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Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities

It is the wish of the administration and the School Board that we provide a quality program to all of our students. The following rules pertain to both athletics and to all extracurricular activities. Any student representing the Macomb Schools is accountable for displaying these high standards. The following policies apply to all students participating in scheduled activities which occur outside of school hours. This District discipline policy applies to all students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, especially in the case of disrespect, threatening District employees, etc. This District policy does not apply to activities receiving academic credit. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations. All students remain subject to the Board’s student discipline policy and/or student handbook and the disciplinary measures listed in them.

Prior to the beginning of each season or activity, a student and parent/guardian orientation meeting shall be conducted by the designated building administrator for the purpose of assuring understanding of Policy 7:240 as it pertains to participation in athletics and extracurriculars in the Macomb Schools.

The Superintendent or designee, using input from coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities, shall develop a conduct code for all participants in extracurricular activities consistent with Board policy. The conduct code shall: (1) require participants in extracurricular activities to conduct themselves as good citizens and exemplars of their school at all times, including after school, on days when school is not in session, and whether on or off school property; (2) emphasize that hazing, bullying, and cyberbullying activities are strictly prohibited; and (3) notify participants that failure to abide by these conditions could result in removal from the activity. The conduct code shall be reviewed by the Building Principal periodically at his or her discretion and presented to the School Board.

Participants in extracurricular activities must abide by the conduct code for the activity and Board policy 7:190, Student Behavior. All coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities shall annually review the rules of conduct with participants and provide participants with a copy. In addition, coaches and sponsors of interscholastic athletic programs shall provide instruction on steroid abuse prevention to students in grades 7 through 12 participating in these programs.

Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program
All participants in extracurricular activities will comply with the IHSA drug testing policy.

I. GENERAL RULES FOR MACOMB ATHLETES AND EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPANTS

For all students, grades K through 12: Selection of members or participants is at the discretion of the teachers, sponsors, or coaches, provided that the selection criteria conform to the District’s policies. Students must satisfy all academic standards and must comply with the activity’s rules and student conduct code.

A. Participation in extracurricular activities is dependent upon course selection and successful progress in those courses. In order to be eligible to participate in any school-sponsored high school athletic or high school extracurricular activity, a student must maintain a cumulative 1.5 grade point average (GPA), be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) academic classes, and be earning a passing grade in each course in which the student is enrolled. Any student-participant failing to meet these academic criteria shall be suspended from the activity for seven (7) calendar days or until the specified academic criteria are met, whichever is longer. In addition, any student-participant who fails to maintain the required 1.5 GPA for the semester or fails any class for the semester shall be declared ineligible for the following semester.

B. Participants are expected to conduct themselves in a positive and mature manner at all times. Good behavior is a realistic goal for all participants. All school rules pertain to athletics and extracurricular activities. In addition, each sport or club may have its own rules, regulations, and stipulations which shall be followed. Please contact the head coach or the sponsor for further information.
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C. An annual medical exam is necessary for athletics. A parental consent form is necessary for athletics and extracurricular activities. These forms must be completed and on file before an individual may participate in any organized practice or event.

D. An athlete must provide proof of health/medical insurance to the Director of Athletics/Activities before participating in any sport. No special health/medical insurance is needed for participation in other extracurricular activities unless requested by the sponsor.

E. High school participants must meet IHSA eligibility standards and junior high school participants must meet IESA eligibility standards.

F. Prior to participating in any activity, a student must have all equipment from previous activities turned in or paid for and the student participation fee must be paid in advance of a student’s participation in a fee required activity.

II. ATTENDANCE

A. Any person whose absence is excused for any reason other than illness or injury for any portion of a day may participate in an activity at the discretion of the coach or sponsor.

B. Participants are expected to be in school the entire day following an event. Any person who does not attend will be subject to suspension as determined by the sponsor or the coach.

C. Students that are ineligible to participate in an activity or athletic event will not be dismissed before the end of a school attendance day to accompany their group or team to an extracurricular event. Students ineligible for early dismissal will not be required to attend an activity or event for which they do not have District transportation.

D. Participants are expected to attend all regularly scheduled practices and events. Students ineligible for early dismissal will not be required to attend an activity or event for which they do not have District transportation.

E. Any person who violates any of the above rules will be subject to suspension as determined by the sponsor or the coach.

F. Any person whose absence is unexcused for any portion of a day may not participate that evening.

G. Any person who is absent due to illness or injury after 11 o'clock will not be allowed to participate that day or evening.

H. If a student is truant from school the day before a weekend activity or a holiday activity, then the student may not participate in activities during that weekend or that holiday.

III. CONFLICTS IN SCHEDULING

Conflicts are unavoidable with as many activities which are available to each student. Parents, students, and the coach or sponsor should resolve conflicts. In order to help avoid conflicts, all individuals involved in scheduling activities should make themselves aware of any event which might cause potential conflicts.

IV. HOLIDAYS AND/OR SNOW DAYS
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All practices must be held during the legal calendar dates for each activity or sport. No Sunday practices may be held unless prior written approval is received from the Superintendent.

Practice may be held during a snow day for those who can attend. Reasonable care must be used on snow days. Practice cannot be mandatory.

Regular practices may be held on holidays except for Christmas Day and Thanksgiving Day. All varsity and sophomore athletes are expected to attend regularly scheduled practices and games on all holidays, during Thanksgiving vacation, winter vacation, and spring break. This rule includes the varsity cheerleaders.

Freshman and junior high athletes may not be expected to attend practices during these times.

V. REDUCTION OF TEAMS/ACTIVITIES

Each program may reduce squads at all levels based on what is manageable by the available coaches or sponsors. Manageable would be defined by each program in the meeting with parents and students held prior to the start of the activity.

VI. TRANSPORTATION

Participants must ride the school bus or other form of school transportation to and from all events. However, if the parent/guardian of a student is present at the activity site, then the parent or guardian may ask to take their student home via their own transportation. If the sponsor/coach allows this, then the parent/guardian must personally sign out the student at the event site. All other requests involving transportation must be pre-arranged and approved by the coach and/or the appropriate administrator.

VII. ALCOHOL/DRUGS/INHALANTS/STEROIDS/STEALING/DISRESPECT

The following steps may be followed as a general guideline in dealing with infractions. Additional consequences may apply if the incident occurs during the school day or during an activity. See the discipline section of the student handbook for more information.

If the activity does not allow the student to complete the suspension (1st, 2nd, or 3rd offense, depending upon the infraction), the suspension would carry over to the next activity in which the student participates (sport to sport, club to club, etc.). The suspension would start on the date of the first contest/performance. The student will be expected to participate in all scheduled practices/meetings and attend all events during the suspension. A suspension that begins in Jr. High and cannot be completed at the Jr. High must be completed at Macomb High School; however, once that suspension has ended, the student will start with a new athletic/extracurricular disciplinary record.

To be considered in violation of this policy, a student must have admitted guilt or be personally observed violating the policy by law enforcement officials, District 185 employees, or other responsible adults. The person who observes the violation must promptly report it to proper school personnel and be recognized by the student as the individual making the report.

Evaluations of students found to be in violation of this policy will be done free of charge for the student by the McDonough District Hospital Behavioral Health Services. Any further counseling or treatment that is recommended by the MDH Behavioral Health Services will be at no expense to the Macomb Unit School District #185. If the parent/guardian or student wishes to have the evaluation done at another facility, all expenses incurred will be at the parent/guardian or student's expense.
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The only evaluations and treatments that will be honored will be those that are provided by and delivered through individuals or institutes who are properly certified by the Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association or the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors.

All suspensions will be rounded up to the next whole activity. Sponsors/Coaches will not allow a student to participate who begins an activity serving a disciplinary suspension.

A. The sale, distribution, possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, inhalants, drug paraphernalia, look-a-like drugs, or illegal steroids are prohibited.

1st Offense: a. A suspension from all athletic and extracurriculars as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

b. If the student chooses to complete an evaluation by MDH Behavioral Health Services, complete any recommended counseling through MDH, or another properly certified provider, the suspension will be reduced to 25% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

2nd Offense: a. A suspension from all athletic and extracurriculars as a participant for 90% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

b. If the student chooses to complete an evaluation by MDH Behavioral Health Services, complete any recommended counseling through MDH, or another properly certified provider, then the suspension will be reduced to 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

All Additional Violations: Student will not be allowed participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

B. The involvement in any situation where alcohol, illegal drugs, inhalants, or steroids are illegally present is also prohibited. If a student is observed in one of these situations, the following penalties will be imposed.

1st Offense: a. A suspension from all athletic and extracurriculars as a participant for 10% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

b. If the student chooses to complete an evaluation by MDH Behavioral Health Services, complete any recommended counseling through MDH, or another properly certified provider, then the suspension will be waived.

2nd Offense: a. A suspension from all athletic and extracurriculars as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

b. If the student chooses to complete an evaluation by MDH Behavioral Health Services, complete any recommended counseling through MDH, or another properly certified provider, then the suspension will be reduced to 25% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

3rd Offense: a. A suspension from all athletic and extracurriculars as a participant for 90% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

b. If the student chooses to complete an evaluation by MDH Behavioral Health Services or another properly certified provider, complete any recommended counseling through
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MDH, or another properly certified provider, then the suspension will be reduced to 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

All Additional Violations: Student will not be allowed participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

C. Possession, use, purchase, or sale of tobacco products will not be tolerated.

1st Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 10% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

2nd Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 25% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

3rd Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

All Additional Violations: Student will not be allowed participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

D. Stealing, theft, or burglary will not be tolerated.

1st Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

2nd Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 100% of scheduled contests/performances (3 contest/performance minimum).

All Additional Violations: Student will not be allowed participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

E. Possession of stolen articles will not be tolerated.

1st Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 10% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

2nd Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

3rd Offense: Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 100% of scheduled contests/performances (3 contest/performance minimum).

All Additional Violations: Student will not be allowed participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

F. The disrespect, insubordination, or open or persistent defiance of school authority and/or school rules and regulations will not be tolerated. Included are verbal abuse and recognizable derogatory gestures.

1st Offense: a. Student must complete evaluation by the MDH Behavioral Health Services (or another facility).

b. Student must complete any recommended counseling through MDH or another provider of choice to the student.
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c. Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 10% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

d. Failure to complete steps a and b (evaluation and counseling) will result in suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 25% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

2nd Offense:

a. Student must complete evaluation by the MDH Behavioral Health Services (or another facility).

b. Student must complete any recommended counseling through MDH or another provider of choice to the student.

c. Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 25% of scheduled contests/performances (1 contest/performance minimum).

d. Failure to complete steps a and b (evaluation and counseling) will result in suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

3rd Offense:

a. Student must complete evaluation by MDH Behavioral Health Services (or another facility).

b. Student must complete any recommended counseling through MDH or another provider of choice to the student.

c. Suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 50% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

d. Failure to complete steps a and b (evaluation and counseling) will result in suspension from all athletic and extracurricular events as a participant for 90% of scheduled contests/performances (2 contest/performance minimum).

All Additional Violations: Student will not be allowed participation in athletics or extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

G. Disciplinary Procedures

The administrator initiates disciplinary action by investigating the infraction. The administrator collects information from the sources available. The administrator will give the student an opportunity to present information concerning his/her role in the incident. At the conclusion of the investigation, the administrator will contact the parents/guardians and inform them of the results of the investigation.

If the situation is such that the physical well-being of the student, other individuals, or the property of the School District is in jeopardy, the student may be suspended from the team/activity immediately and the student and parents/guardians provided an opportunity to meet with the administrator and coach to discuss and respond to the alleged infractions within 24 hours, or as soon thereafter as the meeting may be scheduled.

It has been proven that smoking or chewing tobacco, drinking alcohol, and the illegal use of chemical substances are physically harmful to you. The harm you cause by using illegal drugs, inhalants, alcohol or tobacco not only pertains to your health, but also harms the activity and the school. The people who follow your progress are careful to note your habits, and any deviation from the acceptable rules marks you as unwilling to "pay the price" of being a Macomb student. A single member who breaks rules can reflect on all members of an activity. Therefore, the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, inhalants, and tobacco is prohibited for the entire year regardless of whether the student is in or out of school.

Any other acts deemed detrimental to Macomb athletics or Macomb extracurricular activities will be given, as a minimum, the same penalties as imposed in Part E. More severe penalties may be imposed.
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Performance Enhancing Drug Testing
State law requires the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) to prohibit a student from participating in an athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by IHSA unless the student has agreed, (a) not to use any performance-enhancing substances on IHSA’s current banned drug list, and (b) to submit to random drug testing for these substances in the student’s body if the student is in high school. In addition, the student’s parent/guardian must sign a statement for IHSA containing specific acknowledgements including that the student, if in high school, may be subject to random performance-enhancing substance testing and that violating the laws regulating the use of performance-enhancing substances is a crime.

IHSA, with oversight from the Illinois Department of Public Health, administers a performance-enhancing substance testing program under which high school participants in athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by IHSA are tested at multiple times throughout the athletic season for the presence in their bodies of performance-enhancing substances on the IHSA’s banned drug list.

Todd v. Rush County Schools, 133 F.3d 984 (7th Cir. 1988)  

CROSS REF.: 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications), 6:190 (Extracurricular Activities), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:300 (Extracurricular Activities)