

A. STUDENT ATHLETIC & LEADERSHIP CODE

The opportunity to participate in the athletic program or as an elected or appointed school leader in the Northshore School District is a privilege available to all students. Because of the public nature of athletic and activities programs sponsored by the district, students choosing to participate are expected to conduct themselves at all times during their season of participation and between consecutive seasons in a manner that will reflect the high standards and ideals of their school and community. These high personal standards for conduct promote maximum achievement, safe performances, commitment to excellence in health and conditioning, and fulfill responsibilities as student leaders by setting a positive example for other students.

The expectations for being a participant in a school's athletic or activities program, including specific eligibility requirements, training rules, activities expectations and team rules shall be communicated to team/group members at the beginning of the season of participation. All program expectations and team rules shall be in writing.

Students must meet the standards for interscholastic eligibility as outlined in Article 18 of the Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association handbook, the KINGCO League and the Northshore School District and specific expectations of their individual school. Copies of these rules and regulations may be obtained from the school Athletic or Activities Director upon request.

Any student who is involved as an athlete or as an appointed or elected school leader who willfully performs any act that substantially interferes with or is detrimental to the orderly operation of the District's athletic or activities programs shall be subject to discipline.

As participants in athletic or activities programs, students are faced with choices. If a student's choices interfere, impede, hinder their personal or group/team performance or render the individual as unfit to serve as a representative(s) of the district's schools, they forfeit the privilege to participate.

1. GENERAL RULES

Misconduct by participants in the athletic/activity program at any time, on or off campus, school related and/or non-school activities during the season of participation and between consecutive seasons of participation constitutes cause for discipline including denial of participation in and/or removal from the athletic or activities program. Seasons begin with the first turnout, election or appointment to a position and conclude with the season ending recognition/awards program in the individual sport or activity.

Student Athletic and Leadership Code violations are accumulative during grades seven and eight and again in grades nine through twelve. Any ninth grade student shall be considered a high school student.

Consequences for violations of the Student Athletic & Leadership Code will include any or all:

- **Probation** is a period of time in which a student may be given time to correct deficiencies that could result in denial of participation for a given period of time or removal from the activities/group, athletic team or participation.
- **Denial of participation** means that the student is allowed to practice but not compete or perform in games or any leadership activities.
- The **loss of eligibility**, which may carry over to subsequent sports/activities seasons, means the student will not practice in uniform, or participate in interscholastic competition or leadership activities/groups. Per Northshore School District disciplinary code, a student on suspension from school is not eligible for any form of participation or attendance at any school activities or athletic events.

Student athletes and school leaders are held to all general rules of conduct as stated previously in the *Rights & Responsibilities Handbook Concerning Student Conduct*. Behaviors resulting in disciplinary action and/or loss of eligibility include but are not limited to acts of planning, organizing or communicating an activity defined as exceptional misconduct or the act of influencing others to engage in exceptional misconduct whether carried out or not.

1) Use and/or Possession of Alcohol and Illegal Controlled Substances:

Possession, use, under the influence, purchase/sale agreement or intent to sell (whether completed or not), transport, distribution and/or delivery of alcohol, controlled substances (e.g. marijuana, narcotics or inhalants) and/or prescription drugs in a manner inconsistent with the prescribing order or look-a-like or drug paraphernalia is prohibited. This rule is applicable 24/7 for in-season athletes and student leaders. If a student athlete or leader finds him or herself in the presence of alcohol and/or an illegal controlled substance the student shall take immediate action to remove him or herself from the situation.

FIRST VIOLATION

The student will be denied participation with the team or leadership/activity group for twenty (20) school days reducible to ten (10) school days. When the sanction encompasses non-student days or academic break periods, athletic participation will also be impacted.

Reducing the loss of days of participation:

The loss of the opportunity to participate may be reduced by one half contingent upon the participation in an assessment process approved by the building administrator, consent to a release of assessment and program completion information to the building administrator and participating in recommended educational program addressing the prevention of drug and alcohol use.

Should the assessment and/or subsequent education program not be satisfactorily completed in a timely manner as determined by the building administrator, the loss of participation days waived shall be re-imposed and begin immediately.

SECOND VIOLATION

The student shall be denied participation from the athletic program or leadership/activity group for sixty (60) school days or the remainder of the season whichever is longer.

THIRD VIOLATION

The student will be prohibited from participation in the district athletic or leadership/activity program for the remainder of the school year.

Student athletes and/or student leaders seeking help for a problem with alcohol and/or illegal substance who voluntarily report their problem to the coach, activities director/athletic director or an administrator shall have disciplinary action addressed by their school.

2) Use and/or possession of tobacco products:

FIRST VIOLATION

The student shall be denied participation from the team or leadership/activity group for five (5) participation days.

SECOND VIOLATION

The student shall be denied participation from the team or leadership/activity group for twenty (20) participation days.

THIRD VIOLATION

The student shall be denied participation from the athletic or leadership/activity programs for the remainder of the current school year.

3) Use and/or possession of Anabolic Steroids or Drug Products; Legend Drugs: (Substances that may only be obtained by prescription) SEE WIAA REGULATION 18.23.2

The participant shall be immediately ineligible for interscholastic competition, in the current interscholastic sports program for the remainder of the season. Ineligibility shall continue until the next sports season in which the participant wishes to participate **unless the student accesses the assistance program outlined in the WIAA Handbook.**

4) Conduct Rules:

Athletes and/or student leaders will receive disciplinary consequences for failure to demonstrate courtesy, fairness and respect for other participants, spectators, advisors, coaches, staff members, and supervisors; unsportsmanlike conduct; profanity, obscene gestures; lack of attendance; and/or damage, vandalism to school property, uniform and equipment, another school's and/or district's property. Athletes and/or student leaders are held to all rules of conduct as listed and described in the *Rights & Responsibilities Handbook Concerning Student Conduct* and will receive disciplinary consequences for failure to follow reasonable requests, academic dishonesty violations, bullying, misuse of technology and/or behaviors deemed unacceptable by Northshore School District and/or the community.

5) Failure to Follow Building and/or Team Rules:

Each sport/leadership/ activity position will have individual team/group rules established by the head coach/advisor. The head coach/advisor shall inform the school Athletic Director/Activity Director and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) of these specific team and/or leadership rules. When students fail to follow these rules, disciplinary consequences for their actions shall be applied.

FIRST VIOLATION

The student will be placed on probation/denial of participation from the athletic team/leadership position, suspended or removed from the team or leadership position, depending on the severity of the action, as deemed appropriate by the administration.

SECOND VIOLATION

If the student was not denied participation based on the first violation, the second violation will result in denial of participation or removal from the team or leadership position for the remainder of the current school year.

a. Right of Review:

Consequences assigned from the Student Athletic/Leadership Code are a form of discipline. Athletic/Leadership disciplinary actions are subject to review through an informal grievance process. Should the student or parent/guardian feel aggrieved by the imposition of discipline through the Athletic/Leadership Code, the student and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) would follow the Disciplinary Appeal and Hearing process as described on page 18 of the *Rights & Responsibilities Handbook Concerning Student Conduct*.

Requests to review consequences specifically impacting eligibility for current and/or future seasons would adhere to the following process:

A request to review a disciplinary action must be submitted in writing to the Athletic/Activity Director or the administrator charged with supervising athletics and/or activities within two (2) school business days after notification of the corrective action. After that time, the right to any review is waived. Any student, parent(s) or guardian(s) who is aggrieved by the imposition of Athletic /Leadership Code corrective action shall have the right to an informal conference with the Athletic/Activity Director or the administrator charged with supervising athletics and/or activities for the purpose of resolving the grievance. During such conference, the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be subject to questioning by the Athletic/Activity Director or the administrator charged with supervising athletics and/or activities and shall be entitled to question school personnel involved in the matter being grieved. The review of the grievance will be conducted within three (3) school business days of receipt of a written request to have the action reviewed. The application of the assigned corrective action shall continue notwithstanding the grievance process; the student cannot participate until the grievance is resolved. The outcome of any grievance review process may result in a decision to sustain the corrective action assigned by the coach/Activity Director or to modify or rescind the corrective action in cases of extenuating or exceptional circumstances.

- Subsequent to the review with the Athletic/Activity Director or the administrator charged with supervising athletics and/or activities, the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) upon two (2) school business days prior notice, shall have the right to present a written and/or oral grievance to the building principal or his or her designee for the purpose of resolving the grievance. During such conference, the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be subject to questioning by the building principal or his or her designee and shall be entitled to question school personnel involved in the matter being grieved. The review of the grievance will be conducted within three (3) school business days of receipt of a written request to have the action reviewed. The application of the assigned corrective action shall continue notwithstanding the grievance process the student cannot participate until the grievance is resolved. The outcome of any grievance review process may result in a decision to sustain the corrective action or to modify or rescind the corrective action in cases of extenuating or exceptional circumstances.
- Subsequent to the review with the building principal, the student, parent(s) or guardian(s), upon two (2) school business days prior notice, shall have the right to present a written and/or oral grievance to the District Hearings Officer. The student, parent(s) or guardian(s) will have the opportunity to present their grievance to the District Hearings Officer. During the hearing the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be subject to questioning by the District Hearings Officer. The decision of the District Hearings Officer to sustain, modify or rescind the corrective action will be conveyed in writing to the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) within two (2) school business days of concluding the hearing.
- If the grievance is not resolved, the student, parent(s) or guardian(s), upon two (2) school business days prior notice, shall have the right to present a written and/or oral grievance to the Board of Directors. The appeal shall be scheduled before/after a regularly scheduled board meeting. The board shall notify the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) of its response to the grievance within ten (10) school business days after the date of the meeting.

Student Agreement

Any student who is involved as an athlete or as an elected or appointed school leader must adhere to the rules outlined in this code and sign the agreement pledging to do so.

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____