



## ATHLETICS CODE OF CONDUCT

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### **PERFORMANCE ENHANCING SUBSTANCES**

A student-athlete's possession, use or sale of a performance-enhancing substance is a violation that will affect the student-athlete's eligibility and extracurricular participation.

The Department of Community Health periodically distributes to the district the list of banned drugs based on bylaw 31.2.3.1 of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Possession or use of any drugs or substances appearing on this list will affect the student-athlete's eligibility and extracurricular participation.

### **ATHLETIC TRAINING RULES**

Dansville Schools provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate providing they meet the applicable eligibility requirements.

Training rules are in effect 365 days each year commencing with the first day on which a student attends practice until he/she is no longer a student-athlete at Dansville Schools, which could extend past graduation. 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. If there is reasonable suspicion that a student has used drugs or tobacco and/or look-alike products, he or she may be asked to submit to a drug test.

Self-Disclosure: A student who voluntarily discloses to a school official or employee a need for assistance for alcohol or substance abuse prior to any report, charge of complaint under the SAACC will be required to follow the chemical assessment/treatment procedures outlined below. Reporting after an incident that might give rise to discipline will not be considered "self-disclosure." The student who self-discloses will not be charged with a violation of the rules and this option is available only once to a student during high school. Satisfaction of the assessment/treatment requirements must be verified in writing by a licensed agency. Any expense incurred for the chemical assessment or treatment program will be the responsibility of the student.

### **TRAINING RULES**

A student-athlete shall not use, possess, sell or distribute alcohol, tobacco, any controlled substance or misuse any prescription medication. This also applies to "look-alikes."

### **Discipline for Violation of Athletic Training Rules**

Participating in athletics is a privilege. Therefore, any school-related discipline issues will result in an athletic consequence as follows:



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1. First minor: student-athlete will sit out one-quarter of next competition
2. Second minor: student-athlete will sit out one-half of next competition
3. Third minor or major: student-athlete will sit the entire next competition
4. Suspension from school: student-athlete will miss their next two competitions

These consequences are intended to serve as guidelines for the administration as they make final decisions.

Discipline will begin with the next scheduled game in a sport in which the student-athlete participates. If it is necessary for the suspension to carry-over to another sport or year, the discipline will begin with the next game in which the student-athlete would participate. If a student-athlete is participating in a sport that is impacted by discipline, the student-athlete must participate for the entire season of that sport in order for any of the events of that sport to be counted towards the suspension.

**The possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, tobacco or drugs will result in a suspension from game participation, as described below:**

### **1. Possession or Use of Tobacco or Electronic Cigarettes or similar devices**

First Offense: Suspension from game participation for one-tenth of the total number of games of a sport in which the student-athlete participates.

Second Offense: Suspension from game participation for one-third of the total number of games of a sport in which the student-athlete participates.

Third Offense: Suspension from participation for one calendar year from the date of the suspension decision.

### **2. Possession or Use of Alcohol or Marijuana or Misuse of Non-Prescription Drugs**

First Offense: Suspension from game participation for one-third of the total number of games of a sport in which the student-athlete participates.

Second Offense: Suspension from game participation for one calendar year from the date of the suspension decision and completion of an evaluation by a certified substance abuse counselor who is approved by the district. The student-athlete must follow the program prescribed by the counselor. The parent/guardian will provide proof that the evaluation was completed and the recommendations were followed. If these steps are not followed, the



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student-athlete will remain suspended until these steps are completed.

Third Offense: Permanent suspension from athletics.

### **3. Misuse of Prescription Drugs /Other Narcotics or Distribution of Illegal Substances**

First Offense: Suspension from game participation for one calendar year from the date of the suspension decision and completion of an evaluation by a certified substance abuse counselor who is approved by the district. The student-athlete shall follow the program prescribed by the counselor. The parent/guardian will provide proof that the evaluation was completed and the recommendations were followed. If these steps are not followed, the student-athlete will remain suspended until these steps are completed.

Second Offense: Permanent suspension from athletics.

### **CONDUCT UNBECOMING AN ATHLETE**

Any illegal behavior that results in arrest or conviction or disgraceful behavior that reflects poorly upon Dansville Schools and its accepted standards of conduct will result in suspension of one-third of the total number of games of a sport in which the student-athlete participates.

The school may impose a longer suspension 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 consequences; school investigation and findings will prevail over legal findings.

Continued violations may result in permanent suspension from athletics at Dansville Schools.

Conduct unbecoming a student-athlete that may result in permanent suspension from athletics shall include, but not be limited to, any serious violations by a student-athlete when in uniform or going to/coming from a game. Serious illegal activities or felonies that result in arrest or conviction will result in a suspension from athletics for one calendar year from the suspension decision, meaning that the student-athlete cannot participate in Dansville athletics in any form for the duration of the suspension. A longer suspension from athletics may also be imposed by the athletic director and/or building principal.

### **PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS DURING AN ATHLETIC SUSPENSION**

Athletes will be expected to participate in practice sessions during any disciplinary suspension involving the above training rules, except for suspensions of one calendar year. All athletic discipline for violation of these training rules or practice expectations will be handled by the



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coach, athletic director and building principal.

### **CHAIN OF COMMAND**

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.

### **ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION POLICY**

1. Students in grades 6-12 who wish to engage in any sport shall submit evidence of physical fitness to the coach before practicing or competing in the sport. The student must secure a form from the coach, to be taken to the physical examination. The completed form, signed by the doctor (MD, DO, NP or PA), must be returned to the coach and filed in the athletic office. Fees charged by the doctor are the responsibility of the student/family. Physicals given after April 15 are valid through June 30 of the following school year. (i.e. April 15, 2022 expires June 30, 2023.)
2. Students may try out for any sport offered at Dansville Schools. Coaches determine the tryout time period and the final roster.
3. Athletes will be required to pay a fee to participate in athletics. *If the fee will prevent the student-athlete from participating, the student-athlete's parent or guardian is encouraged to contact the athletic director or coach for possible assistance.*
4. Athletes are expected to commence the season at the earliest possible date. Late enrollment will be permitted, but lack of conditioning, instruction in fundamentals and equipment or uniforms may delay the opportunity for latecomers to participate.
5. If it is necessary to cut a student-athlete from a high school team, the coach shall consult with the athletic director and/or building principal who will confirm that cuts are needed.
6. If cuts are confirmed at the junior varsity level, upperclassmen may not be moved to junior varsity or freshman teams.
7. Seniors shall participate at the varsity level.
8. A student-athlete who discontinues one sport in good standing may join another team in the same athletic season if the change is made prior to the first athletic contest unless there are extenuating circumstances. If a change is to take place, the student-athlete must contact the athletic director who will facilitate the transfer. Key factors in the decision are the impact that the transfer would have on both teams and the situation of the student involved.
9. Athletes who miss a practice session or contest must present his/her reason for missing to the coach. If the student-athlete knows in advance that he/she must miss, he/she will



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inform the coach in advance to request to be excused. The coach will handle excused and unexcused absences. "Automatic suspensions" are not permitted. The coach involved must meet with the athletic director before this type of action can be taken.

10. To be eligible for participation in any practice, scrimmage or competition, students must be in attendance the full school day or have an excused absence. For an absence to be excused for the purpose of athletic competition the parent must have cleared the absence with the athletic director. Funerals, doctor appointments and emergency situations are examples of acceptable reasons for excused absences. If a student is too sick to attend class, they shall not participate in practices, scrimmages or competition. If absences are excessive, they may be excluded from athletic competition by their coach and/or athletic director.
11. Student-athletes suspended from the regular school day are not permitted to be on school property or participate in extracurricular programs.
12. "In-school" suspension is considered a suspension with the same limitations and privileges of an "out-of-school" suspension.
13. Dual sport athletes must fill out the dual sport application and name a primary sport. This must be approved/signed by both coaches, Athletic Director and Principal.

### **ATHLETICS AND ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR DANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

Eligibility is checked on Friday morning each week and at the end of each semester.

Students who participate in interscholastic sports and those who are student managers shall conform to rules of eligibility.

1. To be eligible to participate in athletics for the next semester, students must pass **ALL** of their classes. All Wilson Talent Center courses are included for eligibility. The student-athlete will not be able to participate in athletics for an entire semester or until the credit is recovered.
2. Student-athletes who fail any classes during weekly eligibility checks will be ineligible Sunday through Saturday of the following week.
  - Student-athletes may practice but may not participate in contests and cannot be in uniform.
  - If a student-athlete is ineligible for two consecutive weeks, the student-athlete will be required to follow an academic support plan. Failure to follow this plan may impact the privilege to play the sport. This plan will be developed by the principal and may include input from teachers, parents, student-athlete, coach and athletic director.



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3. Dansville High School is a member of MHSAA and enforces MHSAA Regulations.
4. Students will be allowed to retake tests after school, if needed, without athletic consequence.

### **ATHLETIC EJECTION POLICY**

If a student-athlete is ejected from an athletic event, that student-athlete shall not participate in the next event for which he/she would be eligible. If a conflict exists between this policy and the MHSAA policy, the building principal will ensure that disciplinary action enforced at least meets MHSAA requirements at a minimum.

If the student-athlete is ejected from more than one event during a one-year period (starting with the date of the first ejection), the student-athlete shall not participate in the next event and the athletic director and/or coach may impose additional consequences.



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I \_\_\_\_\_ have read the  
(student/athlete printed name)

Dansville Schools Athletic Department Code of Conduct and understand the policies and procedures. I also understand that these rules are in effect 365 days a year from the first day I sign until I graduate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student/Athlete Signature & Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's/Guardian's Signature & Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's/Guardian's email)