

# **ILLINI BLUFFS HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR CODE**

## **I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Extra-Curricular Code applies to all students who want to participate in activities and athletics at IBHS and IBMS. This Code applies in addition to other rules and regulations concerning student conduct and imposes additional requirements on students who participate in extra-curricular activities. Participation in athletics/activities is a privilege. Those who participate in athletics/activities have a responsibility to favorably represent the school and community. Student athletes and activity participants are expected to conduct themselves both in and out of school in a manner appropriate to their responsibilities as representatives of the school and district. If a student fails to comply with the terms of this code, the privilege to participate in athletics/activities may be lost in accordance with the terms of this Activity Code. At the discretion of the Board of Education and/or Administration, the terms and conditions of this Code of Conduct may be modified at any time.

### **Illinois High School Association**

Eligibility for most athletics at the high school level is also governed by the rules of the Illinois High School Association and, if applicable, these rules will apply in addition to this Extracurricular and Athletic Activities Code of Conduct. In the case of a conflict between IHSA and this Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

### **The Inter County and Tomahawk Conferences**

Illini Bluffs High School is a member of the ICAC and Tomahawk Conferences. Interscholastic competition in many activities takes place between schools which include Athens, Brimfield, Delevan, Elmwood, Greenview, Hartem, Illini Central, Midwest Central, Mount Pulaski, North Fulton, ROVA, and Williamsfield.

### **Interscholastic Activities**

The following activities are considered interscholastic:

Band Contests (IHSA)	Band Festivals (IHSA)	Baseball
Basketball	Bass Fishing	Bowling
Choral Contests (IHSA)	Cheerleading	Choral Festivals (IHSA)
Cross Country	Drama/Musical Productions	Ensembles (Band-IHSA)
Ensembles (Chorus-IHSA)	Golf	Group Interpretation (IHSA)
Volleyball	Pom Poms/Dance	Scholastic Bowl
Soccer	Softball	Track
Wrestling		

### **Middle School Transition**

This activity Code will be applied to middle school students; however, these students will have a clean record upon becoming high school students. Middle school students are considered to become high school students immediately following their eighth grade promotion ceremony. Violations in the summer between eighth grade and the start of high school will be considered high school violations.

## **II. REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

### **Extra-Curricular Eligibility Grade Policy**

Illini Bluffs High School students must be passing ALL of his/her subjects per week in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Eligibility is calculated weekly and runs from Monday to Monday. There are two semesters during the school year. A student must have passed ALL of his/her subjects each semester in order to be eligible for the next semester. If the ineligible student is passing ALL of his/her subjects at the nine-weeks grading period, he or she may petition the Illini Bluffs High School administration to be placed on probation for the remainder of the semester and be allowed to participate in contests.

If a student is academically ineligible, the individual coach/sponsor will have the option of allowing the student to practice during this time, but he/she may not perform in contest.

All courses will be counted on an equal basis for academic eligibility purposes.

### **Activity Attendance Requirements**

In order to participate in practices, rehearsals, performances, or contests, students must be in attendance for his/her last four classes on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and last two classes on Wednesday and Thursday. In the case of a funeral or unavoidable appointment, exceptions can be made but only in conjunction with the administration and through parent contact prior to the situation when possible.

## **III. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES**

An athlete must have the following fully executed documents on file at the school office before the athlete's first participation in any activity.

1. A current physical examination report completed by a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine in all its branches which finds the athlete is physically able to participate.
2. A permission slip to participate in the specific sport in which the athlete intends to participate signed by the athlete's parent or guardian.
3. Proof the athlete is covered by medical insurance.
4. A receipt showing the athlete and his/her parents received a copy of the Activity Code, understand the terms of the code and agree to abide by its terms and conditions.

#### **IV. STUDENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

It is the right and responsibility of the student of Illini Bluffs High School to:

1. involve himself or herself in the extracurricular activities that are of special interest;
2. follow the rules and regulations of the activity;
3. conduct himself or herself in a mature manner at all times when involved in an activity on or off campus;
4. show high standards of social behavior;
5. show outstanding cooperation and sportsmanship;
6. show proper respect for those in authority - sponsors, teachers, coaches, teammates, judges, and officials;
7. dress appropriately when attending meetings, practices, rehearsals, competitions, and contests;
8. use language which is socially acceptable - profanity or vulgar talk will not be tolerated in practices, meetings, contests, or competitions on or off the field;
9. attend all classes, meetings, practices, competitions, and contests (if it is absolutely necessary to miss a meeting or practice, the student must personally contact the respective sponsor or coach prior to the meeting or practice session);
10. assume responsibility for equipment issued, keep the athletic locker locked; and return athletic equipment when the session is concluded or when the student is no longer a member of the squad/team;
11. report all injuries to the sponsor or coach immediately.

Should a middle school violation occur when there are fewer than sixty (60) days remaining in a season, the balance of the suspension will be served during the next interscholastic activity in which the student is involved.

#### **V. CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES**

Student athletes must comply with Illinois' Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies and bylaws of the Illinois High School Association before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student who was removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

#### **VI. CODE OF CONDUCT**

This Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular and athletic activities and is enforced 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. This include the summer months and all school athletics and activities, whether or not the student is actively engaged in a sport or activity at the time of the violations.

This Code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations. A student may be excluded from extracurricular or athletic activities while the school is conducting an investigation into the student's conduct.

**The student shall not:**

1. Violate the school rules and School District policies on student discipline including policies and procedures on student behavior;
2. Violate the Substance Abuse Rules and Regulations contained in this Code (See Section IX);
3. Use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a look alike weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in athletics, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet;
4. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
5. Violate any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and reckless driving;
6. Haze or bully other students;
7. Violate the written rules for the extracurricular or athletic activity;
8. Behave in a manner that is detrimental to the good of the group or school;
9. Be insubordinate or disrespectful toward the activity's sponsors or team's coaching staff; or
10. Falsify any information contained on any permit or permission form required by the extracurricular or athletic activity.

## **VII. TEAM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS**

Coaches and sponsors have the right to establish general and specific team rules above and beyond the extra-curricular code of conduct (provided these rules are deemed appropriate by the principal. These rules will include consequences for failure to comply with guidelines and should be distributed in the pre-season.

The administration will require all athletic coaches and activity sponsors to discuss good decision making and the consequences of the extra-curricular code with participants at the beginning of each sport or activity.

## **VIII. INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES**

All reported alleged violations will be thoroughly investigated by the principal and athletic director or activity sponsor.

The investigation process may include but not be limited to:

1. Questioning each student involved or thought to be involved;

2. Questioning other students whom are believed to have information relating to the incident.
3. Using tickets issued or information gathered from law enforcement during the investigation to question other students.
4. Obtaining and reviewing any other information from any source which may provide information relating to the incident.
5. Parents of students involved in the investigation may or may not be notified or involved in the investigation at the discretion of the Administration.

### **Images and Digital Information Including Social Media**

An identifiable image, photo, or video, whether in print or digital form, which implicates a student to have been in violation of this Code may be considered as evidence to establish a violation of this Code. In addition, all forms of digital information contained in social media, including networking site postings and sharing sites, micro and personal blogging sites, local websites, online forums, discussion boards, text messaging and email forms of digital communication may also be considered as evidence to establish a violation of this Code. Inasmuch as images, digital information and digital communication may be altered, or fail to accurately portray events, including when an event occurred, the use of such images and forms of digital information as evidence requires caution and discretion by the administration. It is also expected that each student participant understand that images, digital information and forms of digital communication can be used to implicate them in violating the Code.

### **Penalties**

If it is determined that a student has violated the Code, a letter will be sent to the parents/guardian of the student to outline the violation, the consequence, and the date of possible reinstatement. The Administration will exercise its discretion to determine the appropriate penalty dependent upon the facts and circumstances of the violation. Penalties may include the denial of participation in interscholastic activities for the remainder of the student's middle school and/or high school career.

Penalties for Violation of the Substance Abuse Rules and Regulations are described in Section IX of the Code.

## **IX. SUBSTANCE ABUSE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **Statement of Policy**

The use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs is a harmful habit for young adults, and abstinence from these substances at all times is essential for the wellness of the individual. Therefore, students who are participants in extracurricular activities may not at any time:

1. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes);
2. Ingest or otherwise use possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute tobacco or nicotine in any form;
3. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any product composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form or any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance enhancing drugs or chemicals) or paraphernalia;

4. Attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors;

Students should make every attempt to avoid events where illegal substances are being used or are present. A reasonable amount of time, as determined by school administration, may be allotted for a student to remove themselves from a situation once they are aware of a violation.

### **Amnesty**

Should the student seek help and apply for the Substance Abuse Program before any violation is reported, a non-punitive referral will take place. This referral will be done in confidence and will not result in any suspension from activities but will necessitate the student participating in the Substance Abuse Program.

After a student has served a first or subsequent violation, he/she is no longer eligible to claim amnesty.

### **First Violation**

A. The first violation of this Substance Abuse Policy will result in suspension from participation in all contests and competitions for a period of sixty (60) days. This period of time will begin on the Monday of the first week of competition. If a violation occurs during the season, the suspension will begin when school officials are notified. The student must attend all practices and contests. The student will sit in a place assigned by the coach/sponsor.

Should the violation occur after school has let out for summer vacation or should it occur at any other time when the student is not an active participant in a qualified activity, the suspension will commence on the Monday of the first week that competition begins in the next interscholastic activity in which he/she is involved.

Should the violation occur when there are fewer than sixty (60) days remaining in a season, the balance of the suspension will be served during the next interscholastic activity in which the student is involved.

B. If the student and his/her parents/guardians enroll in a mutually agreed upon student assistance program within five (5) school days, he/she may petition the athletic director or activity sponsor for a hearing to consider reinstatement after thirty (30) days. A program should consist of a combination of the following:

- (1) Assessment: Student must be assessed by medically qualified personnel and official documentation will be considered a necessary component of the process.
- (2) Education: Student will undergo a formal process of awareness/education.
- (3) Recommendation for treatment and treatment options.

The financial responsibility for the student assistance program rests solely with the student and his/her family. The parents of students participating in this program are encouraged to participate in the sessions. If an athlete cannot compete because of injury or becomes academically ineligible and has

been referred to the student assistance program punitive process, that athlete shall begin the time of suspension when that student is declared physically fit or academically eligible to compete.

If the student has previously undergone a non-punitive referral for substance abuse and a violation of the substance abuse policy occurs, the violation will still be treated as a first violation.

No consequences can be served concurrently. If a second or third offense occurs prior to the completion of the previous consequences, the subsequent consequences will begin upon completion of the first.

### **Second Violation**

The second violation of this substance abuse Policy will result in suspension from participation in all contests and competitions for a period of one year. This period of time will begin on the date of the conference with the administration regarding the violation and will conclude after one year. The sponsors/coaches are given the option to have the student attend practices, rehearsals, meetings, and competition, but the student will not wear the uniform, and he/she will not compete in any contests or competitions. The student will sit in a place assigned by the coach/sponsor.

Prior to completion of the year, the student must petition the athletic director or activity sponsor to be reinstated (see below) and he/she must pay \$25.00 and submit to a drug test. Should the violation occur after school has let out for summer vacation or should it occur at any other time when the student is not an active participant in a qualified activity, the suspension will commence on the Monday of the first week that competition begins in the next interscholastic activity in which he/she is involved. Should a student undergoing the student assistance punitive process is unable to compete because of injury, the time of suspension shall begin when he/she is declared physically fit to compete.

- Any non-punitive referral for substance abuse will not affect the options presented herein.
- Amnesty will not be an option after the first violation.

### **Third Violation**

The third violation of this substance abuse policy for alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs will result in the denial of participation in interscholastic activities for the remainder of the student's high school career. Substance abuse counseling may be an option for the parents/guardians and student. After one calendar year from the determination of guilt, an appeal can be made to the appeals board for reinstatement contingent upon rehabilitation. It is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents to demonstrate to a reinstatement appeal board a case for being reinstated. The student must petition the athletic director or activity director to present his/her case to the reinstatement appeals board.

### **Appeal Procedure**

The student may appeal his/her violation of the Substance Abuse Policy to an Appeals Board which shall consist of a neutral coach, a neutral sponsor, and the principal who will appoint these members of the Board. The appeal will require the following:

1. A written appeal must be presented to the principal within five (5) days of the initial ruling;
2. The student shall have the privilege of presenting his/her version of the violation under appeal;

3. Appeals Committee shall render a decision within five (5) days to the student and his/her parents/guardians.

Should any violation be contested in court or be appealed by a student, the sanctions listed above will not take effect until a resolution has taken place.

### **Reinstatement Petition**

A student who has been suspended for a second offense and has served at least 90 days counting student attendance days and/or athletic season attendance days may petition the athletic director or activity sponsor for reinstatement. A student may only apply for reinstatement one time in a high school career.

Reinstatement may occur if the student:

- Demonstrates changed behavior
- Sought and completed a counseling program
- Maintained acceptable academic standards

A written petition for reinstatement must be presented to the athletic director or activity sponsor. The student shall have an opportunity to present his/her petition for reinstatement to the appeals committee. The Appeals Committee shall render a decision within five (5) days to the student and his/her parents/guardians.

It is hoped that the wellness of the individual student is served through this substance abuse policy, and that continual communication between son/daughter and parent/guardian is kept open. If there are any questions on this policy, please call the principal at (309) 389-5681, or the athletic director at (309) 389-5685. Further questions may be directed to the superintendent at (309) 389-2231.

## **X. CROWD EXPECTATIONS FOR HOME AND AWAY CONTESTS**

The administration and faculty appreciate the support of the students and parents at extra-curricular activities. Fans are strongly encouraged to follow the guidelines below:

- Be enthusiastic in a positive manner
- Cheer for Illini Bluffs; not against other schools
- Represent yourself, our school, and our community in a positive way.

Failure to follow these guidelines can result in an immediate ejection from the activity and possibly additional consequences.