

FORT STOCKTON ISD



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

2026-2027

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INTRODUCTION

All students in Fort Stockton ISD have a right to the academic curriculum and programs offered through our district. However, athletic participation within Fort Stockton ISD is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in athletics not only represent themselves, but also other students, the community and the school district when competing. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total Fort Stockton ISD student body at all times and places.

Because participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right, Fort Stockton ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this Athletic Handbook extends beyond the Fort Stockton ISD Student Code of Conduct not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This Athletic Handbook will be enforced with all students grades 7-12 participating in athletics. An athlete is bound by the policy at school, on school sponsored trips, or anywhere else in public as their actions are a reflection on the Fort Stockton Athletic Program.

PHILOSOPHY

The primary objective of Fort Stockton ISD athletics is to enhance the overall well-being of the student athlete. In order to accomplish this goal, the program will instill honesty, loyalty, and self-discipline in each and every student athlete and coach associated with the program. It is with the utmost confidence that these qualities prepare the student athlete for athletic success, yet more importantly, benefit the student athlete in all areas of life. The student athlete must understand and accept the importance of the team concept. In our program, we will emphasize teamwork, sportsmanship, integrity and dedication. We believe these characteristics are essential in establishing a solid foundation that is necessary in order to accomplish team goals first, and then individual goals.

The Athletic Department expects to be a program of excellence each year. In doing so, each team will develop a winning attitude and create its own traditions in accordance with those already established. Being a successful program takes time and commitment from each player and coach. We must keep our priorities in perspective and instill excellence into all aspects of the program. We believe that if we achieve these objectives, we will have a chance to accomplish our athletic goal of winning a State Championship!

ELIGIBILITY

Students must meet University Interscholastic League requirements in order to participate in school-sponsored athletic events. In addition, students must be in good standing with the athletic department in order to compete in athletic events. The Athletic Director and the head coach of that sport will determine “good standing”.

PARTICIPATION

Students participating in sports sponsored by the Fort Stockton Independent School District will be required to be enrolled in the appropriate athletic period unless given permission by the Athletic Director. Sports falling under that umbrella include: Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Swim, Tennis, Basketball, Soccer, Powerlifting, Track, Softball, and Baseball. This includes high school and middle school students. Athletes are also expected to attend during the athletic period. This is a class and should be treated as such. Make-up class work for other classes will not be done during the athletic period.

Each athlete should be encouraged to participate in as many sports as their interests and abilities will allow. No athlete will be influenced to give up participation in one sport in order to concentrate on another sport. Student athletes are more likely to gain recognition from colleges and universities by being involved in as many sports as possible. This keeps athletes from resenting the efforts of their coaches and also provides a less stressful environment.

All students enrolled in athletics at Fort Stockton High School and Fort Stockton Middle School will be expected to participate in a general strength and conditioning program.

EXPECTATIONS

Athletes participating in or associated with the Fort Stockton Athletic Department will be expected to adhere to the following:

1. Student athletes will be expected to attend school and the athletic period (See attendance policy below).
2. Student athletes have the responsibility to give their best effort and exhibit good conduct and character at all times in a manner that is a positive example to team members, fellow students, the school, and their community.
3. Student athletes will abide by all rules set forth by the coaches, and be coachable at all times.

4. Student athletes will demonstrate respect for their coaches, teammates, teachers, staff, administrators, fellow classmates, and maintain a proper attitude with each.
5. Student athletes are to serve as positive representatives of their team, coaches, and school district during competitions and interactions with opponents. This includes but is not limited to: profanity, “trash” talking, dress, etc.
6. Student athletes are expected to maintain (at minimum) passing grades, strive for excellence both on and off the field of competition, and adhere to all policies put forth by the district and athletic department.
7. We understand that each athlete does not have the same ability, but we expect each athlete to perform to the best of their ability. Failure to adhere to the above conduct will result in a coach/athlete conference with possible disciplinary action.
8. Athletes will be on time for all classes, practices, trips, and any other scheduled event unless they have notified the teacher or coach in advance.
9. Excessive tardies will result in loss of playing time and extra conditioning.
10. Good sportsmanship is a must in being a true Fort Stockton athlete. An athlete never loses his or her poise by expressing anger at an opponent during competition. It is natural to become angry at times during a contest or game, but real champions can control their feelings and come back stronger by channeling that anger rather than causing the TEAM to be penalized. An athlete will accept the decisions of the officials and show respect for their authority. An athlete should never “act out” in front of fans whenever he/she disagrees with an official.

ACADEMICS

Fort Stockton athletes are in school to work toward an education and graduation. Along with that comes the opportunity to participate in athletics. In order to be eligible to participate in athletics, students must be passing at the end of the each six weeks grading period. If a student is failing after a six weeks grading period, the athlete is ineligible for three weeks minimum. Athletes may regain eligibility after three weeks if they are passing ALL classes. An athlete will be expected to practice during a period of ineligibility. Traveling with the team is prohibited by the UIL when a student is ineligible.

When missing classes because of an athletic event, it is the responsibility of the athlete to see his/her teacher the day before the missed classes to get their assignments.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Students involved in extracurricular activities and school-sponsored clubs and organizations, whether they be academic, athletic, fine arts, spirit, or honor/social/interest-based related, will maintain at least a **90%** attendance rate throughout the school year. Further, this attendance rate will be evidenced by the participating student being consistently present in school/class, while providing appropriate documentation for any absence. A student may not be absent, unexcused, more than 4 days or parts of days (no more than 4 periods, per class, for secondary students) during a 9-week grading period.

Consequences for Policy Violation:

While individual sports, spirit groups, fine arts organizations, UIL academic teams, and honor/service societies have a high degree of variance in the amount of games, events, and competitions they are involved in on a weekly and/or monthly basis, each shall be held to an equitable and **progressive consequence system**, as to ensure that students are held accountable for their attendance.

Every FSISD-sponsored organization has submitted a formal written No Attend, No Play policy, which has been administratively reviewed for consistency and fairness across organizations, as it corresponds to that particular organization's on-stage/game-day/event-competition participation required of that activity. (Example- Football, which has one game a week, might look different than volleyball, which may have three games in one week). Parents will be advised of this written policy at the start of the competition season and/or the coach-parent meeting.

ATHLETICS ATTENDANCE

All athletes are required to attend all scheduled practices and games, including those that occur during school holidays. If there is an emergency or unavoidable situation and an athlete must miss the athletic class period, practice and/or game, the athlete must contact their coach as soon as possible. By contacting the coach BEFORE a missed workout with a reason deemed valid by the head coach, their absence will be considered

excused. If the athlete does not contact the coach before missing a workout, it will be considered unexcused for that work out, regardless of the reason missed.

All athletic punishments (determined by each individual head coach) for absences, must be completed before the athlete will be allowed to participate in a contest. Athletic punishments must be done on the athlete's time, which is generally before or after a practice – not during the athletic class period or during a practice. All decisions of an athlete's practice or playing time because of missed practice will be determined by the head coach.

Make-ups for excused absences will be intended to make up for the conditioning missed during the excused absence, not as a punishment.

MULTIPLE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We recognize that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra-curricular activities. We want our athletes to participate in as many school sponsored activities that they are able to be successful in. A student athlete who attempts to participate in multiple extra-curricular activities must communicate this information to coaches and sponsors. This will help prevent conflicts between activities. We will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts. When conflicts do arise, the sponsors will communicate and work out a solution so the student will not be caught in the middle.

SCHOOL ISSUED EQUIPMENT

Students will be issued proper equipment, workout gear, and game uniforms to the extent applicable to each particular sport. Each article is the property of the Fort Stockton Athletic Department and is considered to be on loan to the athlete. All equipment must be returned at the request of the Athletic Director regardless of the condition of the item. In the event that all equipment and/or uniforms issued are not returned, or damaged, the student athlete will be required to make full restitution (replacement cost) to the athletic department. Per UIL rules, no equipment or uniform may be given to student athletes on a permanent basis. **Any equipment bought by an athlete must be school colors, black or grey, unless approved by the head coach (track and soccer). Equipment bought must be non- modified.**

DRESSING OUT

All athletes will be expected to dress out on a daily basis. Athletes, who are injured or ill and able to attend practices, will be required to dress out. They

will be expected to sit or stand with their team and learn through listening and observing. All athletes will be given lockers and a clean place to dress.

All athletes must wear uniforms to all contests, and each uniform will be worn in the same manner.

DRESS CODE / APPEARANCE

All athletes will be expected to follow the Fort Stockton ISD Student Dress Code approved by the Board of Trustees.

TRAVEL

All athletes are required by policy to travel to the destination of all athletic contests with the coach or sponsors by transportation means furnished by the school district. In extenuating circumstances, the Athletic Director may approve other travel arrangements.

Athletes are encouraged to return home with their team following athletic contests. However, students will be allowed to return home from contests with their parent/legal guardian provided they have signed out.

INJURIES

Student athletes must notify a coach of any injury immediately. This can prevent minor injuries from becoming major injuries. Athletes must see the trainer immediately after any injury. If the parent decides that the athlete needs to see a doctor, please contact the coach so he or she can pass along the proper medical forms. This will also help delays in payment by the school's insurance company. We must treat all injuries immediately.

ATHLETIC INSURANCE

Our insurance policy is a supplemental coverage to the students own insurance. If an athlete is covered under another policy in addition to the school's policy, the other policy will be the primary provider. If a student does not have insurance, the policy will pay up to their maximum claim. Rarely will the school's insurance cover 100% of the charges. Claims must be made promptly. Claim forms are available in the Athletic Secretary's office. The athletic department will send a claim form with the parents of athletes who are sent for medical attention. It is advised that the parents also send the claim form with attached bills to the insurance company.

LETTERING

Each varsity sport has established criteria for earning a varsity letter or letter jacket. The head coach of each sport will be responsible for the lettering criteria (approved by the Athletic Director). Earned letter jackets

are purchased by the school district and may be denied in the event a student athlete violates any part of the athletic policy. Varsity athletes are allowed to receive one letter jacket while in high school, provided they meet the criteria for lettering in a varsity sport.

Football

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 25% of the total number of quarters played for the current football season at the varsity level.
- In the event that the varsity team becomes a playoff team, all players who were carried as varsity roster members from the beginning of the season become eligible for a letter award.

Volleyball

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 25% of the total number of quarters played for the current basketball season at the varsity level.
- In the event that the varsity team becomes a playoff team, all players who were carried as varsity roster members from the beginning of the season become eligible for a letter award.

Basketball

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 25% of the total number of quarters played for the current basketball season at the varsity level.
- In the event that the varsity team becomes a playoff team, all players who were carried as varsity roster members from the beginning of the season become eligible for a letter award.

Tennis

- In Tennis, athletes must participate in 80% of the meets, including district.

Swim

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior athletes must participate at varsity level meets and score ten points, cumulative, for the competitive year, or one point at the District Meet.

Track and Field/Cross Country

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior athletes must participate at varsity level meets and score ten points, cumulative, for the competitive year, or one point at the District Track Meet (in track).

- In Cross Country, athletes must participate in 80% of the meets, including district.

Baseball

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 33% of the total number of innings played at the varsity level in the current season. These participants must be shown to have entered into a game at least one time for 33% of the total number of games involved in the complete season.
- In the event that the varsity team becomes a playoff team, all players who were carried as varsity roster members from the beginning of the season become eligible for a letter award.

Softball

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 33% of the total number of innings played at the varsity level in the current season. These participants must be shown to have entered into a game at least one time for 33% of the total number of games involved in the complete season.
- In the event that the varsity team becomes a playoff team, all players who were carried as varsity roster members from the beginning of the season become eligible for a letter award.

Powerlifting

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 75% of the scheduled meets at the varsity level and medal in the top 3, while representing Fort Stockton, in a Regional Qualifying Meet.
- Any participant becomes eligible for a letter award by qualifying for Regional competition.

Soccer

- Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior participants must participate in at least 50% of the total number of innings played at the varsity level in the current season. These participants must be shown to have entered into a game at least one time for 50% of the total number of games involved in the complete season.
- In the event that the varsity team becomes a playoff team, all players who were carried as varsity roster members from the beginning of the season become eligible for a letter award.

Golf

- Athletes must be in the top five on varsity and compete in 80% of varsity tournaments.

Managers/Student-Trainers

- Managers and Student-Trainers become eligible for letter awards after two years of managing/training.

All athletes must finish in good standing in order to receive their letter jacket or letter.

Head coaches can approve a letter award, with the approval of the Athletic Director, if an athlete does not meet the criteria listed, but had an important role on their particular team. Ex. Courtesy runner-softball/baseball.

****FINAL APPROVAL OF AWARDS WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR****

THEFT

Taking things from other athletes, the school, etc. will not be tolerated. An athlete caught stealing is subject to punishment, which can include suspension or dismissal from the athletic program. Stealing could also be interpreted to involve school equipment not turned in after the season is completed.

HAZING

Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing or reckless act occurring on or off campus directed against a student that endangers the mental or physical health or the safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated to, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are, or include, other students.

Hazing will not be tolerated by the athletic department or school district. If an incident of hazing occurs, disciplinary consequences will be handled in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct as well as additional consequences which could include suspension, or removal, from the athletic program. It is a criminal offense if a person engages in hazing; solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid another in hazing; or has firsthand knowledge of an incident of hazing being planned or having occurred and fails to report this to a coach, principal or superintendent.

TRIAL PERIOD

At the beginning of each sport, a “trial period” of up to two weeks will be given to athletes. During this time, an athlete may try a sport by attending practices and games in order to decide if he /she desires to play the sport. During the trial period, an athlete may decide not to participate in the sport without any suspension or punishment required under the quitting rules. After the cut-off date for the trial period, all quitting rules will be followed. This “trial period” rule is designed to encourage athletes who are curious or interested in a sport to give it a try. The trial period for football, volleyball and cross country will begin on the first day of practice. The trial period for all other sports will begin the day after the previous sport has ended.

QUITTING

Any athlete who starts a sport will be expected to finish that particular sport (after the two week trial period). Athletes will not be allowed to quit the athletic period without the approval of the Athletic Director. Any athlete walking off the field or gym floor during a practice, game, off-season, or refusing to participate when called upon, will be considered by the coach to have quit. If an athlete decides to quit, he/she will be given a 24 hour cooling off period (maximum of one per year) before a final decision is made. If after that time, he/she still wishes to quit the sport, then “consequences for quitting” will be implemented. If he/she quits two sports in a year, the athlete will be removed from athletics for a calendar year. If an athlete quits athletics twice during high school, they will be removed from athletics for the rest of their high school career.

CONSEQUENCES OF QUITTING

Re-admittance to the athletic period will be at the discretion of the Athletic Director. These athletes must have the approval of the head coach of that sport, the Athletic Director, and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) before they will be allowed to participate in another sport. In addition, that athlete must complete 10 days of additional physical activity. Furthermore, that athlete will be suspended from competition for ½ of the season of the next sport that he/she participates in. The athlete will practice with the team throughout the suspension period.

The Athletic Director may, at his discretion, make an exception to this rule if it is in the best interest of the athlete/team or an event outside of the control of the athlete causes the athlete to drop a sport. In this situation, the 10 days of additional physical activity and ½ season suspension can be waived.

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIPS

It is important that coaches maintain an open and positive communication relationship with the parents and/or guardians of student athletes involved in our athletic program. Positive communication is a two way process and parent/guardians are expected to communicate any questions or concerns they might have to the appropriate coach. Student athletes should be encouraged to seek resolution of issues or concerns with their coach first before involving a parent/guardian. Coaches are employed to make decisions concerning strategies, procedures, playing time, evaluation of student performance, and what is best for the team. Playing time or team level will NOT be discussed with parents/guardians. Playing time/team level is based on competition and practice. We feel every student athlete will benefit from being in the Fort Stockton Athletic Program regardless of how much, if any, playing time he/she receives. Any concern which may require a parent/coach meeting will follow the following protocol:

PROTOCOL FOR MEETING WITH A COACH

1. The student athlete will be required to attend any parent/coach meeting.
2. The meeting will always begin at the lowest level (meet with the coach directly involved) unless it is a case of moral turpitude. Any case involving moral turpitude should involve contacting the Athletic Director immediately.
3. At the conclusion of the meeting, if a resolution is not reached, the coach in charge of that meeting will assist you (the parent) in setting up another meeting at the next level.
4. Meeting guidelines will be instituted and reviewed by the coach at the initiation of each meeting.

Do NOT engage a coach for the purpose of a parent/athlete meeting before, during, or directly after a practice or game. Please go through the appropriate steps as outlined above.

PARENT/GUARDIAN EXPECTATIONS

1. Be positive and supportive of your son/daughter.
2. Be positive and supportive of the coaching staff and the entire athletic program.
3. Encourage your son/daughter to talk to his/her coach first about any issue or concern not involving moral turpitude (conduct that is believed to be contrary to the community standards of honesty, justice, or good moral values).

4. Notify the coach and/or trainer of any injury, illness, or absence in a timely manner.

IN SCHOOL SUSPENSION

When an athlete is assigned to ISS, his / her absence to the athletic period will be unexcused, and an athletic punishment will occur, including possible loss of playing time. All punishment must be completed prior to participating in a contest.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL/DISCIPLINE ALTERNATE EDUCATION PLACEMENT (DAEP)

If an athlete is suspended from school for any reason, he / she will be ineligible for athletics the day(s) of suspension. Suspension will also include DAEP placement. Suspension will be treated as an unexcused absence. Multiple suspensions during the same school year will result in expulsion from athletics for the rest of the school year. A student placed in DAEP will not be allowed to practice until DAEP days are complete. DAEP placement will be treated as an unexcused absence. The student must also complete 10 days of additional physical activity. No contest may be competed in until the 10 days of physical activity are complete.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

The head coach of each sport has the authority to suspend or revoke the privilege of participation in their sports when rules, regulations, and/or standards are not followed or when it is deemed best for that sport's team. Each sports head coach will decide all minor discipline measures. Continual problems by an athlete may result in he/she being placed on a contract or removal from the athletic program. If an athlete fails to comply with the terms stated in the contract ("probationary" period) he/she will be dismissed from the athletic program.

EXPULSION

The athletic philosophy will be based on full participation by all athletes. It is our desire to see every athlete succeed in athletics and life. However, there may be a time when an athlete becomes a detriment to the team. Every effort will be given to save the athlete, but there may be a time to remove the athlete from the program. The TEAM will always come before the individual. Remember, athletics is privilege. Removal from a team would have the same consequences as quitting.

RE-ENTRY TO ATHLETIC PROGRAM

An athlete that wishes to rejoin the athletic program must complete the following steps in order to be considered for re-entry.

1. Inform the Athletic Director and appropriate coach of their intention.
2. Must have demonstrated good citizenship and good behavior in the school and community. Detentions, ISS and DAEP placements will be considered detrimental to a student requesting re-entry.
3. All prior disciplinary actions must be completed before participation will be allowed.

All Athletes that are allowed re-entry will be placed on contract/probationary period. Failure to comply will result in immediate removal from athletics.

EXAMPLES OF MINOR OFFENSES

These will be handled on an individual basis by the head coach of the sport and/or the Athletic Director.

1. Excessive absences from workout
2. Unexcused absence from workout
3. Tardiness
4. Profanity
5. Misconduct in class
6. Inappropriate dress, hair, jewelry, etc.
7. Inappropriate conduct in school sponsored activity
8. Equipment damage, misuse, or the loss of equipment
9. Unsportsmanlike Conduct/Technical Fouls
 1. First offense will result in extra conditioning
 2. Second offense will result in loss of playing time and extra conditioning
 3. Third offense will result in a suspension, as well as, a meeting with the Head Coach and Athletic Director on the athletes future in the program.
10. Conduct unbecoming a team player (may result in suspension)

EXAMPLES OF MAJOR OFFENSES

The head coach of the sport and the Athletic Director will handle these jointly, and punishments may include suspensions or removal from the Athletic Program.

1. Using or being in the presence of illegal drugs or illegally consumed alcohol is prohibited which includes, but is not limited to, Minor in Possession (MIP) and Driving while Intoxicated (DWI) charges reported to the school by authorities.

2. Using tobacco products
3. Theft or malicious destruction of any school or individual's equipment or property.
4. Violent or severe acts shown to school officials or other teammates.
5. Any athlete charged with a felony crime will be suspended indefinitely until after their trial is over or as soon as they are cleared from wrongdoing. The athlete will be allowed back in the program only if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the program/team.
6. Any minor offense, which becomes a repeating problem.
7. Ejection from game for unsportsmanlike conduct/personal fouls.

EJECTIONS

Per UIL Rules: A player ejected from a football game will miss the rest of that game plus the first half of the next contest. Disqualifications as a result of targeting are for the remainder of the game only. Players ejected from other sports, will miss the remainder of the match plus the next game.

DRUG TESTING

The District requires drug testing of any student in grades 7-12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities. A student participating in these activities shall be randomly tested throughout the school year. **A drug testing form is needed for your child to participate in any school-sponsored activity that is subject to random drug testing.**

The purpose of the drug-testing program is to prevent injury, illness, and harm resulting from the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; help enforce a drug-free educational environment; deter student use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; and educate students regarding the harm caused using illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol.

Drug test results shall be used only to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties. Drug-testing results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parents, and designated District officials who need the information to administer the drug-testing program.

FAILED DRUG TEST

All students involved in the athletic program as competitors or managers will comply with the district drug policy as set forth by the Fort Stockton Independent School District School Board.

The consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment in middle school and shall begin anew for high school.

FIRST OFFENSE

Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 15 school days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

SECOND OFFENSE

Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 40 school days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

THIRD OFFENSE

Upon a third offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity for 365 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

FOURTH OFFENSE

Upon a fourth offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be permanently barred from participation in any extracurricular activity for the remainder of the student's enrollment in the District.

END-OF-SEMESTER SUSPENSIONS

If a student's suspension from participation in extracurricular activities is not completed by the end of the semester, the student shall complete the assigned period of suspension during the following semester or during the first semester of the following school year.

APPEALS

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG (LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities while the appeal is pending.

ALCOHOL/TOBACCO/E-CIGARETTE USE (OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL)

Any student who is caught with alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, etc., outside of school, shall endure the following:

1st Offense -3 days of punishment

2nd Offense- 5 days of punishment

3rd Offense- 10 days of punishment

After the third offense, the student-athlete along with their parents will meet with the Athletic Director to determine their future in the athletic program. Student-athletes will not be allowed to compete until they have completed their days of punishment.

ALCOHOL/TOBACCO/E-CIGARETTE USE (AT SCHOOL)

Violations involving alcohol, tobacco, or e-cigarettes will result in disciplinary actions as outlined in FSISD Student Code of Conduct.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Student athletes are high-profile representatives of Fort Stockton ISD, and their behavior is subject to scrutiny by their peers, the campus, community, and the media. The actions of a single student athlete can reflect positively or negatively not only on the individual student athlete, but also on his or her team and coaches, the Athletic Department and the entire school campus. Therefore, student athletes are expected to represent themselves and Fort Stockton ISD with honor, dignity and integrity at all times – including when interacting on social networking websites and in other online environments. The popularity of social networking websites (e.g., Facebook, TikTok, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.) has grown tremendously during the last few years. These websites can serve as valuable communication tools when used appropriately. The use of social media, however, has the potential to cause problems for both the student-athlete and the school environment. Almost anything a student athlete posts on a social networking site may be viewed by others, and both the

media and the general public are more likely to view the profiles of student athletes than the profiles of other students. Thus, administrators and coaches have the right to monitor these sites and student athletes could face discipline depending on the severity of the infraction.

Suggestions & Recommendations Regarding Social Networking Sites

Some students mistakenly believe social networking websites have a veil of privacy about them and assume their profiles are viewed only by a close circle of friends and fellow students. To the contrary, the content on most of these sites is accessible by anyone in the general public unless security and privacy features are used. The public nature of these websites has created personal safety and personal welfare concerns. Student athletes should be very careful about what personal information they share on the internet.

For their own security, protection and welfare and that of their teammates and friends, the Athletic Department strongly recommends and advises student athletes to:

1. Keep phone numbers, physical addresses, birthdates, current whereabouts, travel plans and other personal information strictly confidential. This information should not be contained in a student athlete's personal online profile.
2. Limit the access of others to e-mail addresses and screen carefully those whom a student athlete may accept as "friends" on a social networking site.
3. Use whatever security and privacy features are available to restrict the ability of others to view a student athlete's site or to post pictures, messages and other content on a student athlete's site.
4. If an individual contacts a student athlete via a social networking site and the nature of the contact makes the student athlete concerned for his or her safety or uncomfortable in any way, the student athlete should immediately contact a parent, a coach, or a campus administrator.

Rules Regarding Social Networking Sites

As a condition of being a student athlete in FSISD, student athletes must abide by the following rules related to the use of the internet and social networking sites:

1. Any postings or communications via social networking websites which disrupt either the educational or athletic environments or which advocates the violation of any school or team policy would be unacceptable.

2. Student athletes may not post online any pictures, information or other content that might cause embarrassment to themselves, fellow student athletes, teams, coaches, the Athletic Department or the campus (examples: obscene images or language, nudity, pictures at parties with alcohol or vapes, references to drugs, sex, or illegal activities).
3. Student athletes may not post any content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual, teammate, coach, faculty member, or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another school; taunting comments aimed at a student athlete, coach or team at another school). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use).
4. Student athletes may not post any content online that would constitute a violation of the FSISD Student Code of Conduct.
5. Student athletes may not post any information that is sensitive or personal in nature or is proprietary to the Athletic Department or the school which is not public information (examples: tentative or future team schedules, student athlete injuries and eligibility status, travel plans/itineraries or information).
6. Student athletes are required to abide by all laws related to the use of the internet (including state and federal privacy laws such as FERPA and HIPPA), and student athletes are personally liable for any violations of those laws.

Student athletes in FSISD are required to abide by rules set forth in these guidelines. The failure to do so will be considered a violation of the athletic handbook and/or the FSISD student code of conduct. The violation may result in disciplinary action by the athletic department and the campus. Consequences will be determined based on the severity of the infraction and may include suspension or dismissal from the team or athletic activities.

FORMS (Per Rank One Website)

Pre-Participation Physical Examination.

Upon entering the first and third years of high school, a physical examination signed by a physician, a physician assistant licensed by a State Board of Physician Assistant Examiners, a registered nurse recognized as an advanced practice nurse by the Board of Nurse Examiners or a doctor of chiropractic is required. Standardized pre-participation physical examination forms, available from the League office and authorized by the UIL Medical Advisory Committee, are required.

Medical History Form

Each year prior to any practice or participation a UIL medical history form signed by both student and a parent or guardian is required. A medical history form shall accompany each physical examination and shall be signed by both student and a parent or guardian.

Rules Acknowledgment

Annual UIL Rules Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

Parent/Student Illegal Steroid Use Form

The parent/guardian of each high school athlete, along with each high school athlete, shall annually sign the UIL Illegal Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Parent and Student Notification/Agreement Form.

Concussion Acknowledgement Form

According to section 38.155 of the Texas Education Code, 'a student may not participate in an interscholastic athletic activity for a school year until both the student and the student's parent or guardian or another person with legal authority to make medical decisions for the student have signed a form for that school year that acknowledges receiving and reading written information that explains concussion prevention, symptoms, treatment, and oversight and that includes guidelines for safely resuming participation in an athletic activity following a concussion' *

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form

Each year prior to any practice or participation in athletics, a UIL Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness form signed by both student and a parent or guardian is required.

CONCUSSIONS

According to TEC Section 38.153: “The governing body of each school district and open-enrollment charter school with students enrolled who participate in an interscholastic athletic activity shall appoint or approve a concussion oversight team.” Fort Stockton ISD will adopt the UIL Medical Advisory Committee as the Concussion Oversight Team and will follow all rules set forth by the UIL dealing with concussions.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

1. No athlete will return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a concussion.
2. An appropriate health-care professional should evaluate any athlete suspected of having a concussion that day.
3. Any athlete with a concussion should be medically cleared by an appropriate health-care professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.
4. After medical clearance, RTP should follow a set-wise protocol with provisions for delayed RTP based upon return of any signs or symptoms.

RTP STEPS FOLLOWING MEDICAL CLEARANCE

1. Light aerobic exercise: 5 to 10 minutes on an exercise bike or light jog; no weightlifting, resistance training or any other exercises.
2. Moderate aerobic exercise: 15 to 20 minutes of running at moderate intensity in the gym or on the field without a helmet or other equipment.
3. Non-contact training drills in full uniform. May begin weight lifting resistance training and other training.
4. Full contact practice or training.
5. Full game play.

(Each step represents one full day)

STEROIDS

State law prohibits students from possessing, dispensing, delivering or administering an anabolic steroid. Anabolic steroids are for medical use only and only a physician can prescribe use.

Body building, muscle enhancement, or the increase of muscle bulk or strength through the use of an anabolic steroid or human growth hormone by a healthy student is not a valid medical use and is a criminal offense.

COLLEGE RECRUITMENT POLICY

Some student athletes may be given the opportunity to participate in college athletics if they show outstanding talent, maintain a high academic standard, and perform with first-class behavior. These are ingredients that all college recruiters are looking for in today's athlete.

Our coaching staff will assist in any way possible to help our athletes pursue an athletic career at the next level. We will do all that we can to expose our players to college recruiters, as well as recommend them. After we have put information and video in the recruiter's hand, it is up to the Colleges and Universities to decide whom they will recruit.

As an athlete, you will be expected to inform your coach if a college recruiter personally contacts you. It is a recruiter's obligation to work through your high school coach. This enables the coach to understand the situation and work in the athlete's best interest.

Student athletes should take the ACT and/or SAT tests before their senior year begins. Every college recruiter must have these scores before any scholarship can be offered. Student athletes are recommended to apply to the NCAA Eligibility Center (formerly NCAA Clearing House) before the end of their junior year. Also, be proactive in your recruitment. Have a realistic list of schools that you would like to attend and attend their camps. Almost all college coaches want to see athletes personally before offering a scholarship.

Please keep everything in perspective as the student athlete works their way through their high school athletic career. Only about 2 percent of high school athletes are awarded scholarships (not necessarily full scholarships) every year at NCAA colleges and universities. For those who are lucky enough to earn one, the average scholarship is less than \$11,000. Also, do not neglect academics. Remember, you must gain admission to the school in order to accept the scholarship.

Anything not addressed in the Athletic Handbook will be left to the discretion of the Athletic Director.

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I understand the 2026-2027 Fort Stockton ISD Athletic Handbook and agree to adhere to the rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in athletics for Fort Stockton ISD. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my athletic participation.

STUDENT NAME: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

I understand the 2026-2027 Fort Stockton ISD Athletic Handbook and understand requirements for my child's voluntary participation in athletics for Fort Stockton ISD. I understand the consequences that my child will face if he/she fails to adhere to these rules and agree to such terms.

PARENT NAME: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

☐

I will read the Athletic Handbook Online

☐

I want a printed copy of the Athletic Handbook

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I have received a printed copy of the Fort Stockton ISD Athletic Handbook.

PARENT NAME: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____