CUSD ATHLETICS
Code of Ethics While Pursuing Victory with Honor

Co-Curricular activities are a vital part of our total school program. We exemplify the supreme standards of ethics and sportsmanship in addition to first-class character and lifelong skills. Students electing to participate in co-curricular activities assume certain responsibilities and obligations to their coach, team, school, and themselves. The school invests a lot of time, money, and personnel in an effort to provide a quality program for our students.

Our major co-curricular programs have "participation contracts" stating what is expected of the participant. Students agree to the rules that follow upon joining an activity. In an effort to strengthen the relationship between the parent/guardian, school, coaches, and student athletes, each parent/guardian must read and sign also, in order to build a better working relationship with all parties.

1. **Eligibility:** The athlete must have and maintain a 2.0 GPA to try-out and/or participate in a co-curricular program. Any athlete falling below the 2.0 GPA will be put in a probationary status where they are eligible to play for one grading period while attending tutoring. If still below 2.0 after the probationary period the athlete is then ineligible until grades are brought above a 2.0. Athletes that are ineligible may practice with the team so long as they have a chance to become eligible before the season ends. Ineligible athletes are not allowed to attend games home or away.

2. **Attendance/Conduct:** The student must be in school the day of a performance for half the time or more unless verified by the attendance office i.e. field trip, conference, etc. Conduct while participating in a co-curricular activity is to be satisfactory as judged by the coach or administration. If any student quits or is discharged from a team without a release from the coach or athletic director, they may not join another team during that season.

3. **Equipment:** It is the students' responsibility to return and care for all equipment and uniforms issued to them. Any lost or damaged equipment will be paid before the student participates in another activity. Post season awards will be held until uniforms and equipment are returned.

4. **Code of Ethics:** The athletes are expected to participate in the activity in a positive manner. The parent/guardian needs to support the athlete, coaches, and officials in a positive manner. Each athlete/parent/guardian must adhere to the following:

a) Athlete/Parent/Guardian must display acceptable standards of behavior and citizenship at school and in the community.
b) Athlete/Parent/Guardian must cooperate in a mature, sportsmanlike manner in all events whether it is as a participant or spectator.
c) Athlete/Parent/Guardian must comply with the Board of Education policies, District Regulations, and the State Education Code.
d) Athlete/Parent/Guardian must comply with the rules and regulations established by the appropriate governing bodies of their activity.
e) The use of intoxicants, tobacco, drugs, or related substances, or the sale or possession of them will not be tolerated.
f) Athletes must not be a member of any outside club that participate in the same sport.
g) Athlete must carry an accident insurance policy (either their own or one available at the school).

Placed at all sporting events should be a sign that reads as follows:

"Welcome to (school name) and our contest today. Sportsmanship and citizenship are stressed here at (school). To that end, we ask that all student-athletes, the coaches, and our fans abide by the following rules during today's contest:"

- ***Only positive reinforcement of your team is allowed (cheer them on!)***
- ***No profanity allowed!***
- ***Only players, coaches and referees are allowed by the benches***

Failure to follow these rules at any co-curricular event will result in the removal of the athlete, coach, and/or parent/guardian by a school administrator/athletic director.

5. **Enforcement:** The athlete/parent/guardian must follow all rules set forth from the Code of Ethics. Each athlete/parent/guardian must adhere to the following:

a) Athletes who fail to comply with the Code of Ethics will be declared ineligible to participate in school activities by the school administration.
b) Athletes may seek a hearing before an Appeal Review Panel consisting of the Athletic Director, Vice Principal and Principal.
c) Parents/Guardians who fail to comply with the Code of Ethics will be asked to leave the event by the school administration/athletic director. Parents/Guardians who fail to comply with the Code of Ethics a second time will be asked to leave the event by the school administration/athletic director, and not be allowed to attend any future competition for the remainder of the school year.

6. **Penalties:** All athletes must adhere to the following:
Minor violations are those which do not require suspension from school
a) Any student who commits a minor violation of the Code of Ethics shall be immediately suspended from all activities for a period ranging from one day to two weeks.
b) Any student, who is assigned RC for the entire day of a game, home or away, will not be allowed to attend the game.
Major violations defined as those result in suspension from school
c) Any student who commits a major violation of the Code of Ethics will be suspended from all activities for a period of not less than two weeks and not more than one calendar year beginning on the date of return. The penalty must be imposed by the school administration.

7. **Non-Privilege Work Back:** Non privilege begins when it is determined the student has committed a violation for non suspendable offenses or on the first day back to school on a suspendable offense. Non privilege is a minimum of 10 school days or 14 calendar days (the lesser of the two options). Non privilege excludes a student from all student activities and events on and off campus (ie-rallies, dances, games, practices, plays, etc).

A student may be permitted to reduce up to half of this non privilege period if the student completes a work back plan. A work back plan is defined as two hours of campus or community service equaling one day of non privilege. This work must be supervised by an Administrator, Coach or Custodian and signed off on the official work back document. Once this plan is completed and turned into the Athletic Office, the student may participate in practice and games.

Students are only eligible for the work back plan on their first offense of the school year. If a second violation occurs in a school year, the student must serve the duration of the non privilege time. The student is eligible for the work back plan the following school year.

8. **Sports Participation/Assumption of Risk/Quitting of a Sport:** The undersigned student/athlete and his/her parent/guardian understand and agree: (1) that the student must obey and comply with any and all rules, regulations and directions related to such participation; (2) that they are aware that athletic participation in sports requires physical fitness; (3) that said student/athlete possesses the required degree of physical fitness to participate; (4) that a risk of physical injury by participating in sports; (5) that by quitting a sport without a release from the coach or athletic director, they may not join another team that season.

Therefore, in consideration of the Central Unified School District allowing said student/athlete to participate in the sports programs, both the student and his/her parent/guardian agree to hold the district, the Board Members, officers agents and employees harmless for any and all liability related to an injury which the student/athlete may incur as a result of participation in this sports program.

In this respect, both the student/athlete and the parent/guardian understand that a risk of injury exists and that by signing this form, they assume said risk and responsibility for any injury to the student/athlete.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE CODE OF ETHICS WHILE PURSUING VICTORY WITH HONOR IN THE ATHLETIC PROGRAMS AT CUSD SCHOOLS AND WITH THIS SIGNATURE, AGREE TO ALL OF THE PRECEDING.

_____	_____	_____
(Please Print Student Name)	**(Sign Student Name)**	**(Date)**
_____	_____	_____
(Please Print Parent Name)	**(Sign Parent Name)**	**(Date)**