



DRYDEN

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 88
Dryden, NY 13053
Main Office (607) 844-8694
District Office (607) 844-5361
FAX (607) 844-4733

2023-2024 Extracurricular Code of Conduct

Students will be respectful, responsible and safe at all times.

It is a privilege to represent the Dryden Central Schools. The student's first responsibility is to represent the school, extra-curricular programs, and community with maximum effort, honesty, and integrity. This Code of Conduct is targeted at athletes, team managers, mascots, and musical participants, but does have items that could impact club members. This Code of Conduct is designed to assist you in participating at your optimum level as well as to give you the structure necessary to succeed later on in life. Students perform at their best when they are in peak mental, emotional and physical condition. All students and their parents/guardians are expected to recognize the need and importance of following the District Code of Conduct, as well as this Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

This Extracurricular Code of Conduct is in effect for the entire calendar year.

Section I Behavior Expectations for students:

- A. Demonstrate good sportspersonship, good attitude, good character on and off the field/ court/ pool/ stage/ mountain, etc. This expectation extends to postings on social media.
- B. Be a law-abiding community member.
- C. Refrain from bullying.
- D. Refrain from use of vulgar language and obscene gestures.
- E. Treat coaches, advisors, officials, teammates, parent/guardians, spectators and opponents with respect.
- F. Attend and remain at all practices, contests and events unless excused by the coach/advisor.
- G. Refrain from inappropriate use of cell phones and social media.
- H. Show respect for the property of others which includes Dryden facilities and equipment, buses and the facilities/equipment of opposing schools and or venues.

Consequences for violations of the above expectations are at the discretion of the Director of Athletics in consultation with the athlete's coach. Consequences may range from a loss of playing time to dismissal from the team. A student's participation in a club/musical may also be impacted by violations of the above, at the Building Principal and/or club advisor's/director's discretion.



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Section II Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco/Hazing

A. Hazing will not be tolerated.

B. Students are not to use or possess alcohol, illegal drugs/paraphernalia (including but not limited to hookahs, vape pens, and e-cigarettes), tobacco products or other illicit substances publicly or privately. These products are illegal for minors and/or can create serious health problems.

All suspensions for violations of the Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco/Hazing policy will carry over from season to season (including Spring to Fall). Violations count even if a student is out of season for athletics or the musical. A student's count of violations will carry from seventh grade through graduation.

1.) First violation- Suspension from the team/musical for 30 calendar days from the date that the discipline is given. The goal of this policy is to have students abstain from drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and hazing. However, as part of the maturation process, students may make a poor decision regarding substance use or hazing. Part of the development process for our students is to recognize when they have made a poor decision and to learn from that experience. With this in mind, a student may reduce the 30 day suspension to 14 days. First, the student must submit in writing an admission of the violation to the Director of Athletics and/or Building Principal. The student must then participate in an approved drug and alcohol counseling program. During the 14 or 30 day suspension the student will be required to attend any practices or games as a member of the team. Upon completion of the suspension the student will be allowed to continue participation on the team. The suspension period (14 or 30 days) will carry over from one season to the next. A student may participate in tryouts during the suspension period. However, a coach may consider any remaining suspension in their decision regarding "cuts" from the team.

2.) Subsequent violations- All subsequent violations will result in the suspension from all athletics/musical participation for 1 calendar year from the date the discipline is given.

A student's eligibility to participate in a club may also be impacted by violations of the above, at the Building Principal and/or club advisor's discretion.

Section III Academic Eligibility Policy:

Participation on an athletic team is a privilege extended to students as part of the educational experience. We believe that academics and athletics are inseparable in the development of our students. The concepts of individual responsibility, self-improvement, overcoming adversity, competing, preparing, functioning as a member of a group, supporting others, and having a sound mind and body are promoted, reinforced, and enhanced in our classrooms and our athletic programs. Therefore, it is expected of our student athletes to put forth their best effort in the classroom and abide by the teacher's educational and behavioral expectations. It is also expected that the student athlete will seek out additional help from our faculty when academic struggles occur. If a student athlete is failing one or more classes they may be required by their coach and our Director of Athletics to receive additional assistance in those classes as a condition of participation in athletics (example: staying with a teacher activity period). While it is not the intent of this policy to remove a student athlete from competition it is expected that the student athlete will make every effort to bring failing



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grades to passing. Suspension from competition is contingent on the student athlete meeting these expectations. Suspension from competition will be at the discretion of the Director of Athletics with consultation from the athlete's coach.

Section IV Additional Information:

A. Students will demonstrate personal responsibility regarding information getting home and communicating with parents/guardians. Many changes are announced at school at the end of the day. The district will use the website as much as possible to update changes. Coaches and advisors will also communicate changes to students.

B. Quitting an activity/team- The Dryden Athletic Department promotes maximum participation in athletics for our students. We encourage students to try new sports as the benefits in doing so reach far beyond the field or court. In light of this we recognize that some activities may not be a good fit for some students. In these cases we want our students to take individual responsibility for their decisions. Therefore, any athlete wishing to quit a team should meet with the coach to express this desire. If circumstances prevent this from happening an athlete can make their request to the Director of Athletics. In this situation the athlete will write a letter to the coach explaining their decision to quit the team. Emails and texts are not acceptable methods of fulfilling this requirement. It will be at the discretion of the Director of Athletics to determine if the student will be allowed to try out for another team that season or the subsequent season. Determining factors in this decision will include, but are not limited to, whether the student-athlete followed through with the above procedures and left on good terms. (items of consideration: did the athlete make a scene, blow up at the coach, not turn in their uniform, quit via text, etc.)

C. Arrival time for students- It is the Athletic Department's philosophy that student-athletes are students first. Therefore, it is expected that athletes will fulfill their obligations as students fully each day. Students must comply with the District's extracurricular attendance policy (#7410) in order to be eligible to participate in an activity that day. *An excerpt from Policy #7410, not to be limited to: "To be eligible for any extracurricular activity, a student must attend school for a half of a school day in order to participate in a practice, game, event, rehearsal, or performance later that same day. The exception is to be legally excused for reasons other than illness. Students absent from school and wishing to practice or participate in activities must report to the Building Principal or Director for permission subject to the Code of Conduct."* "The half school day" will be defined as the academic day from first period through fifth period or sixth period through 2:19 PM. The above policy is understood to indicate that the building Principal and Athletic Director have discretion to waive this policy on a case-by-case basis. The list below is meant to help clarify what constitutes a legal excuse that will be accepted by the Athletic Department.



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The following are examples of legal excuses:

- medical/dental/vision/counseling appointment
- funeral and/or death in the family
- school field trip or school-connected internship (*documentation from teacher/school required*)
- military obligations (*documentation required*)
- court appearance (*documentation required*) -work-study with pre-approval by Principal (*documentation required*)
- internship with pre-approval by Principal (*documentation from Principal required*)
- college visit (*documentation from counseling office required*)
- drivers test (*documentation from DMV required*)

The following are examples of illegal excuses:

- overslept
- slept in due to previous late night involving something school related or otherwise
- my ride picked me up late
- shopping trip
- family vacation/recreational activity
- hunting
- fishing

Case-by-Case decisions by the Director of Athletics

- car trouble
- weather related problems with transportation
- a medical/illness issues related to something in the student's 504 plan
- significant illness of family member
- McKinney-Vento situations (loss of housing)

- In the event the Director of Athletics is unavailable the HS Principal or Assistant Principal will make the decision regarding legal excuses for participation.
- The Director of Athletics and building Principal reserve the right to request additional documentation to determine the validity of the excuse.

D. Coaches/Advisors will receive notice of student attendance through the main office.

E. Unexcused absence from practice/event: Absence without directly notifying a coach/advisor is unacceptable. If a student is in school it is the expectation that they will attend practice unless sent home sick by the school nurse. Having other students notify the coach/advisor of your absence is also unacceptable.



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- Should a student miss practice the day before a game (unexcused) they will not start in that game. If it is determined that a student has an unexcused absence from school the day prior to a game, the student will not participate in the game. Three unexcused absences (“no call, no shows”) from any team/activity are grounds for removal.

F. Transportation back to Dryden: Only parents/guardians are permitted to sign their daughter or son out for the purpose of transporting home from an away contest. The coach/advisor will have a list for those types of sign-outs following a contest. If a parent/guardian needs to have someone else transport their child home from an away contest, they must make a written request to the Athletic Director ahead of time. No one under the age of **21** will be approved to provide such transportation except in the case of prior written parental consent for a sibling to transport another sibling.

Section V Athletic Specific regulations

A. Team cuts: If an athlete is cut from a team they are allowed to join another team if that team does not have cuts. The deadline is one week from the beginning of the season. If a student has not submitted paperwork to be medically cleared by the conclusion of the tryout period (typically three days even if no cuts are being made), they cannot try to join the team after that point without permission by the coach and the Athletic Director.

B. Physical Education participation: If an athlete elects not to participate in or is not prepared for Physical Education, they are ineligible to play or practice in their sport that day.

C. Transportation to contests/events: Students must ride to contests on the transportation provided by the district. In extenuating circumstances, exceptions may be granted by the Director of Athletics/Building Principal.

D. Athletic Eligibility Standards: No student-athlete may participate in our Athletic Program unless they have fulfilled all obligations for eligibility as deemed mandatory by the NYSPHSAA, Section IV, the IAC, and the Dryden Central School District. This includes, but not limited to, having an updated physical exam, current tetanus shot, has returned his/her Health update form and has been cleared by the school nurse.

E. Wear or use of athletic equipment or uniforms issued by the Dryden Central School District will only be for scheduled practices, contests, or when authorized to by the coach.

- Students who do not return their uniform at the end of the season may not:
 1. Be able to try out for the next season
 2. Be recognized for any end of season/year awards (Including receiving letters or pins)

F. Ejection from a game: Section IV mandates that any student-athlete who is ejected from a game by an official, is ineligible to participate in the next scheduled contest.



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G. Theft or vandalism: In cases involving theft or vandalism, the athlete will be required to pay for the replacement of the item or damages. Additional punishment can range from a reprimand to dismissal from the team.

H. Sport specific rules: Coaches have the prerogative of developing sport specific rules and regulations. Such rules may not be less than those outlined in this Code of Conduct. A sport specific punishment cannot be given for a school discipline issue until the student has had due process in school (i.e.: until referral has been submitted and processed by an administrator). The Superintendent, Principals, and Athletic Director have the discretion to overrule a stated sport specific policy, but it is understood that this will only occur in extremely rare cases where they have a compelling educational interest or confidential information that a coach could not account for.

I. Website pictures: Unless you contact the Athletic Office, it is assumed that you give the Athletic Department permission to have your son/daughter's picture and sport-relevant information on the website and District publications, and to distribute his/her picture and sport-relevant information to the media.

J. Dress/travel rules: All teams/athletes traveling either are dressed up or all look the same (in uniform, travel gear, etc.).

K. The Dryden Central School District is a member of the Commercial Travelers Mutual Insurance Program. *This is a minimal plan which is designed to supplement a parent's/ guardian's regular insurance.* If the parent/guardian does not have insurance, this plan *may* cover a portion of the expenses.

L. Weight Room Expectations:

- Students will treat equipment with respect
- Students will follow all safety procedures as reviewed by coaches
- Students will be monitored by coaches at all times
- Students will not perform unauthorized lifts
- No food or drinks other than water is permitted in the fitness center
- Sports equipment for sports teams is not allowed in the fitness center
- 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm is mainly for physical education class make ups.

Students who do not follow these rules may face suspension from the weight room/fitness center.

M. Athletic Placement Process

Middle School students wishing to try out for JV/Varsity level teams have the opportunity to do so through the Athletic Placement Process (formerly known as Selective Classification). Information about the steps in that process can be found in the Athletic Department's protocol sheet about APP.



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N. Athletic practices and games routinely occur over school breaks. Section IV and the IAC, which govern our athletic teams, strongly emphasize that our teams need to be available to play during breaks, as they cannot “black out” breaks from game schedules since different schools have different breaks. As such, we expect that athletes will be available to practice/play during school breaks during each season. By league rule, we may be forced to forfeit games if we are unavailable.

O. Concerts for graded-classes and other required activities of a student’s academic classes come before athletic participation. The Athletic Department tries to schedule around such things to the best of their ability, but cannot always accommodate.

Section VI Ski Club Specific Rules and Regulations

A. Ski Club Members are expected to follow the directions of ski club and chaperones and ski resort personnel.

B. Helmets must be worn at all times when skiing/snowboarding with the Dryden School District Ski Club. If ski club members are found skiing/snowboarding without a helmet they will not be allowed to participate with the club for the following session.

C. Ski club members are expected to follow resort rules/regulations. Failure to do so may result in tickets/passes being revoked by ski resort.

D. Reckless skiing/snowboarding will not be tolerated.

- Failure to comply with ski club rules may result in:
 - a. Restriction of participation in the ski club for one week.
 - b. Individual disciplinary action
 - c. Possible suspension from participation in the school club. No refunds will be given for suspensions.
- Ski club members are exempt from the academic probation policy.
 - a. This exception is made due to the financial commitment required for ski club.

Section VII Musical Ensembles Specific Rules and Regulations (Afterschool musical groups)

A. Directors of such groups will have rules and academic policies of their own

Section VIII Consequences related to school disciplinary action:

A. Out of School Suspension (OSS): Students assigned OSS, are ineligible to practice, perform, attend or play in a game/activity until they return to school. They will also serve a minimum of a one game/performance suspension. A second offense within the season or duration of the activity will result in removal from team/musical.



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B. In-School Suspension (ISS): Athletes assigned ISS by an Administrator for more than 4 class periods, are ineligible to practice or play on those days that they are in ISS and can result in further disciplinary action by the Coach/Advisor and/or the Director of Athletics.

C. Each time a student-athlete accrues 3 discipline referrals within a season, he/she will serve a one contest suspension. More than 6 referrals by a student-athlete or musical participant will require a meeting with the student, parent/guardian, coach/director, Director of Athletics and the Building Principal to determine further consequences.

Athletes who have violated Behavior Expectations will be in street clothes for contests and must sit on the bench with the team.

Section IX Chain of command for concerns:

A. All concerns regarding a team, club or the musical should initially be discussed with the coach, advisor, or the director, preferably by the student first, then the parent. Unless it is a time-sensitive emergency/safety issue, a meeting with the coach/advisor/director must be documented before a building administrator will intervene. Parents and athletes should note that the Athletic Director does not interfere with playing-time decisions of coaches.

B. Should the concern not be adequately addressed, the Director of Athletics/Building Principal should be contacted for a meeting.

C. If the concern requires further consultation the district administrator will set up a meeting with the Superintendent of Schools to determine further course of action.

Section X Appeals Process:

A. Appeals regarding disciplinary actions of a coach and/or the Athletic Department may be made in writing by the athlete to the Athletic Director. An Appeal Committee will consist of:

- The Athletic Director, unless he/she has played a role in the decision being appealed, in which case another District administrator will be substituted
- A Head Coach/Teacher/District Staff member selected by the Athletic Director (cannot be a coach working within that athletic team/program)
- A Dryden School District administrator (the building principal of the level the student appealing attends will be asked first, unless he/she was involved in the incident being appealed or is unavailable)

The appeal must be submitted by the student within three full school days of the disciplinary action. Appeal Committee decisions shall be returned within two full school days of the receipt of the appeal. If the appeal is received during or just prior to a school break, the timeline will begin upon the first day after the return from the school break. While the appeal is taking place, the disciplinary decision stands.



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The protocol for the appeal process:

1. The athlete in question submits a written appeal to the Athletic Director outlining his/her version of the events that led to the issue being appealed. This can, but does not have to, include evidence and a recommendation of what he/she thinks should happen instead.
2. Upon receipt, the Athletic Director will convene an Appeal Committee (as outlined above)
3. The Athletic Director (or designee) will collect relevant statements and submit any relevant investigation information/evidence/documents to the committee for consideration.
4. The committee will meet to review the appeal and materials submitted to them.
5. The committee may choose to interview the appellant or anyone else connected to the issue being appealed, but are not required to do so. The committee may also request, and consider, additional information they deem relevant to the case.
6. The committee will render a written decision outlining their findings about the issue being appealed. Typically this will take the form of a determination about the guilt/innocence of the appellant on the issue being appealed and a ruling on if the consequence rendered will stand, be dropped, or be adjusted.

The written decision will be delivered to the Athletic Director and will be delivered/sent to the appellant.

***Please sign this Informed Consent Form below, tear off JUST THIS PAGE,
and return it with your medical clearance paperwork ***

*** Informed Consent Form—Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct ***

Student Name: (Please print) _____

Grade: _____

Sports/Activities Participating: _____

By signing this Code, the student and his/her parents agree to comply with the Code in letter and in spirit. These responsibilities include abiding by all of the rules and regulations set forth here and any additional rules set forth by the coach, advisor, administration, school board, league or the governing body of New York State Athletics (New York State Public High School Athletic Association). We also understand that participation in athletics, contact or non-contact, involves a certain amount of risk for injury.

This Extracurricular Code of Conduct is in effect for the entire calendar year.

Parent/Guardian's signature: _____ Date: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____