

District Athletics & Activities

This high school athletic/spirit program code of conduct (Code of Conduct) applies to students participating in any Adams 12 Five Star Schools' interscholastic athletics program and/or spirit program (cheer and poms). Student participants include team members and team managers (Participants).

Participants represent their team, high school, and community. It is important, therefore, that Participants maintain high standards of conduct at all times. Since participation in interscholastic athletics and spirit programs of Adams 12 Five Star Schools (the District) is a privilege, not a right, maintenance of such high standards, as reflected in District Policy and each District high school's rules and procedures, is a condition of team membership and participation.

Participants are responsible for knowing District Policy and school rules/procedures.

Participants are expected to conduct themselves in a commendable manner at all times during interscholastic athletic or spirit activities, and toward opponents, teammates, officials, and spectators, regardless of where the activities occur.

The following activities are prohibited by this Code of Conduct at any time, whether on or off District property:

1. Consumption or possession of tobacco/nicotine (including electronic smoking devices), drugs, or alcohol in any form and any quantity
2. Physical altercation
3. Theft
4. Property damage
5. Any form of hazing, bullying, intimidation, harassment or discrimination
6. Any other behavior prohibited by District Policy or school rules/procedures

Participants who violate this Code of Conduct outside of school (including off school grounds) and even if out of season (including summer months) are subject to disciplinary action at the beginning of the next season in which they participate.

This Code of Conduct is in effect from the signing date until the Participant officially graduates or transfers to another school outside of the District. As a result, violations and resulting sanctions will accumulate from season to season, activity to activity, and year to year.

Sanctions

The following progressive discipline protocol represents the minimum sanctions for violation of this Code of Conduct. A Participant may also be required to complete an education-based program or activity as a consequence of violating this Code of Conduct. At the discretion of the principal or designee, a serious violation of District Policy/school rules may result in more severe discipline and more limited team participation than what is listed here.

- The first violation will result in an immediate one contest/activity suspension for athletics or spirit programs with fifteen or fewer regular season contests or activities. For sports or spirit programs with more than fifteen regular season contests or activities, the sanction will be a two consecutive contest/activity suspension. If suspension results in a Participant missing a tournament or a qualifying contest required to advance in an individual sport, it shall count as two contests.
- A second violation will result in an immediate suspension from twice as many contests/activities as are provided for the first violation.
- A third violation and any subsequent violation will result in an immediate suspension from participation in all District interscholastic athletics and spirit programs for one calendar year from the date of the violation. Following the one-year suspension, participation will be at the sole discretion of the principal.

Participants who are suspended from contests/activities may be required to attend all practices if they have not also been suspended from school, but may NOT dress in team uniform or compete in any contests/activities while suspended. For purposes of this Code of Conduct, scrimmages are not considered contests.

School suspension is separate from a suspension pursuant to this Code of Conduct and will be treated as such. Therefore, suspension from contests/activities do not count during days of school suspension. Participants must re-establish their student status through re-entry after school suspension before serving the suspension imposed pursuant to this Code of Conduct.

Process

- Prior to imposition of any suspension pursuant to this Code of Conduct, the principal or designee shall have an informal conference with the Participant regarding an allegation that the Participant has violated this Code of Conduct, and allow the Participant to respond to such allegation.

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- A Participant who has been determined to be in violation of this Code of Conduct may be granted an appeal to a District- wide committee composed of two high school athletic directors and two athletic coaches, one from the building of the appealing Participant, and chaired by the District athletic director. Requests to appeal must be made within 1 week from the date of the decision to suspend the Participant pursuant to this Code of Conduct.
- The Participant and/or Participant's parent/guardian shall be responsible for providing any documentation in support of the appeal.
- Decisions made by the District-wide appeal committee shall be final.

Spectator expectations

Parents/guardians, family members, and other spectators play a vital role in the high school athletic/spirit programs' experience; their words and actions can serve to build up or tear down Participants. As a result, District and school staff are asking for spectators' support in providing a positive environment at high school athletic/spirit contests.

The District and the Colorado High School Activities Association are committed to safety, good sportsmanship, and fair play. Respect for the opposing team, all coaches, game officials and each other before, during and after each contest is of the utmost importance.

Adams 12 Five Star Schools encourages the following at athletic/spirit contests:

- Enthusiastic support of your team/Participants
- Good sportsmanship
- Family friendly atmosphere
- Commitment to safety
- Welcoming attitude to all spectators and visitors

Unacceptable behaviors at Adams 12 Five Star Schools athletic/spirit contests include:

- Verbal abuse of Participants, students, spectators, officials or District staff
- Disruptive or unruly behavior
- Lewd or obscene comments or gestures
- Entering the playing surface at any time
- Approaching officials before, during or after the contest
- Being under the influence of or the use, possession, distribution, service or sale of alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances and other illegal contraband. This includes marijuana, even if legally purchased through retail establishments or prescribed.
- Any other behavior prohibited by applicable District Policy

School administrators and/or their designees may direct spectators who fail to behave in a positive and respectful manner to leave the event and may impose conditions or a total ban on the spectator's future attendance at athletic/spirit contests, in accordance with District Policy. We encourage all spectators to "cheer for your team!"

We have read, understand, and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct and Spectator Expectations.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student Athlete Signature _____ Date _____