

PARENT COPY TO KEEP

ASHE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES & ATHLETES

Effective July 1, 1999

Revised July 1, 2013

ASHE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES

Ashe County High School officials and coaches of athletic teams believe that students who are selected for the privilege of membership on teams, should conduct themselves as responsible representatives of the school. In order to assure this conduct, coaches and administrators will enforce a Code of Conduct. Furthermore, members of teams who fail to abide by the Code of Conduct are subject to disciplinary action. Members of teams must always exemplify high moral character and must demonstrate appropriate academic commitment. As recognized representatives of their school, members are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior during the season or out of season, in uniform or out of uniform, on campus or off campus.

Section A-Athletics and Education

1. Ashe County High School has as its primary goal the academic education of all students. Therefore, each coach has the obligation to encourage students to perform within reasonable academic expectations.
2. All student use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and possession or use of non-prescribed controlled substances or paraphernalia will not be tolerated, and the violator will be subject to disciplinary action.
3. It is the student athlete's responsibility "to not use any form of social media.....to be critical of teammates, coaches, game officials, school administrators, opponents, opposing schools or any other personnel involved in the athletic program.
4. Athletes charged by law enforcement personnel, or who admit to, a misdemeanor or a felony, at school or outside of school, shall be suspended from all athletic participation until the charge is brought to closure. If found not guilty, the student will immediately be reinstated to his/her original status; however, if convicted, specific penalties will apply as specified in Section C and/or by the Board of Education disciplinary policy.
5. The administration reserves the right to limit participation of students in cases of non-attendance at school. Students will not be allowed to participate without the specific approval of the principal or athletic director.
6. Rule enforcement will be consistent and immediate. School officials are not expected to police off-campus, non-school activities unless the violation is brought to public attention and is sufficiently severe to bring discredit upon the athletic program. Such activities need to be clearly proven.
7. Each coach has the prerogative to establish additional rules pertaining to his/her sport. These rules may include attendance at practices, contest, trips, etc. Rules set by the individual coach must be in writing and approved by the director of athletics and communicated to the student participants *before* or at the first practice session.

8. Students suspended from school by the principal's office will not be allowed to participate in athletics while they are on suspension.
9. The principal's office will be notified of all violations of the Code of Conduct and the consequences of the infraction will also be subject to appropriate Board of Education disciplinary policies.

Section B – Procedures

A student may be suspended from participation in any sport according to the following procedures:

1. All reports of violations of the Code of Conduct are to be made to the athletic director or to an assistant athletic director.
2. The athletic director contacts the student, the parents, and the coach to inform them of the violation and the procedures to be followed. If requested, a meeting is scheduled within three (3) school days.
3. The athletic director and the coach will determine the course of action. The student and his/her parents will be notified of the decision immediately.
4. Any student who violates the guidelines and/or does not satisfactorily complete the season may not be eligible for any awards or special recognition given for participation. Furthermore, a student who holds the position of team captain may be required to relinquish said position upon violation of the guidelines.
5. Penalties will be applied in every sport in which a student participates. Any offense constitutes a violation in all sports covered under the guidelines.

Section C – Guidelines for Action

Guidelines are for the school year and refer to infractions which occur in or out of season. Guidelines also apply during the entire calendar year when the student is actively engaged in a school-related sport on or off campus.

Expectations of Student Athletes Regarding Substance Use and Violations of Other Laws.

1. To be as physically healthy as possible.
2. To be role models to others by abstaining from substance use.
3. To be aware of the legal consequences of using drugs.
4. To not participate in the promotion, selling, and/or consumption of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
5. To not commit or be a part of any misdemeanor activity.
6. To not commit or be a part of any crime classified as a felony.

Consequences

Consequences of Alcohol and Other Illegal Drug Use:

First Apprehended Offense:

1. Be assessed by ASC Team (Assessment Support Counseling)
**Three session's minimum – more if deemed necessary.
**If parent or athlete refuses assessment and/or counseling, the athlete forfeits privilege to participate in athletics.
2. Suspension from participation
**Two weeks suspension – athlete is required to come to practice but may not dress-out or participate in games/matches.
3. Required parent/athlete conference with coach and school officials

Second Apprehended Offense: (all subsequent offenses)

1. Suspension from participating in athletics for the current and next sports season.
2. Complete drug rehabilitation program.
3. Athlete may apply to the Husky Athletic Board (through the Athletic Director) for reinstatement into the athletic program at the end of the suspension period.

Self-Referral

Definition: Referral must be athlete initiated. Referral must be given without coach or adult having prior knowledge of drug use.

****COACH NEEDS TO GIVE THE ATHLETE A WINDOW OPPORTUNITY!!!***

First Offense: (First Referral)

1. In the instance of a true player –initiated self-referral, the coach may use a confidential meeting and conference with athlete as the first consequence. Coach may use consequences of second offense if his or her judgment deems necessary. This step may only be used once per athlete.

Second Offense: (Second Referral)

1. Complete drug rehabilitation program.
2. Required parent/child conference with coach and school officials.

Third Offense: (Third Referral)

1. Same consequences as first apprehended offense.

Fourth Offense: (Fourth Referral and All Subsequent Referrals)

1. Same Consequences as second apprehended offense.

Consequences of Tobacco Use

Athletes shall not use tobacco at practice, during games, while on school property, or at any school function. It is a Class 2 Misdemeanor in the state of North Carolina to purchase or sell tobacco to anyone under age 18.

First Offense: (Apprehended)

1. Required parent/athlete conference with coach and school officials.
2. School policy if it applies.

Second Offense:

1. Required conference.
2. School policy if it applies.
3. Required school counseling.

Third Offense:

1. Required conference.
2. School policy if it applies.
3. Required school counseling.
4. Athlete will miss the next scheduled event of the current school year. It may carry into next sport season.

Fourth Offense: (and all subsequent offenses)

****Athlete is suspended from sport for remainder of sports season.**

****ALL OFFENSES CARRY THROUGHOUT THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR****

Consequences of Misdemeanor and/or Felony

As stated in Section A, #3 athletes charged by law enforcement personnel with (and/or who admit to) a misdemeanor or a felony, at school or outside of school, shall be suspended from all athletic participation until the charge is brought to closure. If found guilty of a felony the student by NCHSAA policy will lose all his/her high school athletic eligibility in North Carolina – see copy of Policy which is attached (Attachment A).

A student who admits to or is found guilty of a misdemeanor will be handled as follows:

First Offense:

1. Required conference; athletic director, parents, student and coach
2. School policy if it applies.
3. Required school counseling.
4. Suspended for twenty percent of sorts games (it may carry into the next sports season).

Second Offense:

1. Required conference; athletic director, parents, student and coach.
2. School policy if it applies.
3. Required school counseling.
4. Suspended from an additional sixty percent of sports games (it will carry into the next sports season).

Third Offense:

In or out of season the student is suspended from all athletics for the remainder of the School year.

Invitationals, tournaments, multi-day events and doubleheaders count as one contest.

An athlete may practice with the team during a suspension and may sit on the bench in street clothes during a contest unless the severity of the offense requires non-attendance. He/she may not dress for any contest during the suspension.

Any athlete who holds either an elected or appointed team captaincy may be required to relinquish his/her position upon violation of the guidelines.

**If rumors of use exist, the coach must investigate and contact parents and inform them of the possible problem.

Section D—Right of Appeal

A student and his/her parent(s) may appeal a decision by writing a letter to the Athletic Director with copies to the Principal, within three (3) days following the meeting. This letter should request a hearing with the Administrative Council at the school.

Within five (5) school days after the letter is received, the Athletic Director will notify the parents and the participant of the time and place of the appeal hearing. The school's Administrative Council will hear both sides of the case and will take action which they consider to be in the best interest of the student and the school. During the time between the original decision and the hearing, the principal has the authority to waive the action which has been taken.

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

Ashe County High School

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

The coach has tremendous influence upon student-athletes and shall never place winning above the value of instilling the highest desirable ideals of character.

The coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct with the student-athletes, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association (NCHSSA), the media, and the public.

The coach shall discipline athletes who display unacceptable behavior.

The coach shall know the game rules and be responsible for their interpretation to team members. Additionally, the coach shall not try to seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

The coach shall promote and work in harmony with the entire interscholastic program of the school.

The coach shall respect and support contest officials by avoiding conduct which will incite players or spectators against the officials.

The coach shall actively promote good sportsmanship of spectators by working closely with administrators, cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, and booster clubs.

The coach shall meet and exchange greetings with the opposing coach before and after each contest to set and maintain a positive tone for the event.

The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse, while stressing the importance of a healthy lifestyle.