

# 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:

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

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 sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Rankin ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Praise 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 more than two times in a semester.
- 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 and dangerous drugs
- Offenses relating to alcohol
- Offenses relating to abusable glue, volatile chemicals, aerosol paint and other inhalants

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 5-page essay relating to the "Spirit of a True Red Devil" will also be required. The topic will be articulated depending on the offense at the time punishment is issued. The final essay 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 10-page research paper relating to the "Spirit of a True Red Devil" and the offense will also be required. The topic will be articulated at the time punishment is issued. 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 number for which the student is enrolled.

Note: Offenses accumulate beginning in the 6<sup>th</sup> 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. 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.

## **VII. 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.

## **VIII. 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.

## **IX. Online Remote Instruction**

Rankin ISD students that choose online remote learning will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities during the grading period in which they are learning remotely. This does not apply to outside organizations such as 4-H. There are some exceptions to this rule: Students that are quarantined by doctor's orders are able to come back to school with a doctor's release during the middle of a grading period.

For these instances, when students return back to school after being quarantined, the student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Students may choose to return back to face-to-face instruction after each grading period. Once a student chooses to come back to school at the beginning of a grading cycle, they become eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at that time. Any exceptions to this rule may be determined by the campus principal and athletic director on a case-by-case basis.



-----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 \_\_\_\_\_