

Gibsonburg Exempted Village Schools
7-12 Athletic Department

**GIBSONBURG EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS
GRADES 7-12
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**



ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

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I. ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

A. ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Student participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. Students that wish to participate in an athletic program must be willing to accept the guidelines, rules, and responsibilities set forth by the school and the coach of that sport. Athletes can be suspended or removed from teams/squads for general misconduct, which includes but is not limited to insubordination, repeated absenteeism, fighting, sexual misconduct, drugs/alcohol, negative/apathetic attitude, unsportsmanlike conduct, inappropriate language or gestures, destruction of school property, police arrests and any inappropriate behavior in public domain, etc. Also recognizing the varying degrees of severity, types of misconduct and an athlete's previous record of conduct, each situation will be considered individually.

1. HIGH SCHOOL:

- a. **The athletic code shall be in effect from the athlete's start of their first season participated in once entering his/her freshman year until last day of sport season of their senior year (effective 365 days/year). Athletes and parents will only sign the Athletic Code one time and the code will be in effect through High School.**

2. MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- a. **The athletic code shall be in effect from the athlete's start of their first season participated in once entering his/her seventh grade year until first sport played in high school (effective 365 days/year). Athletes and parents will only sign the Athletic Code one time and the code will be in effect through High School.**

Student athletes must be aware that all school, team, and OHSAA conduct policies are in effect at games, practices, and on any school transportation for athletic participation.

*****Any changes to the Athletic Code of Conduct Policy will require a new "Understanding of Policy" form to be signed.**

B. DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION/CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATIONS:

The board of education believes that participation in extra-curricular activities, events, teams and programs, is a privilege.

The following procedures are established to govern the same in the Gibsonburg Exempted Village School District:

1. Actions and decisions shall be determined as to appropriateness in accordance with adopted rules and regulations and procedures relative to the activity as well as within the sound discretion of the staff persons and/or administrators supervising the program.
2. In situations where actions involve both curricular and extracurricular activity, judgments would be separated as to domain where possible, but with the understanding that the building administrator shall make appropriate rulings as to domain when a conflict exists. Academics always come first.
3. Denial of participation may be for part or all of the remainder of the activity(s) for the current school year.

C. DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE FOR REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION:

1. All rules and regulations regarding athletic participation will be developed and discussed so that each student involved will be aware of acceptable and unacceptable conduct which may lead to a student's denial of participation in such activities will be so noted. It is the responsibility of each coach to review with his or her team members these rules and regulations.
2. A coach may deny an athlete participation for a period not to exceed 24 hours at any time without notice.
3. When it becomes necessary to deny a student participation in athletics, the student will be given written notice that the program will no longer be open to him or her concurrent with notification of the reasons for such actions.
4. The final authority to deny a student the right to participate in such activities will be reserved to the Principal.

D. INSUBORDINATION/INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR/HAZING/SOCIAL MEDIA:

A refusal to follow the directions of a coach will be considered insubordination. Any deviation from expected behavior such as, but not limited to: hazing, causing a school disruption through social media and/or inappropriate behavior will be dealt with in the following way by the head coach, athletic director and/or principal.

1st Offense: verbal warning, meeting with parents and possible other consequences.

2nd Offense: 2 game, match and meet suspension for cross-country, football, track and wrestling.

- 3 match suspension for golf
- 4 game/match suspension for basketball, baseball, softball and volleyball.

A conference with parents will be held with addition to the game suspension.

3rd Offense: Removal from the team.

*****Athletic Director and/or Principal retain the right to enforce stricter punishment based on the severity of the infraction.**

1. HAZING

Hazing of any type is inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times at Gibsonburg Exempted Village Schools. No student shall plan, encourage, or engage in the hazing of any person. No administrator, faculty member, or any other employee of the school shall encourage, condone, tolerate, or permit the hazing of any person. Any person who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action as stated above and may be liable to civil and criminal penalties in accordance with Ohio law.

Hazing means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.

2. SOCIAL MEDIA

Gibsonburg High School and the Athletic Department realizes that social media is part of our ever changing society. GHS respects the rights of individuals to use social media and personal websites, but it is important that the athlete's personal use of these sites does not damage the school/teams reputation or affect their athletic team in any negative way. Athletes need to realize that boundaries need to exist because what is private in the digital world often has the possibility of becoming public. The Athletic Department strongly encourages athletes to use and exercise care and good judgment when posting content on any website.

All students/athletes are encouraged to exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media or online communications, both within the GHS community and beyond. **Students who participate in online activities must remember that their posts reflect on their teams and the entire GHS community and are subject to the same behavioral standards set forth in the Student Code of Conduct. Social media that cause a disruption to the school day and/or athletic team will be subject to disciplinary action stated above.**

E. ALCOHOL, CONTROLLED DRUGS, STEROIDS, TOBACCO, SMOKELESS TOBACCO, & VAPOR DEVICES POLICY

Athletes shall not possess, use, or distribute any controlled or counterfeit substance including but not limited to alcohol, tobacco (nicotine), steroids, smokeless tobacco and vapor devices, and/or any paraphernalia related to any of these substances.

1st Offense: The team member shall be suspended for a total of 20% of the regularly scheduled games, meets or matches, including tournaments. If the infraction occurs near the end of the season, the number shall be calculated as above and applied to remaining games including tournament up to the appropriate number of contests. A conference with parents will be held in addition to the game(s) suspension.

*****TOBACCO (NICOTINE) ONLY – Any athlete in a 1st Offense violation of the tobacco (nicotine) only portion of the policy may elect to participate in a Tobacco Cessation Program in lieu of the 20% suspension. The program must be completed on or before a date set by administration and any cost involved would be covered by parents/guardians. A second offense will result in a season suspension.**

*****Gibsonburg Schools doesn't condone nicotine.**

2nd Offense: The team member shall be suspended for the remainder of the current sports season.

3rd Offense: The team member shall be suspended for **one calendar year** and be put on probation for the remainder of his/her high school career with any additional violation being permanently suspended from extra-curricular activities.

Any part of a suspension not able to be served in one sport will be carried over to the next sport in which the student participates. During the term of the suspension the athlete is to not wear his or her uniform or be with the team during athletic contests. A conference will be held at which time an assessment program may be recommended.

F. ILLEGAL DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES POLICY:

Athletes shall not possess, use, or distribute any controlled or counterfeit illegal substance including but not limited to narcotics, marijuana, cocaine, heroin and/or any paraphernalia related to any of these substances.

1st Offense: The team member shall be suspended for a total of 50% of the regularly scheduled games, meets or matches, including tournaments. If the infraction occurs near the end of the season, the number shall be calculated as above and applied to remaining games including tournament up to the appropriate number of contests. Make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for a chemical dependency assessment and follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent/guardian/custodian is responsible for all expenses and for providing the Athletic Department with documentation that the athlete completed all recommendations of the counselor. Any student who violates this policy will be required to drug test weekly for a 5 week program at the expense of the student and/or parent/guardian/custodian.

2nd Offense: The team member shall be suspended for **one calendar year** and be put on probation for the remainder of his/her high school career with any additional violation being permanently suspended from extra-curricular activities. Make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for a chemical dependency assessment and follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent/guardian/custodian is responsible for all expenses and for providing the Athletic Department with documentation that the athlete completed all recommendations of the counselor.

3rd Offense: Permanent suspension from extra-curricular activities.

*****All instances, which occur before any season begins, shall be held over until the regular athletic season starts. If an athlete is reprimanded before and/or during the season, for which they play, their suspension will start with the first contest and continue until the suspension is completed by the sport outlined above. This may include no game or practice participation determined by administration.**

*****Any part of the suspension not able to be served in one sport will carry over to the next sport the student plays. During the term of suspension (effective beginning with the first contest), the athlete is not to wear their uniform and may not be allowed to participate in any practice, weight lifting, or conditioning determined by administration.**

G. ASSOCIATION/SOCIAL MEDIA DRUG POLICY

Athletes in violation of any policy in the Athletic Code of Conduct may be found guilty by association. Athletes who attend a party, event, or social gathering where alcohol or illegal substances are proven to be on premises may be found guilty of violating the athletic code. This includes pictures on social media which places the athlete and the illegal substances on the premises.

If a student-athlete violates the Association Policy, the following steps will take place:

- a. The student-athlete and guardian will be notified.
- b. A committee of the coach, athletic director, assistant athletic director, principal and/or superintendent will meet to discuss possible discipline.
- c. Discipline may include but not limited to:
 - i. Placed on the proper offense of the policy that was violated.
 - ii. A discipline determined by the committee.

II. DRUG TESTING

A. TEAM TESTING

At the beginning of the first season (Fall), the beginning of the second season (Winter), and the beginning of the third season (Spring) of participation during the current school, all eligible athletes who have not been tested up to this date, will submit to drug and alcohol testing. This testing will be completed within the first three-weeks of the season on a specified date and time. The collection process will take place on school property or at a Board of Education approved testing facility. The Head Coach is responsible for ensuring that all student athletes and their parent/guardian/custodian properly sign the INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT prior to testing. Any student moving into the District shall be tested prior to the time he/she joins the team. If a parent or student refuses to sign the INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT or fails to show up for testing, the student shall forfeit his/her right to participate in his/her chosen sport.

B. RANDOM TESTING

In-season random testing determined by team, activity, and student driver rosters, shall be done throughout the school year for any student who is currently participating in athletics, extracurricular and/or is a student driver this school year. Each team, extracurricular, or student drivers may have up to 20% of its eligible students tested, per random selection. A student may be tested more than once per season. In the event of a positive result, the specimen will be sent to a laboratory for confirmation of results and a certified Medical Review Officer will determine the results.

a. Random Selection of student athletes:

The Athletic Coordinator/Director, under the Principal's supervision, will use a system to ensure that students are selected in a random fashion. This system is a computer generated process of random numbers or names by pulling numbers from a pool of numbers equal to the number of eligible athletes.

b. Scheduling of random testing:

Random testing will be unannounced. The day and date will be selected by the Athletic Director, Extracurricular Advisor or Building Secretary and confirmed with the building administrator. Random testing may be done weekly.

C. DRUGS WHICH MAY BE TESTED FOR

LSD, Alcohol, Marijuana, Amphetamines, Methadone, Anabolic Steroids, Methaqualone, Barbiturates, Nicotine (tobacco), Benzodiazepines, Opiates, Cocaine, Propoxyphene (Darvon), or any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, give, exchange, use, distribute, or purchase under State or Federal Law. This definition also includes all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used in any way other than for medical purposes in accordance with the directions for use provided for in the prescription or by the manufacturer.

D. COLLECTION PROCESS

The student-athlete will be notified to report to the collection site. A specimen from the student will be collected and all students tested will follow this process:

- All student-athletes must have a School ID or be identified by the Athletic Coordinator/Director or Principal.
- No Exceptions allowed
- Drug testing area must be secured during the testing
- Only lab technicians and students will be witness to the test.
- Privacy must be kept for all students

The Athletic Director, Advisor/Teacher, and/or Building Principal is responsible for ensuring that all of the forms are completed and signed by both parent/guardian/custodian and a student. No student is to enter the collection area until form is properly signed and proper ID is provided.

When students arrive and cannot give a sample, they will need to start drinking water, pop, or juice. After 36 oz. the human body will need to urinate. No bags, backpacks, purses, cups, containers or drinks will be allowed to enter the collection area. All coats, vests, jackets, sweaters, hats, scarves, or baggy clothing must be removed before entering the collection site. Only pants and t-shirts or dresses may be worn in the collection area. Any infringement of the rules will result in the student taking the test over.

Students processed by the lab technician who cannot produce a sample will be kept in a secured area to wait until they can test. If they leave this area they will not be allowed to test. They are not to have contact with anyone until after the sample is given.

Dye will be added to the toilet and the students will urinate directly into a collection cup given to them by the lab personnel. The lab personnel will stand outside the stall and listen for normal sounds of urination.

Any and all adulteration of the specimen will be detected and considered the same as a test refusal or 1st time infraction. (The lab checks every sample for adulteration, such as additives you drink for your urine to change the sample). We will treat adulterations and diluted samples as first time offenses. They are not called positives, but have the same consequences. A retest will be required within 24 hours. Any suspicion of tampering with the sample will be brought to the tester's attention. The sample will be sent to the lab for immediate confirmation of tampering.

The sample must be taken in one attempt and be at least 30 ml in size. The student must hand the cup to the lab technician. Students are not to flush the toilets or urinals. In the event that a student flushes the toilet the student will be required to give a new sample immediately or the sample will be invalid.

With the student watching, the lab technician will recap the sample and hand it to the student who must return it to the intake technician. In the event that the student does not hand the cup directly to the intake technician, the sample is invalid and a new sample must be taken. If the student leaves the collection area or has contact with anyone, the sample will be invalid and the student will have to give another sample. Students will be asked to hold out their hands after testing is complete. A sanitizer will be put on their hands.

This collection procedure is subject to change because of procedural requirements by the testing agency. The school board reserves the right to change the collection procedure to coincide with the testing guidelines set forth by the testing agency. When using rapid screens all non-negative screens will be sent out with a chain of custody to a certified laboratory for confirmation. A certified medical review officer will verify the positive test.

Any student that tests positive will have to be tested weekly for the term of a 5-week program with drug counseling at the expense of the student and/or parent/guardian/custodian. Great Lakes Biomedical will do testing only so long as this is the company the school selects.

In the event a student is unable to provide a urine sample in an appropriate amount of time (random test during school), the student will submit an oral sample. Each student upon signing in will be given a capsule with a random number that corresponds to the student's name. The student will then be instructed to take a seat in a monitored area. Technicians from Great Lakes Biomedical will approach each student with an oral swab. The technician will witness the student placing the swab in his/her mouth. The Great Lakes Biomedical technician will plunge the swab into each student's capsule once they have collected enough saliva. If the amount of saliva collected was not enough, the student must place the swab back in their mouth until the required amount is reached. Once enough saliva is collected, the student will be instructed to take their capsule back to the check in table and give the capsule to the technician who will record the student as having completed the test. Once all students have completed the oral screening, the Great Lakes BioMedical technicians will test each sample and report any and all positive results.

E. RESULTS OF A POSITIVE TEST

Any positive drug test will be made known to the building administrator and athletic director, who in turn will notify the parents/guardians/custodians of the student.

If a positive test occurs for a student athlete:

Students will be referred to Section E & Section F (page 5) of this Athletic Code of Conduct.

Violations will accumulate throughout grades 7-12.

All cost of counseling and required drug test will be at the expense of the student and/or parents/guardians/custodians.

III. ELIGIBILITY

A. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

GRADES 7 – 12

1. In order to be eligible in grades 9-12, a student must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period. During the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of **five (5)** one credit courses or the equivalent which counts toward graduation. (BY LAW 4-4-1 of OHSAA Handbook)
2. During the preceding grading period, 9-12 students must have received a minimum **GPA of 1.5**.
3. **In addition, eligibility will be checked at each quarter midterm.** Any student-athlete who is not passing 5 credits will be given 1 week to improve his/her grades to passing 5 credits. Student-athletes who are still not passing 5 credits will be declared ineligible on a week by week (Sunday to Saturday) until 5 credits are being passed.

*****Athletes who take CCP classes must report their grades to the Athletic Director at the end of each 9 weeks & midterms.**

Per OHSAA rules, any student who is ineligible at the end of the previous nine weeks, will remain ineligible until the end of the next 9 weeks.

The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective.

B. EXCEPTIONS

EXCEPTION 1: Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season.

EXCEPTION 2: A student coming off the “ineligible status” may become eligible 24 hours after the mandatory grade reporting date (a date established by board policy which cannot be the same day as the end of the grading period) established by the board of education or other similar governing body for that school’s district, provided said grade reporting date is applicable to all students in that district. (BY-LAW 4-4-3 of OHSAA Handbook)

A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed a minimum of five of all subjects carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled. (BY-LAW 4-4-4 of OHSAA Handbook)

A student enrolling in the **seventh grade** for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, **a student in grade 7 or 8** must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades. (BY-LAW 4 4-5 of OHSAA Handbook)

C. MISC.

Summer school and other educational options may not be used to substitute for failure to meet the academic standards specified in Bylaw 4 during the last grading period of the school year. (BY-LAW 4-4-7 of OHSAA Handbook).

Students enrolled at Gibsonburg High School and Middle School will be required to meet the following regulations:

1. If a student is academically ineligible, the student will remain ineligible until the end of the next 9 weeks.
2. All classes will carry equal weight. There will be no distinction between academic and non-academic classes.
Exception: Physical Education is ½ credit Grades 9-12, but is 1 credit in Grades 7 -8.
3. If a student is declared ineligible, he or she may participate in practice but not participate in games/scrimmages. They may NOT dress for athletic contest. Each coach or program is expected to have an intervention program in place to help students with academic issues. Ineligible athletes are allowed to attend team functions, unless they become a distraction to the team. This will be at the discretion of each head coach.

IV. TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM EVENTS:

Athletes must ride the team bus to and from athletic contest unless prior approval from the Athletic Director, Principal and/or Superintendent via a note from legal guardian is obtained. Offenses of this nature will be dealt with as follows:

1st Offense: Conference with parents, coach and athletic director.

2nd Offense: Suspension from the team, as outlined above by sport and parent conference.

3rd Offense: Removal from the team.

V. QUITTING A TEAM/CHANGE OF SPORTS

QUITTING A TEAM/CHANGE OF SPORTS

Any athlete who decides to quit a team or change sports must notify the head coach and return all equipment issued to him/her. Any athlete who quits a team or change sports is not permitted to begin practicing or playing with another Gibsonburg team or off-season conditioning program during that sport season unless mutually agreed to by both coaches involved and the athletic director.

VI. CHAIN OF COMMAND

CHAIN OF COMMAND

(For athletes and parents)

There is a chain of command that, if followed, will help resolve problems more effectively and efficiently. The athletic chain of command in the Gibsonburg Exempted Village School District is as follows:

1. The Coach
2. The Athletic Director
3. The Building Principal
4. The Superintendent of Schools
5. The Board of Education

If you are not sure of the coach's name or how to contact him, contact the athletic office.

VII. LENGTH OF AGREEMENT

A. Grades 7 – 8:

1. Athletic Code of Conduct is effective from first sport played once entering 7th grade through first sport played in high school.
2. Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect 365 days per year.

B. Grades 9 – 12:

1. Athletic Code of Conduct is effective from 1st sport played entering 9th grade through last sport played in his/her senior year.
2. Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect 365 days per year.

VIII. ATTENDANCE TO SCHOOL

Students must be in school by 10:30 am to be able to participate in practice and/or athletic event on that day.

Exception: Including but not limited to Dr. Appointments (w/ proper form) and funerals.

*****Athletes are expected to follow all school rules, as stated in the handbook. Offenses will be handled according to school policy.**

IX. WARNING OF POTENTIAL INJURY

Any parent and/or athlete participating in athletics understand that there is potential for an injury to occur. I, as a parent and athlete, understand that I'm taking an inherit risk in participating in athletics at Gibsonburg High School.



GIBSONBURG ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT
MIDDLE SCHOOL (7TH & 8TH)



REALIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ABOVE CODE, I PROMISE TO FAITHFULLY COMPLY WITH THE CODE DURING MY ATHLETIC CAREER AT GIBSONBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I VIOLATE ANY POLICY IN THE ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AND/OR SCHOOL POLICY, I MAY FACE DISCIPLINARY ACTION WITH POSSIBLE SUSPENSION FROM ATHLETICS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT IS EFFECTIVE FROM DATE SIGNED UNTIL I PARTICIPATE IN A SPORT IN HIGH SCHOOL.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT IS EFFECTIVE 365 DAYS PER YEAR AND NOT JUST DURING THE SPORT SEASON.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I, THE STUDENT ATHLETE, AND MY LEGAL GUARDIAN DO NOT SIGN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT, THAT I CAN NOT PARTICIPATE IN ATHLETICS AT GIBSONBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL.

 Student-Athlete Printed Name

 Student-Athlete Signature

 Date

 Legal Guardian Printed Name

 Legal Guardian Signature

 Date

*****Note:** Form must be turned into the Coach or Athletic Department before the first practice.



GIBSONBURG ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT
HIGH SCHOOL (9TH – 12TH)



REALIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ABOVE CODE, I PROMISE TO FAITHFULLY COMPLY WITH THE CODE DURING MY ATHLETIC CAREER AT GIBSONBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I VIOLATE ANY POLICY IN THE ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AND/OR SCHOOL POLICY, I MAY FACE DISCIPLINARY ACTION WITH POSSIBLE SUSPENSION FROM ATHLETICS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT IS EFFECTIVE FROM DATE SIGNED UNTIL THE END OF THE LAST SPORT I PLAY MY SENIOR YEAR.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT IS EFFECTIVE 365 DAYS PER YEAR AND NOT JUST DURING THE SPORT SEASON.

I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I, THE STUDENT ATHLETE, AND MY LEGAL GUARDIAN DO NOT SIGN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT, THAT I CAN NOT PARTICIPATE IN ATHLETICS AT GIBSONBURG HIGH SCHOOL.

 Student-Athlete Printed Name

 Student-Athlete Signature

 Date

 Legal Guardian Printed Name

 Legal Guardian Signature

 Date

*****Note:** Form must be turned into the Coach or Athletic Department before the first practice.