

Syracuse High School

Athletic Code of Conduct

Athletics are a big part of the social makeup of a high school. It brings excitement to the community. It is an opportunity for those who participate to excel in front of their peers and community. Participating in athletics is a privilege, not an entitlement. Student athletes, who excel both in classroom and in the community, may play for and represent their student body. This privilege is afforded only to those athletes who qualify through attendance, academics and citizenship. The privilege of team membership may be taken away for any violation of the Code of Conduct set for Syracuse High athletes.

The purpose for the Syracuse High Athletic Code of Conduct is to remind Syracuse athletes of their responsibility to their school, their community, their coach, their teammates, and to themselves. Failure to comply with the assigned code will cause the student athlete to become ineligible to participate. These violations may be in addition to "Safe School" and "Criminal" violations.

Those who are found in violation of any of the following will be required to meet before the "Code of Conduct Committee." This committee will have the authority to levy any of the following participation penalties: **probation**, **suspension** (ranging from one game to the entire school year), and **termination** for the season or school year. Out of season violations will be dealt with at the time of incident, and will be referred to the Code of Conduct Committee. Athletes may be required to miss one or more games prior to being reinstated and may carry over into the next season. School and legal sanctions may also apply.

Code of Conduct Offences and Suspension Recommendations

1. **Participation Fees:** All school fees must be paid prior to receiving practice gear and uniform. Individual team coaches will monitor and enforce this policy.

Athletes must turn in their equipment or pay for replacement within five days after completion of his/her season. Athletes who do not comply may be immediately suspended from participation on another team. Individual team coaches will monitor and enforce this policy.

2. **Substance Abuse:** According to state rules, any athlete guilty of consuming or distributing tobacco (including Vaping), alcohol, or drugs (including over the counter), may be declared ineligible from competition. The school and/or coach may also impose a longer suspension or termination from the team.
3. **Social Media:** Sending messages or posting information about illegal activities or indicate knowledge of unreported crimes. i.e. Incriminating photos or statements depicting violence; hazing; sexual harassment; sexting; vandalism; stalking; underage drinking; selling, possessing, or using controlled substances; or any other illegal behaviors.

Posting or communicating messages that include: Bullying\Threats of Violence\Cyber-Bullying (not limited to student-to-student interactions). Vicious treatment and hateful words often leading to violence, suicide, depression, and discrimination.

Derogatory language or remarks about teammates, coaches, students, staff members, athletic administrators, or representatives of other schools. Demeaning statements about and/or threats to any party; creating serious danger to the safety of another person or making a credible threat of serious physical or emotional injury to another person.

4. **Sexting:** The creation of, the possession of, requesting of, or sharing of sexually explicit messages, taking sexually explicit photos (nude or semi-nude) of

themselves or others at school, a school related activity, or any location which affects the environment of the school.

5. **Theft:** Major theft may require immediate suspension from the team. Any athlete found guilty of petty theft may be declared ineligible from competition. Those who are found in violation will meet before the Conduct Committee and will abide by the decision that is made.
6. **Absence on the day of competition:** The athlete must attend all classes on the day of competition. Exceptions include school-sponsored activities or school excused absences approved by the coach and an administrator in advance.
7. **Truancy in-or out of season:** An athlete who is truant during a season will meet with the Code Committee prior to being reinstated. An athlete truant in the off season may serve a one-game suspension for the next season based on the recommendation of the Code Committee
8. **Fighting in/or out of season:** An athlete caught fighting in or out of season may meet before the Code Committee prior to being reinstated.
9. **Inappropriate conduct:** Athletes are expected to be the best citizens and good examples to others in and out of school. Violators may meet before the Code Committee prior to being reinstated.
10. **Sexual harassment/ hazing:** First offense will result in a 30-day suspension. Second offense will result in a 180-day suspension.
11. **Excessive Absences:** An athlete with five or more unexcused absences during a term season is required to report before the Committee for intervention. Seven unexcused absences require suspension for a minimum of two games. Ten unexcused absences could result in termination from that specific team. Individual team coaches will monitor and enforce this policy.
12. **Academics:** During a season, a progress report will be run to check eligibility every two weeks. If an athlete is not up to the High School Association standards during that two week period, they may be put on probation. Any subsequent report not up to state standards will result in a suspension based on the length of season. Grade changes after the posting date cannot restore lost eligibility.

Suspension breakdown based on length of season

Season:	Eleven Games or Less	Twelve Games or More
1st Time	1 Game	2 Games
2nd Time	2 Games	4 Games
3rd Time	End of Season	End of Season

(Suspension can carry over from one sport season to another.)

Student Athlete Printed Name _____

Student Athlete Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Coaches Signature _____ Date _____