

Athletic Code of Conduct

Being an athlete requires more than being a team member. It often causes many demands which may require personal sacrifices. Being a team member is not a right, but a privilege. If an individual athlete is willing to put extra effort into athletics, he/she will be rewarded many times over.

Preamble: Participation in athletics means more than individual or team competition. It is more than winning or losing. Participating in athletics teaches many social and emotional lessons, sportsmanship, cooperation, teamwork, appreciation, understanding, and pride. This guide has been prepared for all Hill athletes with these goals in mind.

As an athlete you will be asked to read the following guidelines and submit a commitment to your coach.

1. Athletes will keep academics and citizenship on the highest levels.
2. Athletes must accept responsibility for taking proper care of all equipment and uniforms.
3. Athletes must realize that profanity is a sign of weakness that will not be tolerated.
4. Athletes will demonstrate good conduct in and out of school.
5. Athletes need to realize that while winning is a desired outcome; they must learn to enjoy victory, yet maintain modesty. On the other side of victory is defeat. Athletes should be able to accept losing graciously.
6. After a complete, well-played contest each athlete must courteously congratulate their opponents.
7. Athletes need to develop a pride in their coach, teammates, school, and most importantly, themselves.
8. Athletes must encourage their teammates at all times. They should never criticize or blame another teammate for their play.
9. Athletes will never argue or dispute an official's call.
10. Athletes have a great influence on their fellow students. Good examples such as speaking with respect to all students, faculty, and staff are a positive approach that is highly encouraged.
11. Athletes will remember to conduct themselves properly on all school busses as they represent Hill Middle School.
12. Athletes should maintain proper fitness throughout the year to avoid injuries.
13. Athletes should keep the locker room in proper condition: a) all clothes should be kept off the floor, benches, or on top of the lockers, b) lockers should be locked at all times, c) valuables and all other items should be locked in the lockers.
14. Athletes should arrive to practice on time. Athletes should also be picked up from practice promptly.
15. Athletes who are on medical release from physical education, or do not participate in physical education class will not be allowed to practice or play.
16. Any violation of the previously listed guidelines will result in appropriate consequences discussed by the coach, athletic director, and principal.

Eligibility

The school encourages its students to broaden their skills, knowledge, and citizenship by participating in school sponsored extra-curricular activities. In order to participate in such activities, each student must maintain a passing grade in all courses in which he/she is currently enrolled.

1. The focus of our eligibility process is to encourage students to participate in activities while maintaining satisfactory academic progress. Students need to earn passing grades to maintain their eligibility status.
2. These guidelines apply to all interscholastic athletic teams.
3. Eligibility check days will be approximately every other Thursday during the activity.
4. If a student is deficient, the following will occur by subject:
 - a. 1st deficiency- probation, given one week to bring grade up
 - b. If the deficiency is not corrected in one week, the student will be allowed to practice, but may not participate in any contest during that second week.
 - c. If the deficiency is not corrected in two weeks, the student will not practice or play until he/she has passing grades and regains eligibility. The student may try to regain eligibility then on a weekly basis.
5. If a student earns a second deficiency after regaining eligibility, the process will be followed less the one week of probation.
6. Individual cases of eligibility may be reviewed by the coach/sponsor, assistant principal, teacher, athletic director, or principal.
7. The athletic director and assistant principal will monitor ongoing student progress through communication with teachers and the online grade book. The athlete should take appropriate steps to intervention to keep ineligibility to a minimum.

Hill Middle School Athletic Contract

1. I will always be on time and prepared for practice and games, unless previous arrangements have been made with the coach. **If a student misses more than 3 practices (unexcused) he or she will be off the team.** The following steps will occur:
 - 1st missed practice- verbal warning from the coach
 - 2nd missed practice- coach will call home
 - 3rd missed practice- 1 game suspension
 - 4th missed practice- dismissed from the team
2. As a member of a team, I will be courteous, respectful, and practice good sportsmanship to my teammates, opponents, and teachers at Hill Middle School.
3. It is a privilege to represent Hill and proper behavior is required in class, practice, and athletic contests.
4. Proper care of equipment is mandatory.
5. I will use appropriate language at all times.
6. I understand that good sportsmanship is a must. Criticizing, blaming, or disrupting my teammates, coaches, opponents, or referees will not be tolerated.
7. I will be alcohol, drug, and tobacco free. These violations will result in immediate dismissal.

Violations of this code of ethics will be handled as follows:

- 1st violation- warning and conference with the coach
- 2nd violation- conference with coach, principal, athlete, and parent
- 3rd violation- review with principal and coach for team dismissal

Finally, since our goal is to have both an excellent school and athletic program. Violations of school rules are not acceptable. The following actions will be taken if inappropriate behavior is exhibited.

In School Detention:

- 1st offense- miss the next game
- 2nd offense- 1 week suspension from practices and games
- 3rd offense- dismissed from the team

Out of School Suspension:

- 1st offense- miss the next game
- 2nd offense- 10 day suspension from practices and games, and a conference with principal, athlete, parent, and coach.
- 3rd offense- dismissed from the team

Detentions:

3 or more detentions in one week will result in not playing for one week. A conference will also take place between the parent, athlete, and coach.