

WARRICK COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION BOONVILLE, INDIANA	Code: 4051
	Student Conduct - Athletic Code

General Policy

The Board of School Trustees of the Warrick County School Corporation believes that interscholastic athletic programs can be an integral part of the total school program for each student who desires to be a participant.

The Warrick County School Corporation Athletic Code provides guidelines for students, such as, but not all inclusive, cheerleaders, drill team members, team managers, and any participant in the athletic program.

The Board of School Trustees endorses the concepts of specific objectives for the student athletes such as good sportsmanship, proper habits of health, hygiene and safety, the development of new skills, and the commitment, dedication, loyalty, and self-discipline for each individual who is involved in the athletic program.

It is also considered by the Board of School Trustees that interscholastic participants understand and comprehend that these athletic activities are secondary to the regular school program of studies, and are intended to supplement the total learning program of all participants.

The Board of School Trustees considers academics as the only reason for retention. Under no circumstances will athletics be a determining factor in retention. Retention will occur upon recommendation of the teacher, and/or counselor, with the approval of the principal, except when mandatory by Indiana state assessment rules. A parent consultation will be held and parent opinion will be considered before the final decision is made. Recommendations for retention initiated by a parent will be considered on the same standards as recommendations made by school staff.

In accordance with the philosophy of the Board of School Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools is directed to establish and implement appropriate regulations pertaining to this policy.

- ADOPTED: 8/25/88
- REVISED: 2/21/94
- REVISED: 6/23/97
- REVISED: 4/17/2000
- REVISED: 12/14/2020

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Philosophy: The Warrick County School Corporation believes that interscholastic programs can play an important part in the total school curriculum. Participants, through self-discipline and mental and physical conditioning, may improve their personal development on an extracurricular and voluntary basis. All Warrick County middle schools and high schools, in their athletic programs, shall extend the privilege of participation to all students. When a student accepts this opportunity, then with it comes certain responsibilities, as stated in the Warrick County Athletic Code.

Objectives: The athletic program provides participants with opportunities:

1. To learn to strive for excellence.
2. To observe and exemplify good sportsmanship.
3. To provide another outlet for the competitive spirit.
4. To practice proper habits for health, hygiene, and safety.
5. To learn new skills and develop them to maximum effectiveness.
6. To engender friendship both with teammates and opponents.
7. To provide experiences in commitment, dedication, loyalty, and self-discipline.
8. To stimulate school spirit by involving students other than athletes.
9. To instill immediate interest and personal meaning into the daily lives of athletes and family members; this interest can enhance the participant's total educational well-being.
10. To develop a positive self-image and personal pride among individual participants.

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Eligibility Guidelines and Reasons for Suspension: To be a participant in interscholastic competition, a student must meet all eligibility and scholastic requirements and standards of the Indiana High School Athletic Association and of the Warrick County School Corporation. Failure to meet any of these standards shall result in immediate implementation of the Warrick County School Corporation’s rules, regulations, guidelines, penalties, and suspensions. A student who reflects discredit upon his/her school, or creates a disruption in the discipline, good order, moral, or educational environment of his/her school or school activities shall be ineligible to participate in athletics. Prohibited conduct that requires suspension of a student’s athletic eligibility includes, but is not limited to: (1) possession or use of tobacco in any form, (2) possession or use of alcohol in any form, (3) illegal use or illegal possession of a drug, a depressant, stimulant, or controlled substance, or use or possession of drug paraphernalia, (4) possession or use of performance enhancing drugs, (5) verbal harassment, (6) sexual harassment, (7) theft, (8) vandalism, or (9) sexual violations.

All regulations are in effect twelve (12) months of the year, twenty-four (24) hours a day. Any out-of-season violation shall be treated as an in-season violation. A canceled or postponed contest will not count toward the fulfillment of a suspension. A signed acknowledgment form must be on file at the school before a student will be allowed to participate in any interscholastic practices or events.

Information that may be considered in determining a violation of the Athletic Code includes, but is not limited to: (1) police reports; (2) court records; (3) tickets or citations; (4) admissions or statements by the student; (5) written or oral statements of witnesses; and (6) other information which may demonstrate that a violation of the Code occurred.

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I. FIRST VIOLATION

When a high school or middle school school principal or his/her designee determines that it is more likely than not that a student has violated the Code, the student shall be suspended immediately from athletics, as follows:

A. Tobacco and Vaping

For the first tobacco and/or vaping violation, the student shall be suspended during the student’s sport season for 10% of the scheduled contests or one (1) contest, whichever is greater.

B. Alcohol, Drug, or Drug Paraphernalia

For the first violation of the prohibition against use and possession of alcohol, a drug, or drug paraphernalia, the student shall be suspended during the student’s sport season for 20% of the scheduled contests or two (2) contests, whichever is greater.

C. Other Violations

For the first violation of all other prohibited conduct, the student shall be suspended during the student’s sport season for 10% of the scheduled contests or one (1) contest, whichever is greater.

II. SECOND VIOLATION

When a high school or middle school principal or his/her designee determines that it is more likely than not that a student has committed a second violation of the code, whether in the same or different violation category, the student shall be ineligible and suspended from participating in Warrick County School Corporation athletics for three hundred and sixty-five (365) days, commencing on the date of the determination of the violation.

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III. REHABILITATION

IN ADDITION TO SERVING THE ATHLETIC SUSPENSION, FOR EACH VIOLATION, THE STUDENT MUST:

- A. Seek and follow rehabilitation in a tobacco abuse program, an alcohol or drug abuse program, or other program, according to the category of violation, as offered through or approved by the Warrick County School Corporation Office of Student Services.
- B. Provide a written statement that a professional assessment has been obtained, that a rehabilitation recommendation has been made, and that the student has completed the recommendation or is following the recommendation.
- C. Provide to the Director of Student Services a “release of information” form signed by the student and parent/guardian authorizing the Director of Student Services to verify that rehabilitation treatment has been sought and has been completed or is being followed.

IV. THIRD VIOLATION

When a high school or middle school principal or his/her designee determined that it is more likely than not that a student has committed a third violation of the code, whether in the same or different violation category, the student shall be ineligible to participate in any athletics, athletic contests, or on athletic teams for the duration of his/her high school career. A third violation by a middle school student will prohibit his/her athletic participation in grades seven (7) and eight (8).

V. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL VIOLATIONS

- A. Any first violation occurring at the middle school level without the suspension being served at the middle school level shall be served at the high school level.
- B. Any second or third violation occurring at the middle school level without the suspension being served completely at the middle school level will result in a continuation of the suspension at the high school level until there has been a total suspension of three hundred sixty-five (365) days, commencing on the date of the determination of the violation of the athletic code.
- C. A middle school student is governed by the high school regulations at the time the student concludes his/her middle school education.

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VI. APPEAL PROCESS

An appeal of a decision that a violation of the Athletic Code has occurred must be initiated by written notification to the Building Principal within seven (7) days of the student or parent being notified of the decision. Thereafter, an appeal of the Building Principal’s decision must be initiated by written notification to the Superintendent within seven (7) days of the student or parent being notified of the Building Principal’s decision. An appeal within the school is a conference with the Building Principal; an appeal to the Superintendent is a conference with the Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee. An appeal conference shall be conducted as soon as reasonably practical. An appeal conference is informal and does not require formal use of procedures, pleadings, or evidence. There shall be no further appeals to others within the School Corporation nor to the Board of School Trustees. During the appeal process, a suspension remains in effect.

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A complete copy of this policy is on file at the Athletic Director’s office and the Principal’s office.

Eligibility and Guidelines

A student who reflects discredit upon his/her school, or creates a disruption in the discipline, good order, morale, or educational environment of his/her school, or school activities shall be ineligible to participate in athletics. Prohibited conduct that requires suspension of athletic eligibility includes, but is not limited to: (1) possession or use of tobacco in any form, (2) possession or use of alcohol in any form, (3) illegal use or illegal possession of a drug, depressant, stimulant, or controlled substance, or use or possession of drug paraphernalia, (4) possession or use of performance-enhancing drugs, (5) verbal harassment, (6) sexual harassment, (7) theft, (8) vandalism, or (9) sexual violations.

All regulations are in effect twelve (12) months of the year, twenty-four (24) hours a day. Any out-of-season violation shall be treated as an in-season violation. A canceled or postponed contest will not count toward the fulfillment of a suspension. A signed acknowledgment form must be on file at the school before a student will be allowed to participate in any interscholastic practices or events.

Information that may be considered in determining a violation of this Athletic Code includes, but is not limited to: (1) police reports, (2) court records, (3) tickets or citations, (4) admissions or statements by the students, (5) written or oral statements of witnesses, and (6) other information which may demonstrate that a violation of the Code occurred.

I. FIRST VIOLATION

When a high school or middle school principal or his/her designee determines that it is more likely than not that student has violated the code, the student shall be suspended immediately from athletics, as follows:

- A. Tobacco
For the first tobacco violation, the student shall be suspended during the student’s sport season for 10% of the contests or one (1) contest, whichever is greater.
- B. Alcohol, Drug, or Drug Paraphernalia
For the first violation of the prohibition against use and possession of alcohol, a drug, or drug paraphernalia, the student shall be suspended during the student’s sport season for 20% of the contests or two (2) contests, whichever is greater.
- C. For the first violation of all other prohibited conduct, the student shall be suspended during the student’s sport season for 10% of the contests or one (1) contest, whichever is greater.

II. SECOND VIOLATION

When a high school or middle school principal or his/her designee determines that it is more likely than not that a student has committed a second violation of the Code, whether in the same or different violation category, the student shall be ineligible and suspended from participating in Warrick County School Corporation athletics for three hundred and sixty-five (365) days, commencing on the date of the determination of the violation.

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- A. Seek and follow rehabilitation in a tobacco abuse program, an alcohol or drug abuse program, or other program, according to the category of violation, as offered through or approved by the Warrick County School Corporation Office of Student Services.
- B. Provide a written statement that a professional assessment has been obtained, that a rehabilitation recommendation has been made, and that the student has completed the recommendation or is following the recommendation.
- C. Provide to the Director of Student Services a “release of information” form signed by the student and parent/guardian authorizing the Director of Student Services to verify that rehabilitation treatment has been sought and has been completed or is being followed.

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- B. Any second or third violation occurring at the middle school level, without suspension being served completely at the middle school level, will result in a continuation of the suspension at the high school level, until there has been a total suspension of three hundred sixty-five (365) days, commencing on the date of the determination of the violation of the Athletic Code.
- C. A middle school student is governed by the high school regulations at the time the student concludes his/her middle school education.

VI. APPEAL PROCESS

Any suspension may be appealed, within seven (7) days, first to the Building Principal and then to the Superintendent, as stated in the Athletic Code Policy and Regulations. During the appeal process, the student will not be allowed to participate in any athletic contests.

We acknowledge that we have read and understood the above excerpts of the Warrick County School Corporation Athletic Code of Conduct. We acknowledge that we may obtain a complete copy of the Student Conduct Athletic Code Policy from the Athletic Director's Office or the Principal's Office.

STUDENT

DATE

PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN

DATE

THIS SIGNED FORM MUST BE ON FILE AT THE SCHOOL BEFORE A STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY INTERSCHOLASTIC PRACTICES OR EVENTS.