



PROCEDURES: INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

Coach's Duties

In accordance with district policy and the coach's job description, the coach has the duty to:

Instruct Participant: The coach should employ the latest methods or proper instruction, using sound progression in presenting motor skills. If an injury occurs while using an improper instructional method, negligence may be present.

Warn Participants: The coach should inform all athletes and their parents of the inherent risks involved in participation in the particular sport, including the very small risk of infection with a blood-borne pathogen. The coach must describe, using a variety of methods, the catastrophic and common non-catastrophic injuries unique to the sport.

Supervise Participants: The daily plan should show how the coach plans to conduct general supervision of the sport and how he/she will supervise specific drills and other components of the daily practice. Adequacy of supervision should be reviewed in terms of quality and quantity. Factors to consider include, but are not limited to: the age of the students, the size of the students, the equipment involved, the maturity level of the students, the first aid equipment and training available, the appropriate certification of supervisors where required, and the safety training of the personnel involved.

Provide Safe Equipment and Facilities: Equipment should be properly fitted and maintained. Athletes should be instructed on how to conduct a daily inspection. Facilities should be free of hazards and inspected regularly.

Maintain Records of Injuries: A report should be completed for each accident. Injury reports should be maintained for a period of five years after the student's 21st birthday.

Evaluate Fitness of Participants: The coach has a duty to evaluate the physical fitness, the medical condition, and the skill level of athletes. Failure to evaluate and maintain records of those evaluations may be cause for negligence should an injury occur involving fatigue or lack of skill.

Provide Equal Protection and Due Process

While participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, a participant who allegedly violates the conduct code must be afforded the opportunity of a fair hearing.

Transport Athletes Safely

A coach has a duty to see that athletes are safely transported to and from contests and to and from practices if practices are held at sites other than the immediate school grounds.

Group Participants

The coach has the duty to employ a recognized system of grouping for participants in a particular sport that will avoid unequal and unsafe participation, based upon skill level, age, maturity, sex, size and experience.

Foresee Danger

A coach should be able to reasonably anticipate foreseeable dangers that may occur if the activity is continued in a facility, or with equipment, or in a situation, and take precautions protecting the children in his/her custody from such dangers.

Protect From Loss

A participant is required to present evidence that he/she is covered by an accident policy. A blanket catastrophic ("no fault") insurance provides coverage for serious injuries.

The duties listed above are not meant to be comprehensive. In carrying out the duties of the assignment a staff member is expected to act as a reasonable professional would have acted under similar circumstances. A staff member who supervises a sports activity is expected to know the intricacies of the activity that he/she is leading.

Summer Sports Activities/Clinics

Rules governing out-of-school and/or out-of-season student sports participation are as follows:

- A. A practice is defined as a teaching phase of a sport to any present, past or future squad member while a student in grade 7-12 during the school year or during the summer. The school may not sponsor, promote or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests during the school year.

A school staff member who sponsors, promotes or directs such activities during the summer vacation shall clearly indicate that he/she is operating independent of the school district. As such, the school district shall be free of liability associated with the activity.

- B. Students shall be advised that participation in a commercial summer camp or clinic or other similar type of activity shall not begin until the conclusion of the final WIAA state tournament of the school year. Participants in a fall school sports program may not attend any summer camp/clinic in that sport after August 1 until the first fall sports turnout. The school should announce by school bulletin that summer sports camp/clinic is neither endorsed nor sponsored by the district.
- C. A coach (contracted or volunteer) may not sponsor, promote, coach or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests in the sport they coach to any of their squad members or future squad members (grades 7-12) until after the school year's final WIAA state tournament.
- D. The use of the school bulletin board, public address system or school newspaper for promotional purposes to announce sports clinics/camps shall fall within the same guidelines as applied to other commercial endeavors.

- E. School facilities to be used for summer activity and/or sports camps may be rented consistent with the rates, rules and regulations applicable for other commercial uses.

A user shall hold the district free and without harm from any loss or damage, liability or expense that may arise during or be caused in any way by such use of school facilities. Authorization for use of school facilities shall not be considered as endorsement of or approval of the activity group or organization nor for the purposes it represents.

ATHLETIC CODE

The opportunity to participate in the interscholastic athletic program is a privilege granted to all students of the district. Participants in this voluntary program are expected to conform to specific conduct standards established by the principals and athletic coaches.

A student who is found by a certificated staff member of the student's school to be in violation of any rules is subject to removal from the team. Provision is made for a student who has allegedly violated one or more of the conduct rules to appeal a disciplinary action as specified in this code.

The following rules shall be applicable for a sports season:

SECONDARY ATHLETICS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Students who participate in the activity programs in West Valley School District shall be governed by the rules of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, the specific rules and regulations listed below, and such other rules as defined by the coach of each activity.

Activity Season

The rules and regulations defined herein apply to each student who participates in a WIAA sanctioned activity. Students shall be governed by the rules and regulations contained herein from the date that the activity begins (the first practice) and shall comply with these rules and regulations during the entire school year and the following school year until the same activity begins during the following year. Should a student violate these rules and regulations during a period of time that he/she is not actively participating in an activity or during an activity when the full penalty cannot be imposed, the discipline and/or penalties (or remaining portion thereof if the activity ends before complete imposition occurs) will be imposed during the next activity participated in by the student. Should the student initiate participation in any activity be disciplined or penalized for prior conduct and thereafter terminate participation in such activity, the penalty and/or discipline imposed shall be carried forward and imposed during the next activity participated in by the student.

Alcohol and Drugs

- A. A participant shall not use, consume, possess, transmit, or sell alcoholic beverages, drugs, controlled substances, or other mood-altering chemicals.
- B. A participant shall not knowingly, or with reason to know, attend any party or other gathering of students where alcoholic beverages, drugs, controlled substances or other mood-altering chemicals are being used.

- C. It is not a violation of this provision for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her doctor.

WIAA STANDARDS

All students in extra curricular activities must meet **both** WIAA and high school academic standards. Eligibility based on grades will be checked at each quarter.

STUDENT CONTRACTS

Each student and his/her parents/guardians shall be required, prior to the student's participation in any activity covered by this code, to enter into a contract providing for compliance with these rules and regulations and setting forth the penalty/discipline to be imposed should such rules and regulations be violated.

PENALTIES -- DRUGS/ALCOHOL: Penalties shall be cumulative from year to year beginning with and throughout the student's participation in varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, or freshman activities and including all other activities.

1. First Violation Penalty: The students shall be assigned to eight hours (four sessions of two-hours each) of drug/alcohol education which will be completed in a minimum of a two-week period. During the period of drug/alcohol education the student shall be allowed to participate in practice but not participate in games and/or competitions. The student must submit a clean drug test and at this time she/he can fully participate. Should the student fail another random test, she/he will be suspended for the remainder of the season.
2. Second Violation Penalty: The student shall lose eligibility for the remainder of the season.
3. Third Violation Penalty: The student will no longer be eligible to participate in **any** activities.

PENALTIES – TOBACCO: Penalties shall be cumulative from year to year beginning with and throughout the student's participation in varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, or freshman activities and including all other activities.

1. First Violation Penalty: The student shall be assigned to eight hours (four sessions of two-hours each) of drug/alcohol education which will be completed in a minimum of a two-week period. During the period of drug/alcohol education, the student shall be allowed to participate in practice but not participate in games and/or competitions. Student may seek outside help with his/her addiction and then go before an eligibility committee to seek reinstatement. The make-up of the school eligibility committee shall be a school administrator, athletic director/activities director, coach/advisor and counselor.
2. Second Violation Penalty: After the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the remainder of the season.

PROCEDURES PRIOR TO REMOVAL

If a student is to be removed from an activity covered by the Secondary Activities Code, the teacher/coach imposing such discipline and the principal/designee shall review informally the proposed discipline prior to its imposition. Upon its being imposed, the student, parent(s), or guardian(s) who is/are aggrieved shall be entitled to use the grievance procedure for discipline contained in the Student Responsibilities and Rights policy.

Voluntary Athletic and Activities Drug Testing Program: Based on student, coach, parent, and administrative input, West Valley High School Athletic and Activity Departments take part in a voluntary drug testing program. The purpose of this program is to work with students and their families to address the very negative effects of drug abuse and experimentation, to act as a deterrent to drug use, to reward students that abstain from drugs, and to eliminate any perception that West Valley High School students who participate in athletics and activities use drugs. Details of the program can be found in the West Valley High School Student Handbook.

Attendance at School: An athlete shall attend school for at least one half day on the day of an athletic contest. Penalty: If an athlete receives an unexcused absence for any portion of the day, the athlete shall be ineligible to participate in contest on that day. If excused, the athlete may participate if he/she was in attendance for one half day or more.

Absence from Practice: An athlete is expected to be in attendance at all team practices unless excused for illness or by prior approval. Penalty: ineligible to participate in next contest.

Violation of Law on School Grounds: When a student is found guilty of an offense committed while on school grounds or at a school activity, the corrective action will depend upon the nature of the violation.

Repeated Offenses: If a student repeatedly violates one of the above rules, he/she may be removed from the team for the remainder of the sports season.

APPEAL PROCESS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When infractions occur within the athletic program, the following process may be followed:

- A. Upon the imposition of penalty for infraction(s) of said rules or regulations, any aggrieved student and parents of said student shall have the right to an informal conference with the building principal and/or designee, activities director, and coach (Building Hearing Committee) to request that they refrain from enforcing the decision of the coach or ask the coach to reconsider. If the students and parents do not make a written request for this informal conference within five (5) school days of the action grieved, they will have waived their right to the conference and appeal procedure. The informal conference is to be held within three (3) school days of the request.
- B. If the parties are unable to agree at the informal conference, the aggrieved party may appeal to the building eligibility committee. The building eligibility committee consists of the activities director and three student peers and three building staff members named by the building administrator. The building eligibility committee must meet within three (3) school days of the appeals request. The aggrieved party and the coach(es) shall be available as a resource.
- C. A Building Eligibility Committee will be formed and will hear the case in detail and will render a decision within three (3) school days after hearing the case.
- D. The aggrieved party may appeal to the superintendent of schools within three (3) school days of the appeals decision. The superintendent of schools, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision within ten (10) school days of the hearing.

- E. The aggrieved party may appeal the superintendent's decision to the disciplinary appeal council established in Policy 3300, Corrective Actions or Punishments, or to the Board of Directors in the absence of a disciplinary council, within three (3) school days. The disciplinary council or board of directors, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision on the case within ten (10) school days of the hearing. This decision shall be final.