

ABINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXTRA-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

The Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct has been established to assure that all participants in extra-curricular activities represent the Abington Heights School District and the Abington Heights Community in a positive and distinguished manner. This Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct is a twelve month policy and pertains to any student that is involved in extra-curricular activities including, but not limited to athletics, marching band, student council, and all other school-organized activities outside of the normal school day.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Students must be in attendance at least four periods in order to be eligible to participate in after school practices, competitions or performances. Students leaving school early due to illness and students absent from school due to an illness are not allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activity after school on that day. Students with excused late arrivals must arrive no later than 11:30 a.m. and must attend four class periods to be eligible to participate in an after school extra-curricular activity.
2. Specific team or club rules will be determined by the coach or advisor and will be approved by the Athletic Director and/or Principal. These are to include, but are not limited to, rules governing attendance at practice sessions, games, and performances. When developed, these rules will be kept on file in the office of the Director of Athletics for all athletic activities, and in the Principal's Office for all other activities.
3. **Profane and obscene language will not be tolerated.** The use of profane and obscene language during practice sessions, athletic contests, or performances by a student will result in disciplinary action by the coach or advisor. Disciplinary action taken by the coach or advisor may lead to suspension or removal from the activity for repeat offenders.
4. Unless an acceptable excuse is given to the coach or advisor, any student who quits an activity before the end of the season shall be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity again during the time that activity is in session. If, after trying out for an activity within a two-week period, a boy or girl wishes to leave the activity, the coach or advisor must be consulted. With the permission from the Athletic Director or Principal, the student may try out for another activity.
5. The student is responsible for all school equipment issued to them. Students are expected to treat the equipment with proper care and return all items promptly at the end of the season. Any equipment not returned, or equipment altered beyond regular use, will be recorded as an obligation and shall be paid for by the student or his/her parent/guardian(s).
6. All students must travel to and from all activities with the coach or advisor unless permission is granted to do otherwise by the Coach, Athletic Director, Advisor or Principal. Students who do not travel with the squad without proper permission, will be subject to one week suspension from the activity they are involved in.
7. At activities outside of Abington Heights, students are the guests of the host schools. Proper conduct is expected which reflects a positive image of the Abington Heights School District.
8. Proper dress is expected of all students participating in extra-curricular activities. Coaches and advisors will set the standard of dress for individual activities.
9. Officials are selected because of training and experience. Student athletes should realize that officials are honest in their intent. Athletes are reminded that officials are in complete charge of an event. Athletes should not challenge the decision of the official. Violations of sportsmanlike conduct will result in consequences for students, the team and the entire athletic program.

10. Abington Heights School District stresses sound principles for healthful living. Prohibition on the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, chewing tobacco, steroids, stealing, vandalism, hazing or gross misconduct apply to all students participating in extra-curricular activities. The twelve month Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct mandates the disciplinary actions listed below for any student violating this policy. Any student participating in extra-curricular activities who is present at an event where alcohol/drugs are being used illegally will be considered in violation of this policy.

The penalty for a first violation of the extra-curricular code of conduct for drinking, smoking, use of chewing tobacco, steroids, misconduct in or out of school, or possession of alcohol, drugs or tobacco products, will result in a two week extra-curricular activity suspension. A student suspended from extra-curricular activities due to a first offense violation is not allowed to attend practice, or attend any contests or performances for the duration of the suspension. This includes contests or performances that are held outside of The Abington Heights School District. A suspended student MAY NOT join an activity for the purpose of serving a suspension and then quit the activity. Any student that is required to serve a two week suspension for a first offense violation must complete the entire season in order for the suspension to be fulfilled. Students who are suspended from an extra-curricular activity will be ineligible to receive school awards other than participation certificates/letters.

If a student violates the extra-curricular code of conduct by drinking, smoking, chewing tobacco or possession of alcohol, drugs or tobacco products, steroids or performing acts of misconduct for a second time, the athlete will be suspended from all extra-curricular activities for a period of one complete season. The High School Principal may extend the suspension of the second violation to one calendar year for violations that are similar in nature to the first offense violation.

For the purpose of this extra-curricular code of conduct, the definition of a complete season is twelve weeks from the date of the second violation, and a calendar year is defined as one year from the date of the second violation.

The use or possession of drugs/steroids on school property, distribution of drugs/steroids, hazing or gross misconduct are considered major offenses and will require major disciplinary action. Violations of this type will result in suspension beyond the two-week period for a first offense and may be considered severe enough to have a student removed from an activity entire season.

A summary of the discipline for the violation of the above will be as follows:

- 1st offense (Grades 7-12) 2 week suspension
- 2nd offense (Grades 7-12) Suspension for one full 12 week season
- 3rd offense (Grades 7-12) Permanent suspension from all extra-curricular activities

The final decision concerning the action taken regarding the aforementioned violations will be made by the High School Principal.