

NORTHSIDE ISD ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Northside provides a comprehensive athletic program for the benefit of NISD students. The underlying belief exists that participation in a competitive athletic program can provide students an opportunity to learn responsibility, dedication, leadership, hard work, respect for rules, respect for authority and many other positive qualities. Regulations are established to promote these qualities and to help build and maintain a strong athletic program. **It is recognized that some of the expectations for athletes exceed the expectations for the general student body.** Athletes are expected to follow the district policies and all athletic procedures set by the district and the school. Violations of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action. The facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration when determining consequences for rule violations.

It is the desire of Northside district and campus athletic staff to educate and counsel our young athletes on the serious harmful effects of substance abuse and the potential consequences inflicted upon themselves, their families, and their respective teammates should they choose to breach the Athletic Code of Conduct. It is also the intent of the Athletic Code of Conduct to provide a clearly defined course for our student athletes to follow and instill a belief that a one time infraction need not result in a permanent pattern in life.

The use, possession or distribution of illegal substances or an athlete's involvement in theft on the campus will be addressed accordingly. The athlete will be provided a hearing and investigation. The hearing process will be established by the principal and athletic coordinator on his/her campus. Any athlete found to be in violation of any of the aforementioned infractions will face disciplinary action.

Once guilt has been determined, the General Guidelines for Student Discipline as outlined in NISD Board Policy FO(Local) will be used when possible and applied to all cases concerning the campus athletic code of conduct. The following penalties will be administered throughout the district when infractions occur.

TOBACCO

No athlete shall, while on or off school premises, use, possess, distribute or be under the influence of tobacco.

A first offense will result in 2 week suspension of the athlete from game competition. If there are not 2 weeks remaining in that particular sport season, the balance will be fulfilled in the subsequent sport season. A contract will be required.*

A second offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from the athletic program for the remainder of the school year in which the infraction occurred. Another contract will be required.

A third offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from middle school or high school athletics.

ALCOHOL

No athlete shall, while on or off campus, sell, give, deliver, use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol.

The first offense will result in a 4 week suspension of the athlete from game competition. If there are not 4 weeks remaining in that particular sport season, the balance will be fulfilled in the subsequent sport season. A contract will be required.*

The second offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from athletics for the remainder of the school year. Another contract will be required.

The third offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from middle school or high school athletics.

ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

No athlete shall, while on or off campus, sell, give, deliver, use, possess, or be under the influence of illegal substances.

A first offense will result in a 6 week suspension of the athlete from game competition. If there are not 6 weeks remaining in that particular sport season, the balance will be fulfilled in the subsequent sport season. A contract will be required.*

A second offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from middle school or high school athletics.

THEFT (on campus)

Any athlete guilty of theft on campus will face the following consequences:

A first offense will result in a 3-6 week suspension of the athlete from game competition determined by the value and circumstances involved in the theft. If there are not 3-6 weeks left in that particular sport season, the balance will be fulfilled in the subsequent sport season. A contract will be required.*

A second offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from athletics for the remainder of the school year. Another contract will be required.

A third offense will result in dismissal of the athlete from middle school or high school athletics.

Behaviors that are identified by the Texas Education Code, Section 37.007, may also result in suspension or dismissal of the athlete from the athletic program. These behaviors are identified in the Student-Parent Handbook and are listed as Category Offenses I, II, III and IV of the Code of Student Conduct and will apply to athletes while on or off the campus. Athletes must remain aware that being a part of an extracurricular activity is considered an honor and a privilege and not a right. Therefore, it requires observance of all discipline policies whether or not an athlete is at school or school-related activities.

The discipline consequences for violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct may include suspension or dismissal of the athlete from the athletic program. Such actions, if any, shall be taken by head coaches only after consultation with the campus athletic coordinator and school administration. A behavioral contract may also be used following various infractions. Consequences for some rule violations may be addressed by coaches through discipline within the student's athletic program (short term suspensions, reduced playing time, role or position reassignment, contracts, etc.) Additional disciplinary consequences can also be imposed by the appropriate school officials for conduct or behavior that violates the District's Code of Student Conduct.

Note: If the offense occurs during the summer, the suspension will begin with the first week of game competition.

If the offense occurs during the season, the suspension will begin with the next game competition.

If the offense occurs at the end of the season, the remaining suspension games will carry over to the next sport season, starting with the first contest of the next season.

****CONTRACTS***

Upon verification of a first offense of the Athletic Code of Conduct, the athlete will be required to attend a conference in which he/she will be presented a contract among the athlete, parent(s) or guardian(s), campus administrator, and his/her coach and athletic coordinator. The contract will reflect an understanding of the expectations of his/her particular campus and consequences for future rule violations. The contract must be signed by the athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) prior to his/her reinstatement on the team for competition.

Athlete

Date

Parent or Guardian

Date