

## HARDY COUNTY SCHOOLS ATHLETIC CONTRACT

The Hardy County Board of Education has an established program of athletics under the guidance of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (WVSSAC). The programs extend the opportunity for all students to participate from grades six through twelve depending upon the requirements set forth by the WVSSAC. Each student athlete represents his or her school and community when they make the decision to become a member of an athletic team in their school. The objectives of the athletic programs in Hardy County Schools include but are not limited to the following.

- To provide opportunities for students to participate in an athletic program as well as to develop leadership skills;
- To develop a health and fitness attitude that will lead to life-long involvement in activities resulting in leisure time activities;
- To develop and satisfy the physiological, emotional and social needs of the maturing athlete;
- To develop the qualities of responsibility, cooperation and respect for individual differences;
- To develop an understanding for self and others by accepting the challenges, recognitions and approval from others through a competitive sport; and
- To develop the important character traits of persistence, determination, unselfishness, will-to-win, alertness, maximum effort, resourcefulness and tenacity.

### General Understanding:

Participation in an athletic program in Hardy County Schools is a privilege, not a right, for any student. In addition to the rules and requirements established by the Hardy County Board of Education, student athletes are expected to comply with the athletic rules of each sport both at school and away from school. This compliance is expected during the entire length of each season in which the student athlete participates.

### Contract Expectations to be Followed to by All Athletes:

1. All students participating in athletic programs will adhere to Hardy County School Policies including, but not limited to, the following.
  - Hardy County File: JDA, Expected Behavior in Safe and Supportive Schools
2. All athletes must be in attendance in school a FULL DAY during a day of any athletic event, contest and/or practice sessions in which they must be involved unless it is the judgment of the principal and/or prior arrangements are made for which they are excused. Such excuses will be limited to illness verified by a physician, legal obligations, death in the family, college visits and other approved school activities. Parent notes will not be accepted. Athletes must be in school the day after an athletic contest unless they meet the criteria for an excused absence set forth previously.
3. All athletic activities, including but not limited to practices, strength training and contests involves a certain risk or injury or even death. Coaches and athletic directors shall meet with the parents/guardians and students to explain the potential for serious injury and death. Additionally, coaches and athletic directors will assist students and parents in finding answers to questions about athletic risks. Coaches and trainers take reasonable steps to minimize the potential for athletic injuries but certain inherent risks still remain. Student athletes who participate in Hardy County Schools' athletic programs must recognize and understand the normal risk associated with participation in the sport they have chosen.

4. All athletes shall not participate in activities which results in hazing, harassment, intimidation and bullying of other athletes and students. Athletes are asked to refer to Hardy County File JDA, Expected Behavior for Safe and Supportive Schools, for a complete understanding of these behaviors and the consequences for failure to follow the policy.
5. All athletes are expected to adhere to Hardy County policies that deal with the possession, use and/or sale of drugs, alcohol and tobacco at school and during school activities both on and off school property. In addition, athletes representing their schools are expected to refrain from possessing, consuming or selling of illegal drugs, illegal performance enhancing drugs, alcohol and tobacco at all times. When students have been identified by law enforcement or by Student Random Drug Testing Policy - JDFA as possessing, consuming or selling of illegal drugs, illegal performance enhancing drugs, alcohol and tobacco during out of school activities the following consequences will be given:

**First Offense:**

After the parent/guardian has been notified of a violation by the principal, a meeting shall then be scheduled with the student, parent/guardian and principal concerning said violation. Student will be removed from that sport for the remainder of that season. Student must show written proof that he/she has received a minimum of one session of drug counseling from a qualified drug treatment program or counseling entity. Additionally, the student must voluntarily submit to random drug testing each remaining quarter of the school year. If student tests positive during a random drug testing, student will proceed to second offense. The parent/guardian shall be responsible for the cost of these drug tests and counseling.

The student shall not participate in any meetings, practices, scrimmages or competitions during this period.

If parent/guardian and student do not agree to these provisions, a referral will be made to the Hardy County Board of Education for expulsion and to law enforcement.

**Second Offense:**

Suspension from participation in all activities covered under this policy for 365 days. Student must show written proof that he/she has received a minimum of one session of drug counseling from a qualified drug treatment program or counseling entity. Additionally, the student must voluntarily submit to random drug testing each remaining quarter of the school year. If student tests positive during a random drug testing, student will proceed to third offense. The parent/guardian shall be responsible for the cost of these drug tests and counseling.

The student shall not participate in any meetings, practices, scrimmages or competitions during this period.

Additionally, the student will not be eligible for any interscholastic activity honors or awards given by the school and/or county.

If parent/guardian and student do not agree to these provisions, a referral will be made to the Hardy County Board of Education for expulsion and to law enforcement.

**Third Offense:**

Suspension from participation in all extra-curricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances and competition for the remainder of his/her high school career. A referral will be made to the Hardy County Board of Education for expulsion and to law enforcement.

6. Hardy County Schools does not have medical insurance on student athletes. Therefore, all students participating in athletics MUST provide written proof of family medical insurance as part of their contract and BEFORE they may participate in any sport. For emergency purposes, a copy of each athlete's physical form, insurance information and school emergency care form will accompany them when traveling to other schools for athletic events.
7. The Head Coach of an athletic team may establish additional rules and penalties relevant to the specific sport that he/she feels are important for athletes to follow. Additional rules and penalties must be provided to the students in written form, read to the athletes, posted in the locker room and the head coach's office. Additional rules and penalties must have the approval of the school principal and athletic director. The head coach is the final authority in the selection of his/her team members, the membership size of the team, the conditioning drills, the presentation of lineup, the substitution patterns, the game strategy, awards and honors given as well as any other decisions that are considered to be within his/her duties as the head coach. The decisions of the head coach are final.
8. Students participating in athletic activities must sign and agree to an athletic contract in order to be a member of an athletic team. The contract will be in written form, read to every team, posted in the locker room and head coach's office. After signing the athletic contract, the contract will be filed in the office of the head coach and the athletic director. A list of all athletes signing contracts for each sport and the names of all team members on that team shall be given to the principal prior to the beginning of the first day of practice for any athletic team.

SOURCE: Hardy County Board of Education Minutes

DATE: June 1, 2015 – December 2, 2019

LEGAL REFERENCE: West Virginia State Board Policy 4373  
Hardy County Board of Education Policies JDA

ATHLETIC RULES  
PARENT AND STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport or Activity: \_\_\_\_\_ Year or Season: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Statement:** I have read and agreed to abide by the provisions of this policy while participating as an athlete in Hardy County Schools. I understand that violation of the rules set forth in this policy shall result in the penalties assessed herein. I understand that there are dangers and inherent risks involved in participation in the sport listed above, and I assume the normal risks involved in participation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Date

**Parent Statement:** We give permission for our child to participate in the sport and season listed above. We hereby acknowledge and are appreciative of the dangers and inherent risks involved in the sport in which our child chooses to participate, and we assume the normal risk involved in our child's athletic participation. We have read the regulations contained in this policy and the penalties for the violation thereof. We agree that our child shall abide by the rules while participating as an athlete in Hardy County Schools. We hereby grant consent for any emergency medical treatment that our child might require as a result of any athletic activity in the event we are not present. We hereby grant the Hardy County Board of Education and its agents, coaches, trainers, principals, and teachers, the authority to supervise our child while participating in practices, games, transportation to and from athletic activities and any other activities related thereto.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Date

It is the parents' responsibility to provide insurance for the student. Please list the name of your insurance company below. If you have any questions about insurance, please contact the Coach or Athletic Director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Insurance Company Group Number