

COMANCHE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT CODE OF CONDUCT

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PURPOSE OF ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

The Athletics Code of Conduct for Comanche ISD is designed to convey information and answer many questions that the students and parents/guardians involved with Comanche ISD Athletics may have regarding the rules and policies of the athletics program. It is designed as a broad overview of the policies governing the athletics program in Comanche ISD. The Athletic Code of Conduct does not address every rule or policy that individual coaches or sponsors may have for their activity. Coaches or sponsors of the individual activities have every right to devise rules and policies not put forth in this manual. However, these rules and policies may not contradict the Athletic Code of Conduct.

ATHLETICS IN COMANCHE ISD

Athletics at Comanche ISD are extracurricular activities that the district provides to meet the needs and desires of the students and community of Comanche ISD. These athletic activities are provided to allow the student an outlet for competition and as an important part of the educational process. Athletics provides a structured environment where students will learn many life lessons, such as, but not limited to, the importance of character, discipline, conformance, work ethic, teamwork, commitment to goals, others before self, and perseverance through adversity. The development of these characteristics serves as an important building block for the students to achieve lifelong success.

Because participation in these extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Comanche ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this Athletic Code of Conduct extends beyond the Comanche Student Honor Code not only in types of behavior prohibited but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This code of conduct will be enforced with all students in grades 7-12 participating in extracurricular athletics:

- regardless of whether school is in session.
- regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event.
- regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs.
- regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season; and

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- regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the Athletic Code of Conduct and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code.

VISION

Comanche ISD Athletics boldly pursues greatness as a transformational Athletic Program.

CORE VALUES (The T.R.I.B.E. Way)

1. **Tough-** Physically and mentally overcoming setbacks and obstacles.
2. **Resilient-** We have a spirit of determination and the ability to thrive in the face of adversity.
3. **Integrity-** We always act in an honest and ethical manner.
4. **Blue Collar-** We are dependable and hardworking!
5. **Excellence-** We strive for greatness in all that we do.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in all extracurricular activities they desire; however, students may not quit one sport to participate in another (after a 1-week tryout window) while the sport that he or she quit is still active. Quitting a sport while it is still in season will result in the suspension of that athlete from practice or competition in any other sport until the season of the sport quit is concluded (including any playoffs). Dismissal for disciplinary reasons is to be treated the same as quitting.

- Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will always conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Comanche ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. They will respect opponents and play beyond their individual abilities.

- Students unable to arrive at practices (including workouts), meetings or events should call the coach, sponsor, or team captain as soon as they are aware that they will be absent.

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Missed practices, meetings or workouts will be made up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant's absence is deemed unexcused. Any absence which the coach or sponsor does not know of beforehand is unexcused. Prior notification of the absence does not necessarily excuse the absence.

- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate but can attend a practice (including workouts), meeting or event are required to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.
- Students are required to always show respect to coaches and sponsors.

DRESS CODE

- Students will meet or exceed the standards of dress and grooming put forth in the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code. Comanche ISD Student Athletes are expected to provide the example of appearance for Comanche ISD students by going above and beyond the minimum requirements.
- The athletics staff of Comanche ISD may set dress and grooming policies that go beyond the minimum policies of Comanche ISD. The policies will apply to the Athletics Department as a whole and will not vary from activity to activity.
- Student athletes represent the schools and community of Comanche and are ambassadors for the school district. Their appearance is a direct reflection of the Comanche ISD athletics program, and of the community.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor.
- Student athletes at Comanche ISD are expected to be leaders in the classroom. Behavior expectations go above and beyond the behavior expectations for those students not involved in extracurricular activities. As in all other facets, the student athlete is expected to be the model for Comanche ISD students. It is entirely within the purview of the athletics staff of Comanche ISD to work with the faculty and administration to meet this expectation with all student athletes.
- Student athletes at Comanche ISD are participating in voluntary extracurricular activities and are subject to disciplinary measures that may go beyond those promulgated in the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code.

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•It is understood that student athletes, parents, and staff representing Comanche ISD regard the field or court of competition, or practice, as extensions of the classroom. Given this fact athletes, parents, and staff recognize that the same rules of mutual respect that apply, and that are observed in the classroom, will also apply, and be observed in all athletic endeavors.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

• Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor. Comanche ISD students who participate in extracurricular athletics are always prohibited from;

- possessing, smoking, selling, or using tobacco products; Vaping!!
- possessing or using drug paraphernalia;
- possessing, selling, or delivering to another person look-alike drugs or items represented to be drugs or contraband of any kind;
- engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to glue, aerosol paint or volatile, mood-altering chemicals;
- attending any event at which illegal underage drinking or smoking is occurring and tolerated — students will be allowed a slight concession for an amount of time long enough to determine that a violation is occurring and to leave the premises;
- riding in a vehicle containing alcohol unless a parent, guardian or other responsible adult is present and aware of the presence of the alcohol.

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CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor. Comanche ISD students who participate in extracurricular athletics are always prohibited from;
- stealing;
- conduct that causes injury or harm to persons or property;
- using lewd or vulgar language or obscene gestures;
- assault resulting in bodily injury;
- any conduct resulting in arrest and/or citations from law enforcement officers.
- engaging in serious misbehavior, as defined in the Comanche ISD Student Honor Code.

DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT LEVELS

Following are the levels applied to violations of the Athletic Department Code of Conduct:

LEVEL 1 - Minor offenses such as poor classroom behavior; unexcused absences; minor insubordination; dress code violations.

Corrective discipline measures are at the discretion of the coach or sponsor to bring about desired changes to behavior.

LEVEL 2 – Major offenses such as any violation of the drug and alcohol policy; any violation of the criminal mischief policy that does not result in removal from school; gross insubordination towards faculty, staff, or administration; repeated or willful Level 1 violations.

Corrective discipline measures will be administered by the head coach of the sport in season, along with the Athletics Director or Girls Coordinator, whichever is appropriate. If the student athlete in question is not in season, these measures will be handled by the Athletics Director or Girls Coordinator, whichever is appropriate. They will consist of punishment conditioning at 6:00 a.m. for a period of 5 consecutive weekdays, as designed by the Athletics Director and Girls Coordinator. Any tardy or absence will result in restarting the calendar for 5 more consecutive weekdays.

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LEVEL 3 – A second Level 2 violation.

Corrective measures will be the same as Level 2, with an additional suspension of one week of competition. For activities that typically have one competition per week, it is one competition. For activities that typically have more than one competition per week, the suspension will match that number. A bye does not count as one of those competitions.

LEVEL 4 – A third Level 2 violation.

Corrective measures will be the same as Level 2, with an additional suspension from all competition for one calendar year from the date of the Level 4 violation. For a senior, this means removal from the athletics program. Underclassmen may remain in athletics for conditioning purposes but cannot practice or compete with a team for one calendar year from the date of the violation.

Any student who removes him or herself from the athletics program while being subject to disciplinary measures is subject to the same measures upon their return to the athletics program.

Any student under felony charges will be removed from competition while those charges are pending.

ATHLETIC PERIODS

- All athletes participating in team sports will be enrolled in the appropriate athletic period for speed and strength training, conditioning, and sport specific training.
- Athletes involved only in those sports that are primarily individual sports may be excused from athletic period enrollment with the consent of the coaches or sponsors of the activities in which the student is involved.
- Three consecutive 6-week grading periods during which a student athlete is academically ineligible constitutes grounds for removal from athletics.
- Three unexcused absences from the athletic period during a semester constitute grounds for removal from athletics. An unexcused absence is any absence the coach or sponsor is uninformed of prior to the absence.

ATHLETIC PASSES

Athletic passes are provided to the athletes of Comanche ISD for admission to all CISD athletic events under the following guidelines.

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- athletic passes are to be used only by the student whose name is on the pass.
- athletic passes being used by someone other than the student whose name is on the pass is subject to seizure and will not be replaced.
- athletic passes issued to any student who subsequently quits or is removed from athletics will be forfeited.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

There will be times that the student athlete and/or their parent/guardian will not agree with actions or decisions of individual coaches or sponsors, or the actions or decisions of the athletics department. Following are the proper steps for dispute resolution.

- Meet with the individual coach or sponsor with whom the dispute occurs. This should be done during a scheduled meeting, not before or after competitions or practices. The involved parties should work together to find a resolution that meets the needs of all parties involved.
- If the dispute cannot be resolved, a meeting should be scheduled with the head high school coach of that activity, along with the coach with whom the dispute occurs. Again, the involved parties should work together to find a resolution that meets the needs of all parties involved.
- If the dispute cannot be resolved, a meeting should be scheduled with the Athletics Director or Girls Coordinator, whichever is appropriate, along with others deemed necessary. Again, the involved parties should work together to find a resolution that meets the needs of all parties involved.
- If the dispute cannot be resolved, a meeting should be scheduled with the Superintendent, Athletics Director, along with others deemed necessary.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CODE OF CONDUCT

All student athletes in Comanche ISD are subject to the rules and policies put forth by the Athletics Code of Conduct. Participation in the athletics program requires signed acknowledgement for the following by both the student athlete and their parent/guardian.

- reading and understanding the Code of Conduct.
- participation in the athletics program requires abiding by the rules and policies put forth in the Code of Conduct.
- agreement to follow the rules and policies put forth in the Code of Conduct.

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STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Student Name _____

I have read and am familiar with the Comanche ISD Athletics Department Code of Conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____

I understand that participation in extracurricular athletics in Comanche ISD requires abiding by the rules and policies put forth in the Comanche ISD Athletics Department Code of Conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____

I agree to abide by the rules and policies put forth in the Comanche ISD Athletics Department Code of Conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Parent/Guardian Name _____

I have read and am familiar with the Comanche ISD Athletics Department Code of Conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____

I understand that participation in extracurricular athletics in Comanche ISD requires abiding by the rules and policies put forth in the Comanche ISD Athletics Department Code of Conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____

I agree to abide by the rules and policies put forth in the Comanche ISD Athletics Department Code of Conduct.

Signature _____ Date _____