

## **Athletic Training Rules - FINAL**

### **I. SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS**

Athletics are part of the total educational program in the Dansville Schools. All educational programs, including athletics, should stress the cooperative, contributing, creative and competitive values found in our society.

If athletics are to be educational, they must reinforce the positive attitude of young people, make demands and give direction. Hard work, commitment and continuous display of good sportsmanship are essential to the program and to the student athlete.

A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. Being a member of an athletic team is a privilege and must be treated as such.

In addition to the rules and regulations established in the student handbook, the Dansville School Board policies and practices and the Michigan High School Athletic Association, a student-athlete must adhere to the athletic training rules. Training rules will be in effect 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week for 12 months of the year, for students who are participating or attempting to participate in athletics.

Every effort should be made to assure broad-based student participation. Continued emphasis shall reinforce the philosophy that the educational sports program is an integral part of the educational program and is justifiable only to the extent that it provides desirable learning experiences. All athletic activities should be coordinated with the aims and objectives of the total school program.

Extra curricular activities are provided as an extension of the students' education. All must function to serve students' needs and are only justified on the basis of student needs. Each principal is responsible for recommending to the Board of Education changes, additions or deletions in the areas of extra curricular activities.

### **II. CODE OF ETHICS**

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
2. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials and to establish a positive relationship between visitors and hosts.
3. To respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials and athletes.
4. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
5. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual players.

### **III. DISCIPLINE FOR VIOLATION OF TRAINING RULES**

Definition: A "day" is defined as a day that school is in session or was scheduled to be in session, or days that an athletic competition is held in the sport for which the suspension occurs.

**A. THE POSSESSION OR USE OF ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

FIRST OFFENSE: The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products will mean suspension from game participation for 20 days. Once the violation has been deemed valid, discipline will begin with the next scheduled event. If it is necessary to carry a suspension over to the following sport or year, the punishment will continue with the next game in which the athlete could participate. For offenses dealing with possession, the school district reserves the right to lower the suspension when exculpatory circumstances are presented.

The student-athlete may have the suspension reduced to 15 days provided the student and his/her parent/guardian agree that:

1. A certified substance abuse counselor, approved by the school district will evaluate the student-athlete.
2. The student-athlete shall follow the program prescribed by the counselor.
3. The student-athlete will attend a substance abuse class approved by the school district.
4. The parent/guardian will provide proof of 1-3.
5. If any of the above steps are not followed, the suspension will remain 20 days.
6. Any evaluation or treatment will be paid by the parent or guardian.

SECOND OFFENSE: For a second violation, there will be a suspension from the team for 60 days or the remainder of the season, whichever is greater. If it is necessary to carry suspension over to the next sport or year, punishment will continue with the next game in which the athlete could participate.

THIRD OFFENSE: If a third offense occurs, there will be a 12 month suspension from athletic participation from the date of the last offense.

**B. THE POSSESSION OR USE OF DRUGS**

FIRST OFFENSE: The possession or use of drugs will result in suspension from game participation for 90 school days.

The student-athlete may have the suspension reduced to 72 days provided the student-athlete and his/her parents/guardian agree that:

1. A certified substance abuse counselor, approved by the school district will evaluate the student- athlete.
2. The student-athlete shall follow the program prescribed by the counselor.
3. The student-athlete will attend a substance abuse class approved by the school district.
4. The parent/guardian will provide proof of 1-3.
5. If any of the above steps are not followed, the suspension will remain 90 days.
6. Any evaluation or treatment will be paid by the parent or guardian.

SECOND OFFENSE: Suspension from athletics for 180 days.

THIRD OFFENSE: Permanent suspension from athletics.

- C. Any illegal or disgraceful behavior that results in arrest or conviction or behavior that reflects in a seriously degrading fashion against our athletic program and accepted standards of conduct will result in suspension of twenty (20) days and shall include a minimum of the next four official contests. The school may impose a longer suspension or exclusion depending on individual circumstances. The technicality of having charges dropped or reduced by a civil authority does not automatically clear the student-athlete from these rules; school investigation and findings will prevail over legal findings. Continued violations will result in punishment as in “The Third Offense” above. Disgraceful behavior shall include a violation as in “The Third Offense” above when in uniform, or going to/coming from a game.
- D. The sale of alcohol, drugs, serious illegal activities or felonies that result in arrest or conviction, will result in a full suspension from athletics for twelve (12) calendar months from the date of the decision. **A longer suspension/exclusion from athletics may be imposed by the athletic director and/or building principal.**
- E. Any athlete, cheerleader, or student manager will be expected to participate in practice sessions during any disciplinary suspension involving the above training rules. Except in “D” above.
- F. All discipline against an athlete for violation of these training rules or practice procedures will be handled by the coach. All assistant coaches will confer with the head coach of that sport; if there is disagreement, the position of the head coach will prevail.
- G. All decisions of the coach are subject to immediate review by the athletic director. All decisions of the athletic director are subject to review by the building principal. Decisions of the building principal are subject to review by the Superintendent and then the Board of Education if the person requests in writing to be placed on the agenda of the next board meeting.

revised 11/19/07  
reviewed 10/28/91  
reviewed December 14, 1992  
reviewed 12/18/95  
reviewed 1/96  
reviewed 8/96  
reviewed 4/30/01  
approved 6/17/02  
reviewed 11/18/02  
revised 12/16/02