

COLDWATER INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC POLICY

Student Athlete Conduct Code

Rights and Responsibilities

Students attend Coldwater Exempted Village Schools under the direction of state law and with the full benefits of constitutional protection for their right as citizens. They therefore can speak, act or behave as young citizens within a large scope of options. This code is published in conformity with the right of reasonable treatment from the coaches and advisors. The school, in turn, has the right to expect reasonable behavior from student athletes, managers, cheerleaders, statisticians, and trainers. The term athlete will cover the above five titles. The rules are in effect while the athlete is representing the Coldwater School System during the sport's season in which the athlete is involved.

Rules and Regulations

1. All athletes must meet the eligibility requirements as determined by the Ohio High School Athletic Association & the Coldwater Exempted Board of Education.
2. An athlete shall not behave in such an unsportsmanlike manner that could cause physical injury or damage to other athletes, students, school personnel, or school property.
3. The athlete shall not fail to comply with directions of coaches during the sports season. This includes practices, attitude problems, appearance, curfew violations, eligibility and theft of equipment.
4. To be eligible for the next nine weeks, each athlete must: 1) maintain a C- average (a 3.51 on a 12.0 scale) for the preceding nine weeks grading period (Special Education students may elect to take a P or F rather than a letter grade in their mainstream courses); 2a) be passing in subjects at the end of the preceding nine weeks grading period that earn a minimum of five credits per year toward graduation; 2b) be passing 75% of all subjects taken the preceding nine weeks for grades 7 & 8.
5. Tobacco, illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages: An athlete shall not possess, conceal or be under the influence of any of the before-mentioned items.
6. Students are required to be in school a minimum of one-half days on the day of an extra-curricular event in order to participate or must receive prior administrative approval. (1/2 day is defined as 4 full regular periods.)

STUDENT/ATHLETE ALCOHOL USE - STUDENT/ATHLETE DRUG USE
“TRAINING RULES & REGULATIONS”

The athletic application of the board-adopted policy is related to enforcement beyond the scope of the school day and school functions and applies to the individual policies, rules and regulations approved for each sports program.

Other behavior not defined in this policy but deemed to be unbecoming of an athlete/participant will be grounds for suspension and removal from the co-curricular and extra curricular activity.

Involvement beyond the scope of the school setting.

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In the event that students violate the policy while a member of an approved co-curricular or extracurricular program, then compliance with the policy is as follows:

Consequences for violation of the policy by athletes/participants include:

Individual Sports/Activities

The following consequences apply to individuals who violate the alcohol policy during a single season or activity. Offenses are not cumulative except for the season in which they occur.

First offense in a season: An athlete found in violation of the drug/alcohol policy will be suspended from a number equal to 20% of the regular season contests immediately following a meeting with the athlete/participant. This number will be included in the rules for participation signed by parent and student at the beginning of the season or period of the activity. Any unfulfilled suspension resulting from incidents which occur at the end of a season will be applied to the next regular, full season in which the athlete/student participates using a formula which is relative to the length of that season and equal to any unfulfilled portion of the previous season consequences. In athletic post-season play, the normal number of pre-determined games of suspension will be applied.

Second offense in a season: The athlete will be suspended from the activity for the remainder of the season period. The athlete is ineligible for post-season awards.

Offenses occurring after the last contest or activity and prior to the conclusion of the season as determined by the final awards banquet will result in the student being denied end of season awards and participation in recognition ceremonies.

Cumulative Application of Consequences -- Three Strikes and Your Out Rule (**Third Offense**)

The following consequences apply to individuals who violate the alcohol policy during their High School Career as a Coldwater High School athlete. In this case the consequences are cumulative and a third offense will result in the loss of participation for a calendar year.

Two incidents occurring within a single season or two separate incidents occurring in separate seasons will cumulate toward the three-strikes rule during the same school year of an athlete.

Third offense: The athlete will be denied the privilege to participate in school-sponsored athletics for a period of one calendar year.

Authority to Exceed the Minimum Rules

All head coaches have the right to make rules and regulations beyond these stated rules and the building principal prior to publication must approve these. Student athletes who violate the Athletic Conduct Code or the rules and regulations established by the coach may be denied the privilege of participation. All athletes and their parents are to be made aware of the rules, regulations and consequences of any infractions of these rules and regulations prior to participation in the co-curricular and extracurricular programs. Signatures of athletes and parents/guardians stating that they understand and have been made aware of such regulations are required before the athlete may participate in any manner (practice or games).

Due Process Procedure

Pursuant to 3313.664 of the Ohio Revised Code, students may be suspended by the Superintendent or his designee from participating in extracurricular activities for a period of time as defined in this policy for any violation of the Student Code of Conduct or violations of posted rules and regulations established by the Coldwater High School Athletic Department, individual coaches and sponsors.

Before a suspension is imposed pursuant to this policy, the Superintendent or designee will provide notice to the student of his or her intent to suspend the student from participation in extracurricular activities, which will include the reason for intended suspension. The student will be given the opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or designee to present any reasons the student may wish to offer as to why he or she should not be suspended. After the meeting, the Superintendent or designee will provide the student and his or her parent or legal guardian with written notification of the suspension, the reason(s) for the suspension, and the length of the suspension.

1. When an infraction occurs, the coach/sponsor/director/athletic director/principal has the responsibility to discipline the participant.

2. The coach will confer with the athletic director and/or building principal to discuss the action and consequences as defined by this policy. The coach will then meet with the athlete being disciplined to present him or her with the charges. The athlete will have an opportunity to explain his or her position. A decision will be rendered and written notification will be mailed to the parent/guardian within twenty-four hours of the decision.
3. The athlete will be given the right to appeal the decision of the coach to the principal within twenty-four hours of the meeting.
4. The principal will be responsible for making a recommendation to uphold, overturn or modify the consequences of the infraction. During the appeal process, the athlete will not be permitted to participate with the team.
5. The final authority to accept or deny the appeal will be the responsibility of the Principal. A decision will be rendered and written notification will be mailed to the parent/guardian within twenty-four hours of the decision.
6. The school has the authorization to contact the Mercer County Juvenile Court for the release of information during the time period these training rules are in effect.

This policy will be available in a central location in each school building. In addition, copies of this policy will be provided to students and parents in the same manner as the Student Code of Conduct.

Number of Games of Suspension per Each Sport
(based on 20% of Regular Season contest for 1st offense)

Cheerleading (Fall)	2 games
Cheerleading (Competition)	Removal from the team (due to limited events)
Cross Country	3 meets
Football	2 games
Soccer	3 games
Golf	4 meets
Volleyball	4 matches
Cheerleading (Winter)	4 games
Boys Basketball	4 games
Girls Basketball	4 games
Bowling	4 matches
Wrestling	4 points
Baseball	5 games
Softball	5 games
Track	3 meets
Swimming	3 meets

**The number of games is based on the maximum number permitted by the OHSAA, they may not necessarily reflect the number of games scheduled. This is done to have some consistency from sport to sport and so that weather will not have to be figured into the equation.*

**Starting and Ending Dates for Sports Seasons
2010-2011**

*Subject to change based on OHSAA changes

<u>Fall Sports</u>	<u>Start of Season</u>	<u>End of Season</u>
Cheerleading	August 2, 2010	December 4, 2010
Cross Country	August 9, 2010	November 6, 2010
Football	August 2, 2010	December 4, 2010
Golf	August 2, 2010	October 30, 2010
Soccer	August 9, 2010	November
13, 2010		
Volleyball	August 9, 2010	November 13, 2010
<u>Winter Sports</u>	<u>Start of Season</u>	<u>End of Season</u>
Bowling	November 12, 2010	March 5, 2011
Boys Basketball	November 5, 2010	March 26, 2011
Girls Basketball	October 29, 2010	March 19, 2011
Cheerleading	November 5, 2010	March 26, 2011
Wrestling	November 12, 2010	March 5, 2011
Swimming	November 5, 2010	February 26, 2011
<u>Spring Sports</u>	<u>Start of Season</u>	<u>End of Season</u>
Baseball	February 21, 2011	June 11, 2011
Softball	February 21, 2011	June 11, 2011
Track	March 7, 2011	June 11, 2011