

ATHLETIC TRAINING REGULATIONS – GOOD CONDUCT RULE

PHILOSOPHY

It is the philosophy of the Van Buren School Board, administrators and faculty that students represent their school in a positive manner at all times in and out of the school setting. It is reasonable to expect each Van Buren Student to conduct himself or herself at all times in a proper and legal manner as this behavior is reflective of the district. Students also serve as role models for peers and younger students; therefore their attitudes and actions have an impact on others.

We believe that participating in any Extra-Curricular Activity and school event is a privilege. Those who participate are expected to maintain high standards of behavior. It is also our belief that through an educational treatment program and/or community service, students can learn how to change their behavior so as not to repeat violations of the Good Conduct Policy. This policy will afford students with the opportunity to have a positive learning experience as a participant in the activities or program.

CONDUCT RULE

Students who participate in extracurricular activities and school events are representing their school and are therefore expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents the ideals, principles and standards of the Van Buren Community School District as detailed in the district policy and Iowa Code. Students who fail to represent the school in an acceptable manner will be subject to disciplinary procedures as set forth in the guidelines below. This policy is in effect and applies to student conduct 365 days a year for all students beginning the summer after their 6th grade year through the summer of their 12th grade year.

A student may lose eligibility under the policy for any of the following behaviors:

- Possession, use or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the students age;
- Possession, use or purchase of alcoholic beverages as defined by Iowa Code 123.3;
- Being in a car or in attendance at a function/gathering/party where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors**;
- Possession, use or purchase of illegal drugs, prescription drugs not prescribed for you, or look-alike drugs (such as, but not limited to, salvia, k2, spice, etc);
- Engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses and misdemeanor hunting/fishing violations, regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act (stealing, damage to school property or that of school personnel, etc);
- Exceedingly inappropriate or offensive conduct toward others; such as assaulting staff or students, insubordination (talking back or refusing to cooperate with authority), hazing, or harassment of others;
- Inappropriate or offensive behaviors that are not conducive to a high quality extra curricular program or fail to represent the school in a manner acceptable to the coach/sponsor and school administration.
- Electronic communications, including but not limited to, email, internet-based communications, cell phones, and text messages, that either (a) materially and substantially disrupt appropriate school discipline or reasonably can be expected to do so; (b) interferes with the rights of others to participate in the educational process; (c) threatens conduct which would endanger the health, safety or well being of students, school personnel, or volunteers; or (d) advocates illegal activity. The conduct prohibited by this policy is in addition to the conduct prohibited by the district's anti-bullying policy.

- Maintaining or posting on a website, social network page, blog or other form of communication that disparages the district, its students, or its staff or which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior will be considered a violation of this code.

**If a student finds him/herself in a situation (vehicle, room, function, gathering, party, etc.) where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors, the student's options are:

1. Leave the situation immediately

Or

2. Stay and risk the loss of eligibility as determined by the Good Conduct Policy

CONSEQUENCES

A student who is found to be in violation of the Good Conduct Policy will be deemed ineligible for a period of time as described below. Ineligibility means that the student who is declared ineligible will be prohibited from making any public appearance on behalf of the school; athletics, any extra-curricular performances, organizations, or honorary offices (including Queen/King candidates and attendants). He/She may not attend any school sponsored dances (including prom and homecoming) or go on any school sponsored trips other than class required field trips.

1st Offense 20% of contest/performance dates (ie; if a double header or two matches would occur on one day this would count as 1 missed contest/performance)

OR

10% of contest/performance dates if the student elects to attend either 1) a 6 hour Substance Abuse Training Course, if the offense is alcohol, tobacco, or drug related or 2) 6 hours of approved education program if the offense is violence, bullying/harassment related.

2nd Offense 50% of contest/performance dates

OR

30% of contest/performance dates if the student elects to participate in either 1) a Substance Abuse evaluation or other approved evaluation service, if the offense is alcohol, tobacco, or drug related or 2) a mental health evaluation if the offense is violence, bullying or harassment related.

3rd (or subsequent) Offense

12 calendar months of ineligibility

Number of Contest /Events for each activity and ineligibility period: See Activities Table.

PROBATION

For any student transitioning from Middle school (8th grade) to high school (9th grade) with code of conduct violations they will experience a probationary period during their 9th grade year beginning during the summer of their 8th grade year and extending through the end of the school year of their 9th grade year. If the student receives no conduct violations during this probationary year all violations from middle school will be expunged from their record. If they receive ANY violations of the conduct policy during this probationary period ALL middle school violations will transfer to high school.

COMMUNITY SERVICE- For activities only having one performance or trip per year the student may "work-off" their ineligibility by performing 15 hours (1st offense) or 30 hours (2nd offense) of community service. Service must be approved by administration and the proper forms must be completed and signed by a supervisor before eligibility can be regained.

INELIGIBILITY- Ineligibility begins immediately for any student currently engaged in any extracurricular activity in violation of this policy. If a student is not currently in an activity, or if the discipline can not be completed during the current activity, the discipline will be carried over and completed with the next activity. An ineligible student will attend all practices and rehearsals at the direction of the coach/sponsor, but will not be allowed to participate or wear team uniforms in competitions or performances. However, if a student drops out of an activity prior to completion of the period of ineligibility, the discipline will be applied to the next available activity. Eligibility begins at the completion of 6th grade and extends through the summer after graduation. Ineligibility will continue through any appeals process.

SERVING- If a student is involved in concurrent activities the student will be deemed ineligible from all activities until they have regained eligibility. The student will regain eligibility based on their predominant activity level; ie JV or Varsity.

TRANSFER- If a student transfers in from another school district and the student had not yet completed a period of ineligibility for a violation of a Good Conduct Policy in the previous district, the student shall be ineligible until the full period of ineligibility has been completed. The full period will be based on the previous schools policy with consideration given to the Van Buren School District policy. The administration has the authority to determine the length and severity of ineligibility when the policies do not correspond. The determination shall not be a shorter time period than the shortest time period stated between the two schools.

DUE PROCESS

The following procedure is set up to ensure that all students are afforded due process:

1. The Activities Director and/or Administrator will meet with the student and listen to his/her possible involvement.
2. If a student admits to being involved, the parents will be notified of the appropriate discipline.
 - a. Student will call parent in the presence of the school official and relate the circumstances to the parent, if student refuses then school official will call the parent.
 - b. When the parent can not be reached by phone, then a notification letter will be sent via email or U.S. Mail for the parent to sign and acknowledge they have seen the letter by signing it and returning it. Parents have the option of calling rather than returning the letter.
 - c. If the letter is not returned or a phone call received from the parents, then the school will consider the notification process complete, discipline enforced, and a notification letter will be sent via email or U.S. Mail.
3. If a student denies involvement, a committee consisting of the coach/sponsor, activities director and the building administrator will meet with the student and the student's parents, when possible, to further explore the violation. If the committee decides that it can be reasonably determined that the student was involved in behaviors that violate this policy, administration will notify the student and parents of the decision regarding the discipline.

Ineligibility begins immediately for any student currently engaged in any extracurricular activity in violation of this policy and will continue through any appeals process.

APPEALS PROCESS

1. Any student who is found by the committee to have violated the Good Conduct Policy may appeal by contacting the superintendent within 3 business days of being advised of the violation. The discipline will be in effect pending the superintendent's decision.
2. If the student is still dissatisfied, he or she may appeal to the school board by filing a written appeal with the board secretary at least 24 hours prior to the next board meeting. The review by the board will be in closed session. The grounds for appeal to the school board are limited to the following; (a) the student did not violate the policy; (b) the student was given inadequate due process in the investigation and determination; (c) the discipline is in violation of the Board Policy. The discipline will remain in effect pending the outcome of the meeting with the board.

If the school board reverses the decision of the committee, the student shall be immediately eligible and have any record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS OF GOOD CONDUCT POLICY

The activities director and/or administrator will make the determination if a student has violated the Good Conduct Policy or deemed to be in violation by any or a combination of the following:

1. Charged by law enforcement
2. Student admits to violating one of the items in the Good Conduct Policy
3. Witness of violating one of the items of the Good Conduct Policy by one or more staff members or numerous credible witnesses on or off campus.
 - a. Staff members will notify the student of the misconduct immediately upon witness.
 - b. Staff member will then notify the athletic director or building administrator of misconduct.

The coach/sponsor of any activity may issue additional requirements for their specific activity. These rules shall be presented to each student participating in the extra-curricular activity at the start of the "season" and a copy filed for approval with the activities director and building administrator.

ACTIVITIES TABLE

Event	Number of Performances	1 st infraction- 20%	2 nd Infraction- 50%
Baseball	25	5	13
Softball	25	5	13
Football	9	2	5
JV Football	8	2	4
Cross Country	9	2	5
Volleyball	14	3	7
Volleyball JV	11	2	6
V. Boys Basketball	21	4	11
V. Girls Basketball	21	4	11
JV Girls Basketball	12	2	6

JV Boys Basketball	13	3	7
Wrestling	14	3	7
Boys Golf	12	2	6
Girls Golf	11	2	6
Boys Track	10	2	5
Girls Track	12	2	6
JH Baseball	12	2	6
JH Softball	12	2	6
JH Cross Country	7	1	4
JH volleyball	8	2	4
JH Football	6	1	3
JH Boys Basketball	10	2	5
JH Girls Basketball	10	2	5
JH Wrestling	7	1	4
JH Boys Track	7	1	4
JH Girls Track	7	1	4
Wrestling Cheerleading	14	3	7
Football Cheerleading	9	2	5
Music/Flags	20	4	10
Dance Team	1- State competition	15 hours of community service	30 hours community service
Clubs/Activities*	Varies	15 hours of community service	30 hours community service

**Including but not limited to: Spanish Club, National Honor Society, YLC, Student Council, Art Club, ETC, Ag Club, FCCLA, Silver Cord Club, Weightlifting Club

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