



Cedarville Schools  
Athletic Handbook

## **Cedarville Athletic Handbook**

Cedarville School District supports student participation in cheerleading/interscholastic athletics. Participation provides numerous opportunities and experiences which will assist in development and personal growth. In addition, participation in properly developed, organized, and managed athletic programs will facilitate appropriate development of students' self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. Students electing to participate in cheerleading/athletics volunteer to make a commitment to remain loyal to the program and the concept of team before self.

Cedarville is committed to providing:

1. Equipment
2. Facilities
3. Coaches
4. Officials
5. Transportation
6. Secondary Insurance

Cedarville is committed to providing quality cheerleading/athletic experiences for students. The primary goal of participation is development of skills necessary to become independent problem solving and contributing members of the community.

### **Athletic Mission Statement**

The athletic program will develop a culture of trust and integrity. The athletic program will strive to develop all student/athletes academically, athletically, and socially. Foundations of the athletic program include commitment, work ethic, teamwork, and perseverance. The Cedarville Athletic Department will facilitate a positive, powerful, and productive medium for excellence providing a source of pride for alumni, administration, staff, students, athletes, and the community.

### **Philosophy of the Cedarville Athletic Department**

The Cedarville Athletic Department will develop and maintain a broad based athletic programs affording all student/ athletes opportunities for safe participation in cheerleading and interscholastic athletics.

## **Objectives**

- A) Develop characteristics essential to facilitate individual success in athletics and life:
  - a. Respect
  - b. Sportsmanship
  - c. Selflessness
  - d. Accountability
  - e. Discipline
  - f. Trustworthy
  - g. Commitment
  - h. Loyalty
  - i. Perseverance
  - j. Competition
- B) Develop in athletes an appreciation for developing a healthy and physically fit lifestyle. Including an emphasis on appropriate rest, nutrition, hydration, and personal hygiene.
- C) Encourage student/athletes' appropriate appreciation for athletics through implementation of programs designed to develop physical, mental, and social strength and courage.
- D) Implement progressive educational programs to guide teaching and learning.
- E) Continuing evaluation and adjustment of coaching techniques.
- F) Develop programs to encourage unity, harmony, and success. Emphasize and encourage participation for all students.
- G) Emphasize academics with coaches motivating student/athletes' success and achievement.
- H) Create a culture of enthusiasm and pride.
- I) Ensure that student/athletes represent the school and community in a manner that will be a source of pride for administrators, faculty, students, parents, and the community.
- J) Develop understanding that athletic participation and competition, at all levels, is a privilege requiring defined responsibilities. Responsibilities include training, loyalty, eligibility, development, and improvement.
- K) Facilitate positive recognition for individual student/athletes, the district, and community.

Through competition student/athletes must be provided opportunities to grow toward social maturity by learning to:

1. Embrace adversity
2. Control emotions
3. Appropriately overcome individual fears
4. Demonstrate humility
5. Accept delayed gratification

## **Physical and Handbook Return Requirements**

All student/athletes must complete and return a physical examination and prescribed permission forms prior to participation in athletic programs.

### **Citizenship/Behavior**

Individual student/athletes' conduct is observed by a number of people in a variety of situations. Cedarville expects student/athletes to demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times. Student/athletes' appearance, expressions, and actions reflect upon the individual, the school, and the community. Participation in cheerleading/athletics is voluntary and a privilege, student/athletes are required to uphold prescribed standards.

Appearance and behavior are important. Student/athletes are required to demonstrate proper dress, appearance, grooming, and hygiene.

### **Complaints**

Procedures for reporting complaints/issues:

- A) Contact the coach directly supervising the athlete at the time of the issue. If satisfactory resolution is not achieved, then
- B) Contact the head coach of the team. If satisfactory resolution is not achieved, then
- C) Contact the Athletic Director of the Cedarville School District. If satisfactory resolution is not achieved, then
- D) Contact the Superintendent of the Cedarville School District.

### **Tobacco/Vape, Alcohol, Drugs**

Research has found that use of tobacco, alcohol, or any mood altering substance produces detrimental effects of humans. Use of these substances by Cedarville student/athletes is prohibited by AR Code. Administrators and coaches are authorized to limit or revoke individual student/athletes' participation for direct violation of rules.

Discipline for Offense:

- A) Drugs
  - 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Suspension from 20% of remaining athletic contests
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Discretion of Athletic Administration
- B) Alcohol
  - 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Suspension from 10% of remaining athletic contests
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Suspension from 20% of remaining athletic contests
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – Discretion of Athletic Administrator
- C) Tobacco/Vape
  - 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Verbal warning and additional conditioning
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Suspension from 10% of remaining athletic contests
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – Discretion of Athletic Administrator

NOTE: Suspension can/may carry over from season to season or into the next academic year. Additional conditioning during suspensions will be determined by the head coach.

### **Hazing and Bullying**

Neither hazing nor bullying will be tolerated by student/athletes participating in Cedarville athletic programs. Participation in these behaviors by any individual or group of student/athletes will result in discipline. Discipline may result in removal from a team or the athletic program.

### **Athlete Responsibility**

Participation in Cedarville athletic programs requires students to accept and embrace specific defined responsibilities. Responsibilities include but may not be limited to:

- A) Academics
- B) Commitment to peak performance
- C) Accountability to teammates, coaches, school, and community
- D) Communication

### **Care of Equipment**

- 1) Equipment is to be returned within one week following the end of the season.
- 2) Student/athletes are financially responsible for all equipment issued to him/her. Individual student/athletes will be financially responsible to replace lost/destroyed equipment.
- 3) Student/athletes are not to abuse school owned equipment.
- 4) Theft of school equipment or teammates' property will not be tolerated. Student/athletes found to be responsible for theft will be disciplined. Discipline may include dismissal from team or program.

### **Athletic Injuries**

- 1) Any injury must be reported to the head coach.
- 2) Any injury requiring a doctor's care will be noted and a doctor's release will be required prior to resumption of participation.

### **Team Travel**

All athletes are required to travel to athletic events via transportation provided by the athletic department. Coaches will generate and maintain accurate records listing student/athletes participating in athletic travel. Lists of student/athletes participating in athletic travel will be provided to the building administrator and athletic director prior to travel. Parents/guardians may document their intent to transport student/athletes after athletic events. Coaches are required to secure parental/guardian signatures prior to releasing student/athletes. Coaches are required to maintain accurate records of student/athletes participating in athletic travel. School administrators are permitted to approve alternate travel arrangements to address specific limited circumstances.

### **Participation in Multiple Sports and Try-Outs**

- 1) The athletic department supports student/athlete participation in a variety of sports.
- 2) Coaches will encourage student/athletes to participate in all sports of interest to the individual.
- 3) The head coach of each sport will determine which student/athletes play, individual playing time, and the circumstance under which individuals play or do not play.
- 4) Try-Outs:
  - A) All students eligible to participate in cheer/athletics are encouraged to try-out.
  - B) All eligible students will be considered to be part of the team. Under some circumstances the number of uniformed student/athletes may be limited. No student will be disqualified from an athletic team without administrative approval.

### **Participation by Grade**

Arkansas Activities Association rules for eligibility allow eight (8) semesters of eligibility for individual student/athletes. Student/athletes in grades nine (9) will participate in Junior High athletics. Student/athletes in grades ten (10) through twelve (12) will participate in Senior High athletics. Upon approval of coaches and administrators, student/athletes in grade nine (9) may be permitted to participate in Senior High athletics. Per AAA rule ninth grade student are not eligible to participate in a Junior High sport after participating in the same Senior High sport.

### **Summer Training**

Student/athletes are expected to maintain appropriate physical conditioning throughout the summer. Coaches will provide prescribed workout programs. Athletic facilities will be available for use through summer as scheduled by individual coaches.

Student/athletes are prohibited from using school facilities or contacting coaches during designated Arkansas Activities Association 'Dead Periods'. Athletes are prohibited from using school facilities without appropriate supervision.

### **Team Camps**

Coaches may choose to participate in organized team camps during the summer. Student/athletes are encouraged to attend and participate in camps, however, attendance/participation is not mandatory.

### **Pre-Season**

Fall sports begin pre-season training prior to the beginning of school per Arkansas Activities Association guidelines. Student/athletes participating in fall sports are advised to maintain contact with coaches to ensure awareness of scheduled training. Individual student/athletes and coaches will work together to resolve conflicts with participation in pre-season training.

### **Eligibility**

Eligibility to participate for individual student/athletes will be determined based upon rules and regulations established by the Arkansas Activities Association, Arkansas Department of Education, AR Code, and Cedarville School District Policy.

### **Sportsmanship**

Cedarville School District encourages all students, athletes, parents, fans, and patrons to demonstrate sportsmanship, integrity, and ethical behavior. Sportsmanship is defined as a demonstration of behavior characterizing generosity and genuine concern for the well-being of others.

Appropriate behavior is encouraged at all times. Appropriate behavior includes;

- 1) Generate good will by demonstrating courteous, polite, and respectful behavior
- 2) Acknowledge effort and performance of all student/athletes
- 3) Positive and encouraging comments for all players, coaches, fans, and patrons
- 4) Treat all players, coaches, officials, and fans with respect

Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior includes, but may not be limited to;

- 1) Profane language
- 2) Making derogatory remarks or demonstrations directed at student/athletes, officials, coaches, fans, or patrons
- 3) Demonstrating harassing or intimidating behavior toward officials, coaches, or event management
- 4) Publically criticizing student/athletes, coaches, opponents, or school officials
- 5) Any behavior prohibited by AR Code or Cedarville School District Policy including use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs

Any person(s) found to be demonstrating any inappropriate behavior may be removed. Egregious offenders may be removed and prohibited from attending future events.

### **Rules and Regulations**

All student/athletes, parents, and patrons are expected to comply with all rules and regulations contained herein. Violation of any rule or regulation will result in discipline. Parents/guardians will be notified if violation of rules by a student/athlete results in dismissal from a team or the program.

### **Nondiscrimination**

Cedarville School District will provide equal opportunity without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, qualified disability or veteran status in educational programs and activities. Including, but not limited to, admissions, educational services, financial aid, and employment. Nondiscriminatory policies will be disseminated to students, parents/guardians, employees, and community prior to the beginning of each school year.

### **Parental Consent, Acknowledgement, and Release Form**

1. I hereby give consent for my son/daughter to participate in interschool sports and competition.
2. I understand that participation is a privilege and that participation may require practice outside of the school day.
3. I understand that my son/daughter is responsible for the return of all athletic equipment issued by the school and that I am financially responsible for any lost or damage equipment beyond the scope of normal usage.
4. I understand that participation may necessitate an early dismissal from class and travel with the coach and/or representatives.
5. I understand that a current physical examination, within the last 12 months, must be on file prior to participation.
6. I consent to the disclosure by my son/daughter's school to the Arkansas Activities Association of all requested scholastic and attendance records as required.
7. I consent for my son/daughter's photo to be used in the school posters or be given to the media for coverage of their team's performance.
8. I know and acknowledge that my son/daughter knows all the risks involved in athletic participation, understands that serious injury and even death is possible in such participation and chooses to accept any and all responsibility for his/her safety and welfare while participating in athletics. With full understanding of the risks involved, I release and hold harmless my school, the schools involved the Cedarville School District, and the Arkansas Activities Association of any and all responsibility and liability for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation because of any accident or mishap involving the athletic participation of my son/daughter.
9. I hereby give consent, in case an injury occurs, for the coach to secure treatment at the best facilities available to them. The Cedarville School District and/or other individual schools will not be responsible for payment of any bills resulting from athletic injuries.

We have read the Student Athlete Handbook and the Parent Consent, Acknowledgement, and Release Form. We understand and accept the statements herein.

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

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

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

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

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_