

Rankin Independent School District Extracurricular Code of Student Conduct

I. Extracurricular Activities

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the District. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district and sponsored by the district or a campus, including the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Student Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Competition (UIL, TFA, NSDA, TMSCA, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Act Play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Careers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Country
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheerleading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Band 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drill Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volleyball

The term does not include academic clubs, such as National Honor Society, nor does it include student government. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provisions of this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

II. Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Rankin ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and

while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as Rankin ISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total Rankin ISD student body at all times and places.

Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Rankin ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* extends beyond the *Rankin ISD Student Code of Conduct* not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will be enforced with all students grades 6-12 participating in extracurricular activities:

- regardless of whether school is in session
- regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event
- regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs
- regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season
- regardless of where or when the conduct occurs

It is possible that a student who violates the Rankin ISD Student Code of Conduct will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the *Rankin ISD Student Code of Conduct*.

III. Conduct Expectations

The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor:

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however, students may not quit one sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active.
- Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlikemanner at all times. This includes behaviors toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's

fans. Rankin ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Respect your opponents and play beyond your ability.

- Students should arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared.
- Students who cannot be present for a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event should call the coach, sponsor, team captain, or club president as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made-up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent.
- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate, but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meeting or event are required to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.
- Students are required to show respect at all times to coaches, sponsors, teachers and each other. This includes interaction on social media during and outside of school.
- Students should refrain from wearing hair styles or hair colors that draw attention to themselves. Male students participating in sports are required to be clean shaven.
- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Rankin *ISD Student Code of Conduct*. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor.

IV. School-Related Misconduct

Students who commit any offense defined as prohibited behavior in the Rankin ISD Student Code of Conduct which results in an ISS assignment, suspension or DAEP placement, will receive a corresponding punishment from their coach / sponsor according to the following guidelines:

- If placed in ISS for two (2) or more consecutive days: suspension from extracurricular activities runs for the entire week(s) that include the ISS days, not to exceed 5 school days.
- If suspended from school for 1-3 days: suspension from extracurricular activities runs for the entire week(s) that include the suspension, not to exceed 5 school days.
- If placed in DAEP short term (2 weeks or less): suspension from extracurricular activities for the term of the DAEP assignment.
- If placed in DAEP long term (more than 2 weeks): suspension from extracurricular activities for the term of the DAEP assignment.

V. Nonschool-Related Misconduct

Rankin ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from engaging in:

- Conduct punishable as a felony or misdemeanor (minor, usually non-moving, traffic violations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis)
- Offenses relating to marijuana, controlled substances, vaping and dangerous drugs
- Offenses relating to alcohol
- Offenses relating to abusable glue, volatile chemicals, aerosol paint and other inhalants
- Offenses relating to vapes and/or e-cigs

Coaches and sponsors will work cooperatively with the administration to review all the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular violation and, while not *required* for imposing discipline, may consider arrests and/or citations issued by law enforcement when determining whether an above offense has occurred. Coaches and sponsors will strive for consistency in meting out punishment for *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violations, but will also exercise sound professional discretion. Violation of any of the above-mentioned rules by a student participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

FIRST OFFENSE: After the first offense, a student will be required to serve 10 hours of community service (options/suggestions provided at the time punishment is assigned). Approval for allowable community service activities will be determined by a committee comprised of the principal, athletic director and UIL coordinator. A 2 page handwritten letter to their team/club must be written and read aloud. The topic will be articulated depending on the offense at the time punishment is issued. The final letter must meet approval of the committee along with a member of the English faculty.

SECOND OFFENSE: After the second offense, a student will be required to serve a total of 20 hours of community service (options/suggestions provided at the time punishment is assigned). Approval for allowable community service activities will be determined by a committee comprised of the principal, athletic director and UIL coordinator. A 5-page handwritten essay on The Spirit of a True Red Devil. The final paper must meet approval of the committee along with a member of the English faculty.

THIRD OFFENSE: Suspension from all extracurricular activities for one calendar year.

FOURTH OFFENSE: Removal from all extracurricular activities indefinitely.

For each offense, the suspension will apply to all extracurricular activities, regardless of the number for which the student is enrolled.

Note: Offenses accumulate beginning in the 6th grade. After *two consecutive years* without an offense the student will “lose” an offense (i.e., a student who committed two offenses who goes two consecutive years without committing an offense will be considered to only have one offense to his/her name). A student who has committed four offenses can be allowed to participate if he/she is in good standing, without having committed an offense, for two consecutive years. At that time,

he/she will be considered to be on his/her third offense, having served his/her suspension from extracurricular activities for one year.

VI. Drug Testing Policy

Student in grades 7-12 who participate in extracurricular activities will be required to submit to drug/alcohol testing consistent with this policy. When the athletic director/sponsor/campus administrator has a reasonable suspicion that a student subject to the program is currently using drugs/alcohol, the athletic director or campus administrator may require the student to submit to a test under this policy. "Reasonable suspicion" means a suspicion of drugs/alcohol use based on specific observations made by teachers/coaches/administrators/ sponsors of the appearance, speech, or behavior of a student subject to this policy; the reasonable inferences that are drawn from those observations; and/or information of drugs/alcohol use by a student subject to this policy supplied to school officials by other students, staff members, or patrons.

All students covered by this policy will be required to submit to random drug/alcohol testing. Random testing may be conducted at any time. Random testing may be conducted as determined by Superintendent or the campus principal. The names of all eligible students will be placed in a computer generated "pool." Random selections from that pool will be conducted by the testing service contracted by the District.

Drug/alcohol testing will be done by a nationally certified drug testing laboratory. The District will contract with a certified drug-testing laboratory. The laboratory will follow strict procedures for the chain of custody and access to test results. The laboratory will provide qualified collectors to oversee collection of specimens. The service will provide Medical Review Officer (MRO) services for the interpretation and verification of positive results. The MRO will report all test results to designated school officials. Results will not be provided either orally or in writing to any person who has not been designated by the district to receive results. The District reserves the right to test for prohibited/illegal substances, including but not limited to: alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cannabinoids, cocaine, methadone, methaqualone, opiates, phencyclidine, steroids, other illegal or addictive drug and any adulterant.

Drug/Alcohol Testing will be performed by urinalysis or saliva swab in accordance with accepted practices and procedures as established by the certified drug/alcohol testing laboratory with whom the District contracts. Student privacy will be protected to the greatest extent possible during the collection and coding of urine specimens. Students will provide urine specimens in a private stall in a restroom accompanied by an adult monitor of the same gender. After the specimen is produced, it will be handed to the monitor.

Results of any drug/alcohol test will not be given to law enforcement authorities nor be used for any school district discipline, except as related to applicable activities noted in the policy. Access to written drug/alcohol results will be limited to the following:

- i. Parent/Guardian
- ii. Student
- iii. Superintendent Designee

Access to verbal notification that a student has tested positive for drug/alcohol use will be provided to the following:

- iv. Principal
- v. Counselor
- vi. Coach/sponsor of the specific activity in which the student participates at the time of the positive test.

All information related to the testing or the identification of students as a user of illegal drugs/alcohol will be protected by the District and its employees, officers, and agents as confidential, unless otherwise required by law, in response to overriding public health and safety concerns, or as authorized by the parent/guardian or student. The District will destroy the records maintained under this policy in accordance with the District's records retention schedule.

If the drug test indicates positive results, the laboratory will immediately forward the results to its MRO. The MRO will contact the parent/guardian to determine if prescription medication or other legal substances may have caused the positive result. The parent/guardian will have the opportunity to provide any prescriptions to the MRO for review and issuance of his/her determination. The MRO will contact RISD after all procedures have been completed, and they have determined the test to be positive. The school designees will then contact the parent to set up a meeting with the student.

Consequences of a **FIRST** confirmed positive test result shall be as follows:

1. Required conference with parent/guardian and student.
2. A 2-page handwritten letter to their team/club must be written and read aloud. The topic will be articulated depending on the offense at the time punishment is issued. The final letter must meet approval of the committee along with a member of the English faculty. A minimum 20 school day suspension from all extracurricular activities.
3. 10 (ten) hours of community service.
4. After regaining eligibility, retesting for one calendar year.

Consequences of a **SECOND** confirmed positive test result shall be as follows:

1. Required conference with parent/guardian and student.
2. A 5-page handwritten essay on the Spirit of a True Red Devil. The final essay must meet approval of the committee along with a member of the English faculty.
3. A minimum 45 school day suspension from all extracurricular activities.
4. 20 (twenty) hours of community service.
5. After regaining eligibility, retesting for the duration of extracurricular participation.

Consequences of a **THIRD** confirmed positive test result shall be as follows:

1. Required conference with parent/guardian and student.
2. A minimum of one full calendar year suspension from all extracurricular activities.
3. 40 (forty) hours of community service.
4. After regaining eligibility retesting for the duration of extracurricular participation.

Consequences of a **FOURTH** confirmed positive test result shall be as follows:

1. Required conference with parent/guardian and student.
2. The student will be removed from all participation in extracurricular activities for as long as the student is enrolled in Rankin ISD.

A positive test that results in a suspension longer than the number of days left in the current extracurricular activity will continue on the 1st day of the next extracurricular activity that the student participates in. A positive test that results in a suspension in excess of the number of days remaining in the school year will continue on the first day of school of the next school year.

VII. Procedures

The coach and/or sponsor will determine whether an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation has occurred.

Options/suggestions for community service projects will be provided by the school.

Upon determination of an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation, the following individuals will be notified:

- the student and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s).

Nothing in this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* limits the authority of a coach or sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, including extra workouts, for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations but do not engage in prohibited conduct.

VIII. Insurance for Students in Extracurricular Activities

Rankin ISD is not responsible for injuries of its students who are participating in sports. However, Rankin ISD will carry insurance covering participation in practice or competition for athletes. The coverage for each injury will vary according to the accident. More detailed information can be obtained by calling the Rankin ISD. We will answer any questions you have concerning our athletic program's insurance and injuries.

IX. Acknowledgement

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed) is to sign an acknowledgement that the student has read and understands the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*. The student's parent or guardian must also sign an acknowledgement. The acknowledgement states that the signing party understands the consequences for engaging in prohibited conduct.



-----Please Sign and Return-----

Date _____

I have read the Rankin ISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in Rankin ISD extracurricular activities. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my extracurricular participation.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

I have read the Rankin ISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and understand requirements for my child's voluntary participation in Rankin ISD extracurricular activities. I understand the consequences that my child will face if he or she fails to adhere to these rules and agree to such terms.

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____