

2022-2023
Mesick Consolidated Schools
Athletic Code of Conduct

The Athletic Code of Conduct will be reviewed prior to the start of each season by the Athletic Director. Athletes are required to submit a signed Code of Conduct review form for each school year (grades 6-12) prior to participation in any contests. Changes to the Code of Conduct are to be made only with the approval of the Board of Education.

Reasonable interpretations of how policies are applied are at the discretion of the Superintendent, Principal, and Athletic Director.

Philosophy of Athletics

A student who elects to participate in athletics at Mesick Consolidated Schools is voluntarily making the choice to develop good physical conditioning, meet minimum academic expectations, and exercise good judgment in the matters of personal and civic character. Mesick Consolidated Schools student-athletes and all those who support them will consistently strive for excellence in the classroom, the community, and in athletic competition. Interscholastic athletics at Mesick Consolidated Schools are a developmental experience for students. This experience and all it encompasses is the reason Mesick Consolidated Schools chooses to offer athletic opportunities.

We believe it is an honor to represent Mesick Consolidated Schools, our alumni, fellow students, staff, and the citizens of Mesick as a student-athlete.

I. Athletic Policies

- A. All student-athletes will demonstrate honor by meeting eligibility requirements under the Michigan High School Athletic Association's most current academic requirements.
 - 1. Student-athletes must have to his/her credit a minimum of 66% of full credit load potential for the last semester enrolled. Students entering the 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his/her record in the 8th grade.
 - 2. Weekly eligibility checks will be performed 2 weeks into each season.
 - 3. Students must be passing all classes (Including making adequate progress in lab-25 min active in Edgenuity class for each day present-/DE classes). Students declared academically ineligible will be notified by the Athletic Director and the students parents will be notified. The first offense will exclude the student from all scheduled contests for one week (Saturday - Sunday). The second offense will exclude the student-athlete from contests and practice for one week. The third offense will result in the removal of the student-athlete from his/her current team.
 - 4. Eligibility checks will be for current quarter grades and begin on Wednesday morning. Students on the Wednesday ineligible list will have until Friday at 3:00 to improve their grade. Final Ineligibility will be determined on Friday and will be in effect for one calendar week (Saturday - Sunday).
- B. Student-athletes will show responsibility by having a current physical on file with the Athletic Office before participating in any practice or contest. Physicals performed on or after April 15th will be accepted for the following school year to be allowed to practice or participate in contests scheduled for that day. Scheduled doctor appointments must be accompanied by a note from the doctor's office. Family emergencies and extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration. Exceptions to this may be granted by the Athletic Director in collaboration with the Principal.
- C. Student athletes will demonstrate responsibility by attending school on time and being present every day unless they have a "verified" absence (doctor's note, funeral, college visit, etc.).

Student athletes who arrive late or do not attend school without a “verified” excuse will not participate in practice or games on that day.

- D. All student-athletes must travel to and return from “away” contests with the team except with approval of the Athletic Director, Coach, and Parent.
- E. Student-athletes will demonstrate responsibility by caring for the condition of uniforms and equipment issued to them. Student athletes are financially responsible for any damage not associated with normal wear and tear. Student-athletes must return all equipment and uniforms at the conclusion of the season. Failure to do so will result in the student-athlete being prohibited from his/her next season of participation.
- F. Student-athletes will demonstrate responsibility by keeping their personal belongings in the locker rooms during practices and contests. All lockers should be secured with a lock. Loss of personal items are not the responsibility of Mesick Consolidated Schools.
- G. Student-athletes will show responsibility by treating the equipment and facilities with care and respect. This includes the equipment and facilities at “away” venues.
- H. Student-athletes will be responsible and report all injuries to his/her coach. A student-athlete that has been withheld in writing by a doctor will not be reinstated until cleared to participate in writing by a doctor.
- I. Student-athletes will demonstrate responsibility by arriving on time and attending each practice and game, unless excused by the coach.
- J. The coach of each team will evaluate the abilities and condition of the athlete to determine the amount of contest playing times.
- K. Student-athletes will demonstrate honor by adhering to additional team rules established by the coach. Team rules may include, but are not limited to, dressing up on game days, curfews the night before games, or personal grooming.
- L. Student-athletes will demonstrate self-control by exhibiting good sportsmanship during all practices and games. Good sportsmanship includes treating teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials with respect and empathy, regardless of winning or losing.

II. Training Rules

- A. Training rules are in effect on a year-round basis. These rules apply to all student-athletes in grades 6-12. A student-athlete entering the 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his/her 8th grade record. The student-athlete will demonstrate honor and self-control by refraining from the following punishable offenses:
 - 1. Use or possession of tobacco in any form, including vaping.
 - 2. Use or possession of alcohol.
 - 3. Use or possession of illegal drugs.
 - 4. Use or possession of prescription drugs not prescribed to him/her.
 - 5. Acts of dishonesty or unlawfulness other than routine traffic violations on or off school property.
 - 6. Acts committed inside or outside of school that are deemed detrimental to the school or athletic program.
 - 7. Accumulation of 3 or more days of suspension per school year.
 - 8. Hazing.

III. Suspensions

- A. Failure to adhere to the training rules listed above may result in suspension from participation in Mesick athletics. All suspensions will be administered as follows:
 - 1. A first-time violation will result in the student-athlete being given two options:
 - a) Option 1 would result in a suspension of 50% of scheduled contests for the current or next season.
 - b) Option 2 would result in the suspension of 25% of scheduled contests for the current or next season, and the completion of 15 hours of school/community

service. Service hours must be completed before the reinstatement will be issued.

- c) Student-athletes must maintain academic eligibility for contests to be counted toward their suspension. Student-athletes exercising option 2 will automatically be placed in option 1 if they become academically ineligible.
 - d) Student-athletes must also attend all practices and contests during their suspension in order for missed contests to be counted.
2. A second-time violation will result in a suspension of 365 calendar days.

IV. Self Disclosure

- A. A student-athlete will demonstrate honor by admitting to his/her offense prior to an investigation. Student-athletes who admit to his/her violation prior to the investigation will be given the option of reducing his/her suspension dates or hours. This will be offered one time during a career.

V. Suspension

- A. Student-athletes involved in disciplinary action at school requiring suspension from school are not able to participate in after school activities, including sports (training and games/matches), during the days of suspension.
- B. Some Mesick students are enrolled part of the day at the ISD Career Tech Center. Disciplinary consequences for misbehavior at CTC assigned by administration there will also be in place at the Mesick campus, including suspension from school (see #A above).

VI. Due Process

- A. All student-athletes involved in disciplinary action will practice self-control and are allowed to appeal the facts of the situation. An appeal must be made within the hierarchy of Mesick Consolidated Schools as follows:
 - 1. Head Coach
 - 2. Athletic Director
 - 3. Principal
 - 4. Superintendent
 - 5. Board of Education

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____