

## **Seminole Athletic Code of Conduct**

Competition in athletics means more than competition between two individuals or teams representing different schools. It teaches fair play and sportsmanship, an understanding and appreciation of teamwork, work ethic and the fact that quitting means failure while hard work leads to success.

Athletes must remember they are representatives of their schools, communities and teammates wherever they may be. Our student athletes must make a consistent effort to project a positive, respectful image and should be considerate of others and not allow themselves to be involved in or associated with situations that may disgrace the school, community or team.

Student athletes and parents/guardians assume an understanding and responsibility that participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, rules and expectations for athletes of Seminole ISD are more stringent than those of non-extracurricular school programs. In particular, infractions of the code of conduct apply whether the infraction occurs during school hours or not. This includes weekends, holidays, and the summer months.

The standards of the Athletic Code of Conduct are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in a student being disciplined under both standards.

### **Goals of the Athletic Program**

Create and maintain expectations of academic excellence.

Develop a commitment to the growth and maturation of character and integrity.

Create an environment where students correct inappropriate behaviors in a timely and respectful manner.

Help develop individuals that are positive role models for our younger students.

Build a belief in the giving of our talents and abilities for the good of others.

Help lay the foundation that hard work, disciplined behavior and high standards lead to success in all areas of life.

Demonstrate loyalty to family, country, school and team.

### **Behavioral Expectations**

#### **General**

Abide by all provisions of the Student Code of Conduct and the Athletic Code of Conduct.

Compliance with all training room rules.

Be on time to all practices, contests or other scheduled events.

Demonstrate courtesy and respect toward teachers and other students.

Be responsible for all athletic equipment entrusted to his/her use and return it to the school in the best possible condition given reasonable wear and tear.

Create, maintain and display good sportsmanship (conduct and attitude befitting participants in sports, including but not limited to fair play, courtesy, spirit, and grace in losing).

Adhere to the policy regarding drugs and alcohol as stated in the Student Code of Conduct.

Abide by District's dress and grooming standards including travel to and from events.

Jewelry of any kind is not permitted to be worn during practice or competition. Male athletes are not permitted to wear earrings at any school-related or school-sponsored events.

Injured athletes must attend rehabilitation with the school trainers and attend practice with their teammates to the extent permitted by their injury.

#### **Travel**

All students athletes, including injured players, will ride to and from all athletic events with the team. Exceptions will be made for emergencies or extenuating circumstances with the coach's approval.

During athletic travel all Student athletes must comply with the District's rules for conduct on

school buses, and the policies of the Student Code of Conduct and Athletic Code of Conduct.

### **Practices and Workouts**

Athletes must notify a coach in advance when it is necessary to miss practice or competition. All athletes, regardless of their chosen sport, will participate in strength and conditioning exercises a minimum of two times/week. Extenuating circumstances will be considered when scheduling these workouts.

**Severe Offenses** - those offenses considered having immediate and potentially severe consequences and thus necessitating the prompt response to ensure the safety of the student athlete and others. These offenses include but are not limited to: Drug and alcohol offenses, physical assault, and theft.

### **Drug and Alcohol Policy**

- Student athletes shall not possess, use, transmit, or attempt to possess use or transmit, or be under the influence of any of the following substances:

\*Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by law, without regard to amount, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate.

\*Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage.

\*Any abusable glue, aerosol paint, or any other volatile chemical substance for inhalation.

\*Any other intoxicant, or mood changing, mind altering, or behavioral altering drugs.

- The transmittal, sale, or attempted sale of what is represented to be any of the above listed substances is also prohibited under this rule.

\*Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative throughout the student's enrollment in the District. Any student coming from another district shall begin with a clean record.

\*Consequences for a positive drug test (mandatory, random, or reasonable suspicion) are as follows:

#### **- First Offense**

- Upon the first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, any student who tests positive shall be removed from the random testing pool and be required to be tested at each random testing for a minimum period of one calendar year.

- The student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 15 school days including any nonschool days on which activities are scheduled, following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

- During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in an extracurricular activity.

- The District shall notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

#### **- Second Offense**

- Upon the second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, any student who tests positive shall be removed from the random testing pool and be required to be tested at each random testing for a minimum period of one calendar year.

- The student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 30 school days including any nonschool days on which activities are scheduled, following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

- During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in an extracurricular activity.

- The District shall notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

**- Third Offense**

- The student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular activities for one calendar year following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.
- Before the student is allowed to participate in extracurricular events, the student must test negative at a scheduled random drug test.
- During the period of suspension, the student may not participate in practices.
- The District shall notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

**- Fourth Offense**

- The parent/guardian shall be contacted after the fourth offense. The student shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's school career.

**Physical Assault and Theft Policy**

Student athletes are prohibited from assaulting anyone.

An assault is defined as:

- \*Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another person.
- \*Intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury.
- \*Intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another when the student knows or should reasonably believe.

Student athletes shall not take part in any theft or robbery. Theft of money or items totaling a value \$50.00 or more shall be considered as a severe offense.

\*Consequences for violations relating to the above listed physical assault and/or theft policy are as follows.

**- First Offense**

- The student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 15 school days on which activities are scheduled, following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.
- During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices, but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in extracurricular activities.

**- Second Offense**

- The student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 30 school days on which activities are scheduled, following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.
- During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices, but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in extracurricular activities.

**- Third Offense**

- The student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for one calendar year following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.
- During the period of suspension, the student may not participate in practices or in extracurricular activities.

**- Fourth Offense**

- The parent/guardian shall be contacted after the fourth offense. The student shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's school career.

**Major Offenses** - those offenses considered to have potentially serious consequences, short term and/or long term, for the individual student athlete, team, and/or athletic program in general. These offenses include but are not limited to:

- Blatant unsportsmanlike conduct
- Hazing
- Selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco of any type
- Cursing, obscenities, or inappropriate gestures toward others
- Theft of money or items totaling a value less than \$50.00.
- **First Offense**
  - Suspension from one quarter of play (or the equivalent for that sport) in the present contest or the next upcoming contest.
- **Second Offense**
  - Suspension for the equivalent of one full contest.
  - Parent/guardian - student athlete conference with head coach of the sport and the athletic director.
  - Conference(s) with the coach of the sport in season.
- **Third Offense**
  - Suspension for the equivalent of two full contests.
  - Parent/guardian - student athlete conference with head coach of the sport and the athletic director.
  - Conference(s) with the coach of the sport in season.

If a fourth offense occurs begin following policy for severe offenses.

**Minor Offenses** – those offenses not considered serious in nature, but are inconsistent with the standards of the Seminole Athletic Department and undermine the goals and expectations of excellence. These offenses include but are not limited to:

- Violation of training room policies
- Inappropriate language
- Truancy
- Violation of travel policy
- Inappropriate treatment of school personnel
- **First Offense**
  - 1 swat
- **Second Offense**
  - 2 swats
  - written behavioral contract
- **Third Offense**
  - 2 swats
  - written behavioral contract
  - parent/guardian conference
- **Fourth Offense**
  - begin following the policy for major offenses

If by parents request, swats are not permitted to be given, students will run 2 miles with a tire or an equivalent amount increased by 2 miles for each subsequent offense. Running will not exceed two miles/day for the punishment. This will continue until the 4<sup>th</sup> offense, at that point the policy for major offenses will be followed.

**\* Quitting a Sport**

Any athlete that participates in a sport for more than 10 practice or competition days and quits or is removed from the team for disciplinary reasons will report to the strength and conditioning program for the remainder of that sport's season. Readmission to that sport is left to the discretion of the head

coach and the athletic director.

An athlete that quits a sport or is removed for disciplinary reasons may choose to participate in the next available sport. The athlete will not be allowed to begin workouts for that sport until the previous sport has completed the regular and playoff season. When the athlete is permitted to begin workouts, he/she must participate in practices, but will not be permitted to participate in competitions for 10 practice days. This will allow the individual to demonstrate that he/she is committed to the team. An athlete trying out for a sport may request or be released from that sport, after the introductory 10 days, without penalty at the discretion of the head coach and the athletic director. If a student quits a sport in the spring, consequences will carry over to the next school year.

If an athlete is in two concurrent sports, quitting one of the sports does not affect the other. Consequences will only come into effect when the next season's sport begins.

### **\* Participation in concurrent and overlapping sports**

By the very nature of the sport, the majority of athletic programs offered by Seminole ISD have seasons. These seasons will be divided into fall sports, winter sports and spring sports. As permitted by practice time, athletes will be allowed to participate in any sports that start concurrently. The decision to allow athletes to participate in sports that do not begin concurrently will be left to the Athletic Director. The decision will be based on, but not limited to, the following criteria.

- Does the 2<sup>nd</sup> sport conflict in any way with the practice of the first sport?
- Does the 2<sup>nd</sup> sport conflict in any way with the travel of the first sport?
- Does the 2<sup>nd</sup> sport conflict in any way with competition of the first sport?

The sport that began first will take precedence over the sport that began at a later date. Sub-varsity athletes will be allowed to move to the next season's sports at the conclusion of the prior season's regular scheduled contests. The head coach may request any or all sub varsity athletes to participate in post-season practices or competitions if permitted by UIL.

Fall sports	Winter sports	Spring sports
Cross Country	Swimming	Baseball
Football	Basketball	Golf
Volleyball		Powerlifting
Fall Tennis		Softball
Fall Golf		Track
		Tennis

### **\*Involvement in AAU**

When scheduling conflicts arise, involvement in AAU an/or Junior Olympics activities is discouraged by Seminole ISD Athletic Department. All aspects of the athletic programs offered by Seminole ISD will take precedence over any scheduled athletic events offered by organizations outside the school. Changes can be made in practices schedules, games/contest, and or travel, if determined to be in the best interest of the school and with approval from the head coach of the sport involved and the athletic director.

During suspension from athletic contests, the students must still attend and participate in all scheduled practices. The student will travel to and from games with the team but will not be allowed to suit up or participate.

Consequences are cumulative, by category only, for those offenses occurring during the same school year.

### **Acknowledgement of Receipt of Rules, Guidelines, and Regulations of the Seminole ISD Athletic Program**

I, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, have read the above rules, guidelines and regulations and hereby agree that I understand and will abide by them.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_