

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT
CO-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

Newport School District believes that the district's goals and objectives are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular curricular program of the schools.

For purposes of this Code, **Co-curricular activities** shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Newport Board of School Directors and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day.

A team coach or activity advisor may establish and publish, with the approval and consent of the principal and/or director of athletics, reasonable rules that complement those rules/policies that have been instituted by the District. Copies of the handbooks and policies referred to in this section are available in the main office of the high school.

School Behavior and Citizenship

Students are expected to conform to the general code of behavior for the High School/Middle School. Violations of that code which result in a suspension (in-school or out-of-school) will affect a student-athlete's participation. When a student has been suspended out-of-school, the student may not visit any District campus for the duration of the suspension, nor may the student participate in any extracurricular activities, including athletic practices or competitions. Students who are suspended may not travel or be on the sideline with the team. Students may resume participation on the day that they resume regular, school attendance.

When a student is suspended in-school, participation in extracurricular activities is also restricted. The student may not participate in any extracurricular activities, including athletic practices or competitions. Students may resume participation on the day following the completion of the in-school suspension.

Additionally, a coach may set a more restrictive rule if missing practice due to any suspension which influences the student-athletes' preparation for competition.

Sportsmanship (NSD Policy #247)

As PIAA-member schools, we are committed to the goal that sportsmanship be recognized as an important part of interscholastic athletics. Sportsmanship is generally defined as the overt display of respect for the rules of the sport, as well as for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at any event. Newport athletes, when part of any team activity, are expected to behave in a way which demonstrates fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. Any actions or comments which are intended to taunt, bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule or demean others in the athletic arena will not be tolerated.

Athletes exhibiting such behavior will be addressed by the coach and may be consequence by (1) a reduction in participation, (2) suspension, or (3), dismissal from the team or activity

Hazing

Hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the intention of team initiation or membership; for our purposes, this refers to any sports team recognized by the Board of School Directors. Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student participates willingly.

The Newport School District does not condone any form of initiation (i.e., hazing) as part of any school-sponsored interscholastic sports-team activity. The District has adopted a policy prohibiting the involvement of students, volunteers and employees in any hazing activity; no student-athlete, coach, volunteer or District employee shall plan, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity.

Training Rules

Athletes perform best when they follow intelligent training rules. These rules include prohibitions in the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The Newport School District has board-approved policies regarding the use of these substances by all students on School District property and at Newport-sponsored activities at all sites with the objective of providing drug, alcohol and tobacco free environments.

Furthermore, the athletic department prohibits the use of these substances by any athlete for the length of his/her team's sport season at any time, either on or off a school campus. Violations by District athletes of these policies or rules will be addressed according to District policies and athletic department procedures.

Coaches shall develop specific training rules to govern the athletes involved in a particular sport. These team training rules are to complement school board policy and athletic procedures.

Drugs and Alcohol (NSD Policy #227)

The objective of the school district's drug and alcohol policy is to eliminate the improper use of drugs, behavior-altering substances and performance-enhancing substances in our schools, on school property, on school conveyances and at school-sponsored events. In keeping with the district objective, the athletic department believes interscholastic athletics can play a vital role in promoting and maintaining a drug-free environment. Students violating the policy will first be dealt with according to School District policies. In addition, for all incidents in which the student is excluded from extra curricular activity by the discipline section of the policy, the following athletic procedures will be in effect:

The sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, anabolic steroids, or their look-a-likes:

First Offense – Suspension of Extra-curricular privileges for a period of one (1) year from the date of the offense.

Second Offense – Permanent suspension of extra-curricular privileges from the date of the offense.

The possession or use of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or their look-a-likes:

First Offense - Upon returning from the suspension, the student-athlete will be required to complete as many days practice as the duration of the suspension before being allowed to compete in a contest or challenge for a position.

Second Offense - The student-athlete will be dismissed from the team.

Steroids (PA Act 93 of 1990)

The use of steroids continues to be a problem that plagues athletics. Student athletes must be made aware of the dangers of steroids and the consequences of their use.

The Pennsylvania legislature has passed legislation specifically prohibiting the use of steroids in athletics in the Commonwealth. The provisions of this Act and the consequences for violations supersede the Newport Board of School Directors policies on the use of drugs or alcohol.

First Offense - Suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the current season.

Second Offense - Suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the current season and the following season.

Third Offense - Permanent suspension from school athletics.

No student shall be eligible to resume participation in school activities unless a medical determination has been submitted, verifying that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

Tobacco (NSD Policy #222)

The objective of this policy is to provide a tobacco-free environment. The policy bans the use of all forms of tobacco products on school property or at school activities. In keeping with this policy the athletic department prohibits the use of tobacco products by coaches, athletes and support personnel while taking part in a school-sponsored activity, whether or not on school district property. Violations of this policy will be dealt with, first in accordance with the guidelines of the policy, and secondly, in accordance with the following school procedure:

First Offense - Suspension from participating in the next regularly scheduled competition. This will be accompanied by a letter of reprimand from the Director of Athletics.

Second Offense - Suspension from the team or activity for a period of five, school days. Upon return from the suspension, the student-athlete will be required to complete five days of practice prior to resuming competition.

Third Offense - Expulsion from the team for the remainder of the season.

Criminal Activity and Embarrassment Rule

Students charged with any violation or felony shall remain eligible to participate until conviction. If convicted, the student may be consequenced with suspension or expulsion from activities. Additionally any behaviors not mentioned above which bring embarrassment upon the student, the activity, or Newport School District may be consequenced by suspension or expulsion from activities.

Uniform and Equipment

The District provides all uniform and equipment necessities except shoes to student-athletes. All items remain the property of the Newport School District. Athletes are held accountable for the uniform and equipment issued to them, and are responsible for using them in compliance with instructions as provided by the coaches and athletic training staff.

Items are to be returned directly to the coach in a timely manner at the end of the season. No student-athlete is permitted to try out or participate in another sport until all uniform and equipment obligations have been fulfilled from any previous season(s). Unreturned items are subject to collection through the Newport High School/Middle School Office and local magisterial procedure.

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Agreement and Consent – This sheet **MUST** be signed by both parents/guardians and student prior to the beginning of practice. Refusal to sign by parents/guardians or student, excludes the student from participation in Co-curricular activities.

As a student of Newport High School or participation in a sport of Newport High School, I have read the Co-curricular Code of Conduct, understand the policies, and agree to abide by them.

Student Name (Print)

Date

Student Signature

We, the parent/guardian(s) of the above named student have read and understand the Newport School District Co-curricular Code of Conduct and allow our student to participate in Co-curricular activities at Newport High School.

Father's Signature

Date

Mother's Signature

Date

Remove this page and return to the Athletic Office/Shawn Lesh
(Parents may retain pages 1 & 2)