



MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS CODE

THIS SPORTS CODE establishes the rules governing the conduct of all district middle school students participating in a district sanctioned sport. Such sports are a privilege, not a right or an obligation or a requirement for advancement. Students participating in such sports are representing this community and district, their school and their team, regardless of the time of day or their

location. Every student should be able to expect that teammates will commit themselves to this Code. Accordingly, students not conducting themselves in accordance with the high expectations set by this Code should sustain ineligibility for those privileges in order to maintain a disciplined, just, educational experience for all students participating in middle school sports.

A. SCOPE

The Middle School Sports Code shall apply to all district enrolled students participating in district sanctioned middle school sports, beginning the first day of 6th grade until the last day of 8th grade, in addition to and separately from any consequences administered by the criminal justice system or the district's Student Code.

B. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to participate in middle school sports, students must comply with all applicable requirements set out by the district's Activity Eligibility Policy (503.6) (specifically including the State of Iowa's "Scholarship Rule", which can be found at www.siouxcityschools.org/ or in the office of your Principal, and that you sign, and have a parent/guardian sign, an acknowledgment that you have read, understood, and agreed to be bound by this Middle School Sports Code).

C. VIOLATIONS

It shall be a violation for a student within the Scope of this Middle School Sports Code to:

1. Commit, at any time or location, a Crime as defined in paragraph B (1) of the Student Code
2. Consume or possess, at any time or location, alcohol or tobacco products, regardless of parental permission
3. Commit a violation of paragraphs B (3-5) of the Student Code
4. Maintain or frequent a disorderly house in violation of Sioux City Code

The Middle School Sports Code does not address insubordination, unsportsmanlike behavior, appearance, or attendance issues. Administrators, Activity Coordinators and/or coaches have discretion, within the bounds of the laws and the respective policies of the district, to impose consequences for such behavior irrespective of this Code, by adopting "team rules". To the extent that there is a conflict between application of a "team rule" and this Code, this Code shall govern.

D. PROCEDURE FOR CODE VIOLATIONS

Violations of this Code should be reported to the student's Principal or Activity Coordinator (the "Administration"). When the Administration has reason to believe that a student has committed a violation of this Code, whether by notification from law enforcement officials, by notification from staff, by self-admission by a student, or otherwise, the Administration shall deliver to the student and parent/guardian written notice ("the Notice") of (a) the nature of the alleged violation (which may consist of a juvenile citation), (b) the student's potential ineligibility dates under paragraph E for his/her various activities, and (c) the right of the student and parent/guardian to meet with the Administration within five (5) school days of the Notice to discuss the violation alleged and potential ineligibility imposed (the "meeting"). At the meeting, the student and parent/guardian shall be allowed to be heard and to present evidence regarding the alleged violation. The Coach of the relevant Sport is encouraged to attend the meeting.

Within five (5) school days of the meeting, the Administration shall deliver to the student and parent/guardian its written findings on the alleged violation, and on any ineligibility imposed under paragraph E. Any period of ineligibility sustained by the Administration’s written decision shall remain in effect during any of the following levels of the appeal process, unless modified by subsequent decision.

The student or parent/guardian shall have seven (7) calendar days after delivery of the Administration’s written decision to file with the Administration a written appeal of the decision. Within seven (7) school days of receipt by the Administration of the written appeal, a hearing shall be scheduled by the Administration before the Director of Secondary Education, or his/her designee (the “Hearing Officer”). Notice of the time and place of hearing shall be delivered to the student and parent/guardian not later than five (5) school days before the hearing. The student and parent/guardian shall be allowed to be heard and present evidence to the Hearing Officer. Within ten (10) calendar days of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall deliver his/her written decision to the student and parent/guardian, which shall be final.

For purposes of this paragraph, notice shall be deemed delivered (a) to a student and/or parent when either mailed to their last known address or hand-delivered, and (b) to the Administration when hand-delivered, faxed or mailed to the student’s Principal’s office.

E. INELIGIBILITY FOR CODE VIOLATIONS

1. PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL VIOLATIONS

The student must complete the season in good standing for the period of ineligibility to count. If a student is in two or more sports at the time the period of ineligibility must be served, the period of ineligibility will be served concurrently in all sports in which the student is participating. The record of any violation of this Code and period of ineligibility will travel with the student if transferred within the district.

2. FIRST VIOLATION: The student shall be ineligible for one (1) competition.

3. SECOND VIOLATION: The student shall be ineligible for two (2) competitions.

4. EACH SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION: The student shall be ineligible for two (2) competitions plus such additional ineligibility/conditions as are determined by the Administration.

Acknowledgement

I hereby acknowledge that **I have read this Sports Code and agree to comply with its provisions** as a condition to exercising the privilege of participating in middle school sports sanctioned by the Sioux City Community School District. I understand that this Code is revised annually by the Board of Education, and I will be required to sign each revision as a condition to continued participation. Executed this ____ day of _____, 20__.

(Student printed name)

(Student signature)

(Parent/Guardian printed name)

(Parent/Guardian signature)

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the District not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, physical/mental disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or veteran status in its programs activities or employment practices. Inquiries or grievances regarding discrimination on the above bases may be directed to the District’s Director of Educational Equity, Educational Equity Office, Education Service Center, 1221 Pierce Street, Sioux City, IA 51105-1497, (712) 279-6075