect for rules and regulations.

Participating in co-curricular activities is a privilege. This privilege empowers participating students to meet expectations beyond those found in the classroom. If students need help it is the responsibility of the home, school and community to provide that help. Students need structure and rules to help guide their actions. When these rules are violated, students will be held accountable for their actions. By choosing to participate, students are also choosing to abide by this code.

All athletes/co-curricular leaders within the Selah School District in grades 7-12 are subject to this athletic/co-curricular leadership code. The rules and regulations apply to all athletes/co-curricular leaders. Discipline incurred under this code during the 7th and 8th grade years will not be cumulative into the high school years. The athletic/co-curricular leadership code will be in effect annually (365 Days) as the expectations of the code support students following the same rules and regulation regardless of the season or time of year.

Co-Curricular Code of Conduct/Citizenship

Students who represent the Selah School District should reflect the high ideals and standards of their team, school and community. Therefore, they must conduct themselves in a manner that emulates this standard.

TYPES OF MISCONDUCT/POOR CITIZENSHIP

Minor Misconduct

Any act of misconduct listed in both the Selah High School and Selah Middle School Student Handbooks is defined as minor discipline.

Discipline for Minor Violations

First Offense: Verbal warning by A.D. or designee, coach notified. Coach will notify parents (i.e. phone, letter, e-mail, conversation)

Additional Offenses: Potential loss of eligibility to practice or compete that day, whichever applies. Coach will be notified. Coach will notify parents.

After the first offense, the severity of discipline will be based off an accumulation and pattern of minor violations

Serious Misconduct

All violations of serious misconduct/citizenship are also violations of the co-curricular code. Violators will be disciplined by the athletic/activities office according to their placement on the co-curricular code discipline ladder.

Alcohol - The consumption, possession, or purchase of alcoholic beverages in or outside of school hours, is strictly forbidden and will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

Drugs - The illegal consumption, possession, purchase of, being under the influence of dangerous drugs/narcotics in or outside of school hours, will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

Proximity - The association/attendance at an event where the illegal consumption/ possession/selling/ purchasing of alcohol or drugs/controlled substances occurs and the individual does not make an attempt to remove themselves from the situation in a timely manner. Attempt is defined by the athlete contacting the Athletic Director and their parent/guardian informing them of their effort to leave. Timely is defined as the time contact is made in relation to leaving the location of the incident. This includes situations where the athlete knew or should have reasonably known that the illegal consumption/possession/selling and/or purchasing of alcohol or drugs/controlled substances occurred.

Tobacco / Vaping - The consumption, possession of, or selling of any tobacco or vaping products, in school or outside of school hours, is strictly forbidden and will result in the appropriate disciplinary action.

Selling or Trafficking - Selling or trafficking alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or any controlled substance.

Citizenship

- Exceptional Misconduct - Any act of misconduct listed in the Selah High / Middle School Student Handbook that results in a minimum discipline of classroom exclusion.
- Committing acts contrary to the laws of the State of Washington - Such acts include misdemeanors, gross misdemeanors and felonies.
- Student Athlete/Co-curricular behavior - Poor sportsmanship/detrimental behavior, direct violations of team, school, or district rules, and inappropriate use of social media.

Discipline for Serious Misconduct

The athletic office will process all action and communications as per building policy. Any student placed on the co-curricular code discipline ladder will remain at that step for his/her middle school or high school career, unless another violation occurs. Middle school violations will not be cumulative into the high school years.

Discipline ladder for Serious Misconduct

Reporting of Co-Curricular Code Violations: All violations shall be submitted to the athletic/activities director or designee. They shall be communicated within 30 school days of the alleged code violation. Violations occurring on School District property or at a school-sponsored activity will result in discipline being imposed from both policies with the co-curricular code discipline process starting immediately.

Self-Report Violations: Discipline for self-reported first offense violations only, except selling or trafficking can be waived if judged to be solely motivated by a sincere desire to confront the problem. The self-report must be made to the in-season coach/advisor, the principal, assistant principal, the athletic director or the activities director within 24 hours of the violation. Once a self-report has been made to anyone other than the activities/athletic director, the athletic/activities director must be notified within twenty-four (24) hours. If the violation is related to substance abuse, a referral for assessment must occur. **ONLY FIRST VIOLATIONS CAN BE SELF-REPORTED.**

First Offense: All first violations except for tobacco and/or citizenship, will result in the athlete/co-curricular leader being referred for UA/assessment related to potential chemical abuse or misuse and the athlete/co curricular leader must comply with the recommendations of the assessment results as described under

Substance Use/Abuse Policy 2121. Additionally, all first violations, except selling/trafficking, shall result in a loss of eligibility to compete/perform for 20% of the total number of contests/performances scheduled for that activity, in a season, which the participant fully completes (from beginning to end). Student athletes/co-curricular leaders will remain active participants in practices and other activities of their sport/activity while not competing/performing.

****The above discipline would be waived if a Self-Report was granted by the Athletic Director and/or Principal designee, for a first offense only****

Second Offense: A second violation, except for tobacco and/or citizenship, will result in the athlete/co-curricular leader again being referred for UA/assessment related to potential chemical abuse or misuse and the athlete/co-curricular leader must comply with the recommendations of the assessment results, as described under Substance Use/Abuse Policy 2121. In addition, except selling/trafficking, a second offense will also result in a loss of 60% of scheduled contests/performances in a season which the participant fully completes (from beginning to end). Student athletes/co-curricular leaders are to remain active participants in practices and other activities of their sport/activity while not competing/performing. A loss of the letter/award will result if the violation occurs during the sport/activity in which the student is participating.

Third Offense: A third violation, except for tobacco and/or citizenship, will result in the athlete/co-curricular leader again being referred for assessment related to potential chemical abuse or misuse and athlete must comply with the recommendations of the results, as described under Substance Use/Abuse Policy 2121. In addition, he/she shall be denied athletic/leadership participation for one (1) calendar year from the date of violation.

Fourth Offense: The athlete/co-curricular leader shall be denied participation in athletics/co-curricular leadership for balance of his/her 7-8 OR 9-12 school career.

Selling or Trafficking: A violation shall result in the loss of co-curricular leadership privileges for one (1) calendar year from the date of violation.

Legend Drugs and Controlled Substances (WIAA.24.2): The WIAA guidelines will be followed for violations concerning legend drugs and controlled substances (WIAA 18.24.2). Disciplinary procedures are listed in the WIAA Handbook. A copy of this language is available upon request.

SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE (POLICY 2121)

Alcohol and Drug Assessment: Upon factual evidence or reasonable suspicion, athletes/co-curricular leaders may be referred to the Selah School Districts alcohol/drug *Assessment Specialist* for consideration. The alcohol/drug *Assessment Specialist* may decide, based upon reasonable suspicion or facts; to refer the athlete(s)/co-curricular leaders for assessment of potential chemical abuse or misuse by a certified chemical dependency professional. Should the athlete/co-curricular leader refuse to submit to assessment/UA, he/she will be disciplined in accordance with this policy.

For purposes of this student athlete/co-curricular leadership code only, "reasonable suspicion" shall be defined as follows:

When occurring during the student's sport season/co-curricular leader's term of office, student involvement in an accident involving either personal injury or property damage, including near-miss situations, caused by a

possible lack of perception, alertness, or manual dexterity, shall be grounds for requesting testing for alcohol or controlled substances.

A coach/advisor who believes he/she has a "reasonable suspicion" shall report that matter to the athletic director or activities director. If it is determined to be a credible report, the athletic director will notify all stakeholders (building leadership team, parents, students athlete, and superintendent) by written notification. Such notice will suspend that student athlete/co-curricular participant from further participation in practices, meetings, athletic/co-curricular events until the appropriate assessment/UA has been completed or until such time as the School Board removes the condition for participation. Students and/or parents/guardians objecting to the determination shall use procedures in procedure 2151P to grieve any such determination.

A student athlete/co-curricular leader will be treated as if he/she had failed the assessment under any of the following circumstances:

- Refusal of the student and/or parent guardian to sign the release of information form allowing disclosure of the UA/assessment result.
- Failure to complete an UA/assessment within twenty-four (24) hours of request. - Failure to cooperate during UA/assessment so a "too defensive" result is yielded.

IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE & ACADEMICS

Consistent attendance and academic excellence are important for all students. Participants have a mandate to maintain a satisfactory attendance record and successful classroom performance.

Attendance: Athletes/co-curricular leaders must attend all his/her assigned classes during a school day to be eligible for practice or participation in an event, unless his/her absence is approved by the school administration (principal, assistant principal, athletic director, activities director) or designee. Upon request by the attendance office, verification of an appointment may be required. Should an athlete be unable to participate in physical education classes, he/she shall not participate in practice and/or contests that day/evening. *There shall be no early dismissal privileges relating to sports/activities for athletes/co-curricular leaders that are currently not eligible to compete/perform due to a current code violation or discipline being served.*

Academic Standards for Interscholastic Athletes/Co-Curricular Leaders: All contestants must be eligible under the rules of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association and the Selah School District to participate in WIAA sanctioned interscholastic contests.

Previous Grading Term (Grades 7–12): Participants must pass all courses each term to be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities. Failing one class in the previous term will result in a one game suspension for grades 7-8 and a one competitive week suspension for grades 9-12. Failing more than one class in the term will result in a 5-week competitive suspension from the start of the new term per WIAA Article 18.6.5.

Current Grading Term Academic Checks (9-12): An academic check will be collected by the athletic/activities department every two weeks. The bi-weekly academic check will be collected on Friday and recorded the following Monday. If the co-curricular participant is failing one class, he/she will be placed on probation and allowed two calendar weeks to bring the failing grade to passing. If on the next academic check he/she continues to fail that class, the student will be ineligible for two weeks.

Current Grading Term Grade Checks (7-8): An academic check will be collected by the athletic/activities department every two weeks. The bi-weekly academic check will be collected on Friday and recorded the following Monday. If the co-curricular participant is failing one class, he/she will be placed on probation and allowed two calendar weeks to bring the failing grade to passing. If on the next academic check he/she continues to fail that class, the student will be ineligible for two weeks with the opportunity to be eligible after week 1 if the student can present proof of passing all classes.

Multiple Failures: Any student failing more than one class will be ineligible for two weeks. He/she must be passing all classes on the next bi-weekly academic check. There will be no probation week. For students in grades 7th and 8th, they will have the opportunity to become eligible after one week if they can show proof of passing grades.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE PARTICIPATION BEGINS

School Fines: All fines must be properly cleared before a student-athlete will be issued equipment and be eligible to participate in contests/activities.

ASB: All student athletes and co-curricular leaders are required to purchase an ASB.

Travel Guidelines: Participants will travel to and from contests/activities, together, on the designated bus or team van. A participant may be released only to a parent/guardian with a face-to-face release and written note or signature to the coach/advisor.

Medical Physical Exam: All student athletes will be required to show proof of an updated medical physical every 24 months. It is highly recommended that any student with underlying medical conditions continue to get a new medical physical completed every year.

APPEAL PROCEDURES FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETES/CO-CURRICULAR LEADERS

If the student and/or parent/guardian desires to appeal the initial decision, he/she shall submit a written request for review to the athletic director, activities director, principal or designee within three (3) business days of the implementation of discipline. A hearing shall be scheduled at which a review of the matter will occur to determine if the discipline was appropriately imposed.

All disciplinary and suspension procedures will follow the due process plan of the "Students Rights and Responsibilities Policy." Penalties prescribed in this Policy may, in extraordinary circumstances unique to individual participants, be modified on appeal.

Process/Steps for Appeal

1. The student/parent shall submit a written request of appeal to the athletic director, activities director, principal or designee within three (3) business days of the initial implementation of discipline.
2. The principal and/or designee will respond in writing to the written request of appeal within three (3) business days of receiving the request for appeal.
3. If an appeal is granted it will be scheduled within five (5) business days of the principal and/or designee's response to the appeal request. An appeal hearing will only be granted if the requester demonstrates that there is new information available that was not available during the initial investigation and/or information collected during the initial investigation was misinterpreted and needs further review.

4. During the appeal hearing the principal and/or designee will lead the meeting. Individuals who will be attending the meeting will include; at least one coach or club advisor, parent/guardians, student, and one cabinet member from the Selah School District main office.
5. A final ruling will be communicated to the student/parents no later than three (3) business days after the appeal hearing. All decisions are final at this point and time.

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