

FAIRLESS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

I. Privilege of Participation

To represent Fairless Local Schools in athletics is both a privilege and an honor. Over the years, Fairless Athletics have stood for quality and excellence. A continued reputation for excellence can be maintained only if the coaches and participants do everything they can to ensure their actions and conduct are of the highest caliber. Personal actions of each athletic team member are expected to adhere to this document and those documents approved by the Fairless Athletic Board.

II. Educational Values of Athletics

- A. We believe in interscholastic athletics.
- B. We believe there are substantial educational outcomes from a well executed program for the players, the student body, and the school as a whole.
- C. We believe the potential values to the participants are genuine. Rigorous competition, under prescribed regulations and policies provide for adolescents the opportunity to develop ideas and habits of health, fair play, initiative, achievement, and emotional control.
- D. We believe students can be taught to win gracefully and to lose in the same fashion.
- E. We believe many students have found a purpose in there school work and in their lives through the program of athletics.
- F. We believe athletics provide tangible values for the student body. Athletics can make a substantial contribution to morals and can provide an outlet for enthusiasm.
- G. We believe the athletic program, though differing in nature from the academic program, does justify its existence by providing a profitable educational experience for the participant.
- H. We believe the welfare of the individual student is always the primary concern. The game exists for the student - never the student for the game.

III. Student Code of Conduct

- A. Rights and Responsibilities: Every citizen has individual rights and freedoms as guaranteed by state, local, and federal statutes. Students attending Fairless Local Schools are expected to exercise these freedoms within the framework of the code contained herein.
- B. Code of Conduct: In accordance with Sections O.R.C. 3313.66, O.R.C. 3313.661, and O.R.C. 3313.664, a student enrolled in the Fairless Local Schools who is found to be in violation of any of the Fairless Student Conduct Codes shall be subject to disciplinary action, which may affect their participation in extracurricular activities.

- C. Power of School Authorities over Conduct of Pupils: In accordance to Section O.R.C. 7.34, the power of school authorities over pupils, does not cease absolutely when they leave the premises. Conduct outside of school hours and school property shall subject a pupil to school discipline if it directly affects the good order and welfare of the school. This policy/athletic code of conduct is in effect 365 days of the year and Fairless athletes are subject to it 365 days a year.

IV. Athletic Board Policies

- A. Student athletes who are suspended or expelled from school for violations of the Student Code of Conduct are automatically suspended or expelled from all school activities until they are reinstated in school. Reinstatement shall be defined as the next school day following the last day of suspension or expulsion.
- B. The following are violations, but not limited to the Athletic Department rules, and will result in the stated disciplinary actions or removal from the team.
1. Possessing or using smoking materials or tobacco products will result in removal from the athletic team for 10% of the season for the first offense, and for the remainder of the season for any subsequent offense.
 2. Possessing, concealing, or drinking an alcoholic beverage will result in removal from the athletic team for 20% of the season for the first offense, and for the remainder of the season for the subsequent offense.
 3. Possessing, concealing or using a habit forming drug, or mood altering drug will result in the removal from the athletic team for 20% of the season for the first offense, and removal from the athletic team for the remainder of the season for any subsequent offense.
 4. Stealing or attempting to steal athletic department property or private property on the school property, will result in the removal from the athletic team for 10% of the season for the first offense, and the remainder of the season for any subsequent offense.
 5. Causing or attempting to cause disruption within the athletic team by means of disrespect or other actions on or off the practice or playing area will lead to the coach's disciplining of the athlete.
 6. Absence from practice without the coach's permission is cause for disciplinary action.
 7. Damaging or attempting to damage athletic department property or private property located on school property is cause for disciplinary action.
 8. Defying the authority of the coaches or other athletic personnel is cause for disciplinary action.

All percentages will be rounded to the nearest whole number of contests. For example: 1.3=1 contest and 1.8 = 2 contests.

An athlete who quits a team is not permitted to begin conditioning, practicing or playing with another Fairless team during that season unless approved by the coach of the team the athlete quits, the principal and the athletic director.

An athlete must turn in all equipment. They must have the equipment turned in before they may begin practicing for the next season. The athlete will be charged for any equipment not turned in at the replacement cost of the equipment.

- C. Each coach must provide each athlete with a copy of the adopted Athletic Conduct Code at the beginning of each season. The athlete must return the last page signed by the parent/guardian before the athlete's name will be entered on the Ohio High School Athletic Association Eligibility Form and before the athlete may practice for that sport. In other words, the athlete will not be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics representing Fairless Local Schools until the signed form is returned to the designated school authorities.
- D. A coach may also create an additional set of rules beyond the standard Athletic Conduct Code. The Athletic Board, prior to the season, must approve these rules. These rules must also be distributed, in writing, to all athletes in that particular sport at the beginning of the season. A coach may suspend or expel a participant from the activity for a period, not to exceed the remainder of the season, for violations of rules in the Fairless High School Student Handbook.
- E. While under suspension, the student may be considered a member of the team and may practice at the coach's discretion, but may not participate in any games during the suspension.
- F. An informal hearing should be held between the coach and the student involved prior to any suspension or expulsion from athletics. At that hearing, the student should be informed of the reason(s) for the proposed suspension or expulsion, and given a chance to tell their side of the story. The coach may make a decision at that time.
- G. Once a decision has been reached, the coach shall present written notice to the student stating the reason(s) for and the length of the suspension or expulsion from the team. This is not necessary for the coach when the student has been suspended or expelled from school.
- H. The student who is suspended from the athletic team is entitled to a formal hearing before the Fairless High School Athletic Appeals Board, which shall be composed of the Athletic Director and the Assistant Principal. Written recommendations will be made by the Appeals Board to the Principal. The Principal shall make the final decision upon receiving the recommendation from the Board of Appeals. In accordance with board policy, student prohibited from participation in all or part of any extra-curricular activity, are not entitled to further notice, hearing, or appeal rights.

Adopted by Fairless Board of Education 10/16/07