

Smithton R-VI School District

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

2022-2023



Revised 8/2022

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## Introduction

This athletic/activities handbook is designed to inform students and their parents of the rules, regulations, and information that helped develop the rich tradition of competition at Smithton High School.

Participation in athletics/activities is a privilege, which carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility, and sacrifice. Since competition is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate will be expected to follow the rules established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association, Smithton R-VI School District, the Athletic/Activities Department, and other specific coaches' rules for their sport. Each student athlete represents his/her school and student body. It is the student athlete's duty to conduct himself/herself in a manner becoming the student athlete, his/her family, Smithton R-VI School District, and the community.

The athletic/activities department will enforce all rules and regulations as described in this Athletic/Activities Handbook. Parents and athletes are asked to sign an acknowledgement document located at the end of this handbook stating that they have read and understand the information included in the handbook and that the athlete is subject to disciplinary measures should he/she violate the rules and regulations set forth in this Athletic/Activities Handbook.

Athletes and participants of extracurricular activities are recognized as leaders in our school and community. Student representatives are expected to set a good example in regard to conduct, personal grooming, and attire. Student actions and appearances represent our parents, school, athletic/activity program, and community.

Training is a year round proposition. Members of any team/club or organization at Smithton High School should adhere to requirements set forth by each coach/sponsor. Athletic performance, excellence, personal pride, and the desire to maintain good health habits usually make these rules an easy task for most athletes/participants. It is expected that all students dedicate themselves to the sport/activity in which they participate.

### **Smithton Athletics Mission Statement**

Smithton R-VI Athletics will cultivate self-disciplined, hard-working, confident individuals who are proud to have earned the privilege to represent this school and community in programs that foster lifelong values of honesty, respect, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

### **Athletic/Activity Program Philosophy**

We believe that student participation in any part of our athletic/activity programs is a privilege which carries with it responsibilities to the school, activity, student body, community, and to the student participant. Our goal is to provide the best opportunities for student-athletes to excel in teamwork, sportsmanship, self-discipline, and character. Experiences in our athletics/activities should be positive and memorable and help develop a commitment to a cause and accept the responsibility and loyalty toward any chosen sport/activity. Athletic/Activity participation represents a year-round commitment that will help to develop the student physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally.

## **Athletic/Activity Commitment**

We believe that school activities outside the regular school day enhance the education of each student. We encourage you to commit yourself to being the best you can be both in and out of the classroom. Because you are in the public eye, your personal conduct always must be above reproach. You have an obligation to create a favorable image and gain the respect of your teammates, student body, and community.

### **Sportsmanship**

The following statement from the National Federation of State High School Association expresses the concept of sportsmanship as follows:

***“The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior, and integrity permeate our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior, which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, awareness is expected of the impact of an individual’s influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.”***

One of the main goals of the athletic program is to teach the concept of sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship requires everyone to be treated with respect. Good sportsmanship includes showing courtesy and kindness toward your opponent as well as fellow team members. All events are a reflection of our community and school. The conduct of the team is extended to parents and fans before, during, and after athletic/activity events. We, as a school and community, must uphold the best values of competition, establish a courteous relationship between visiting teams, coaches, fans, and officials. We must encourage leadership and promote physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual participants.

According to the Missouri State High School Activities Association By-Law 710,

***“A school may be suspended from membership in MSHSAA and from participating in interscholastic activities with other member schools for the unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, coaches, students, and fans. Each school is responsible for the conduct of its teams, coaches, students and fans at games both at home and away. Please support the players in a positive manner rather than possibly placing them in a position of being penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct. Thank you for understanding and cooperation in the spirit of high school athletics”.***

### **Parent Information**

#### **Parent/Coach Relationship**

Both parenting and coaching have its rewards and challenges. Establishing and maintaining a positive relationship provides an opportunity to best accept the actions of the other and provide a greater benefit to the student. As parents, when your student becomes involved in a program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your student. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your student’s program. Coaches and parents are expected to encourage and praise students in their attempt to improve themselves as students, athletes, and citizens. Parents can facilitate this by

gaining an understanding and appreciation of all aspects of the sport/activity and the expectations placed on your student.

#### Communication That Coaches and Sponsors Expect From Parents:

1. Concerns should be expressed directly to the coach or sponsor.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts should be shared well in advance.
3. An appointment should be scheduled to discuss any specific concern in regard to the philosophy and expectations of a coach or sponsor.

Parents and coaches should help their students learn that success is achieved in the development of a skill and make the student-athlete feel good about his/her outcome of any game or contest. Being part of our athletic/activity programs at Smithton R-6 can be a very rewarding time in the lives of our students. However, there will be times where outcomes will not go the way your student wishes. If you ever have a concern we ask you take the time to speak to our coaches/sponsors in an appropriate manner, including time and place, and follow the appropriate steps to address your concern. Our coaches/sponsors also welcome your encouragement and positivity during the season.

#### Communication You Should Expect from Your Student's Coach/Sponsor:

1. Philosophy of the coach/sponsor.
2. Expectations the coach/sponsor has for your student and all participants in the activity.
3. Location and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team camps (home and away), open gyms, and workout session's times/locations.
5. Protocol for injuries during the season.
6. Discipline that results in the removal of your student's participation.
7. Process for earning a letter in that activity.

#### Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches/Sponsors:

1. The mental/physical treatment of your student.
2. How to improve the skills of your student.
3. Concerns of your student's behavior/attitude.

It is difficult to accept if your student is not playing as much as you would like. Coaches and sponsors are the professionals in their respective programs. They are asked to make decisions based on what they believe to be what's best for every student in the sport/activity. Below are listed topics as to what should only be discussed at the discretion of the coach/sponsor.

#### Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches/Sponsors:

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student's/athletes participating in the sport/activity.

These topics may require a meeting between the coach/sponsor and parent. These meetings are important in providing a clear understanding of one another's position. We can communicate our concerns in a clear and respectful way. Below are the procedures to schedule such a meeting with the hope a mutual resolution can be reached in the benefit of the student.

#### If You Have a Concern to Discuss with a Coach/Sponsor, the Following Procedure Should Be Followed:

1. Call to set up an appointment with the coach/sponsor.

Please do not confront a coach/sponsor before, during, or after a game/contest or practice. These can be an emotional time for all parties involved. These confrontations usually do not end in a positive resolution.

What can a parent do if the meeting with the Coach/Sponsor did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. The next appropriate step in this situation can be determined.

### **MSHSAA Eligibility Protection**

Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), of which the Smithton R-VI School District is a member, is a voluntary, nonprofit, educational association of a junior and high school established for the purpose of working cooperatively in adopting standards for supervising and regulating interscholastic activities and contests.

One of the primary functions of MSHSAA is to establish eligibility standards that must be met by all students to sustain the **privilege** of representing their school in interscholastic activities. Eligibility is a PRIVILEGE to be granted by the school to a student. Eligibility is NOT A STUDENT RIGHT BY LAW. Precedent-setting legal cases have determined that eligibility is a privilege to be granted only if the student meets all standards adopted by the schools.

The MSHSAA eligibility can be found in the MSHSAA handbook. [MSHSAA Handbook](#)

### **SMITHTON R-VI ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES GUIDELINES**

#### **Before the first Practice**

The following things are required by the student athlete before the first practice with any team:

1. Meet academic eligibility requirements the previous semester.
2. Meet enrollment requirements for the current semester.
3. Take and pass a MSHSAA physical examination.
4. Complete the insurance/concussion information on the physical form.
5. Complete the substance abuse testing consent form.
6. Meet the citizenship standards.

#### **Physical Examination**

Each athlete must have a physical examination form completed by a medical doctor certifying that he/she is fit for that sport. **One physical examination is all that will be necessary for 2 years. Exam forms can be found online at the MSHSAA website or outside the main office.**

#### **Insurance Portion of Physical**

Each athlete must be covered for injury by health and medical insurance through an appropriate insurance agency. **An insurance release form (part of the MSHSAA physical form) must be signed and returned to the school before the athlete is allowed to participate in the activity. This is a yearly requirement.**

#### **Medical Releases and Athletic Participation:**

1. Once a student has been seen by a family doctor, specialist, emergency room physician, or hospital, Smithton R-VI is bound by liability and must have a written doctor's release for a student to return to practice or participate in competition.
2. If a student has sustained a diagnosed concussion he/she will be subject to the MSHSAA certified return to play (RTP) protocol. This is to protect the student from entering back into competition prematurely. Smithton R-VI wants to remain proactive in this approach and will take all

precautions to withhold the student from participation in a sport/activity until the student has been appropriately released by a medical professional.

### **Academic Requirements**

In compliance with MSHSAA standards the student has two recorded grades during the school year: at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. If there are two failing grades during either of these particular grade checks students are ineligible for the following semester, regardless of school year. Ineligibility resulting from the second semester grading period shall become effective the first day of school of the new school year.

Grade checks are conducted throughout the semester. Ineligible students will only be added at the scheduled grade check. If a student has one "F", he/she may be held from participating in school sponsored events (contests), but can practice, until the grade is brought to passing status and verified with the coach and teacher or administrative approval. Students will be expected to meet with their particular coach to create an individual academic plan. Practice time may be used for academic tutoring. **Grade check dates for 2022-2023 are 10/12/22, 11/9/22, 1/4/23, 2/15/23, 3/24/23, 4/12/23, 5/10/23.**

**STUDENTS MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR AT LEAST 4 CONSECUTIVE HOURS OF THAT SCHOOL DAY TO PARTICIPATE IN OR ATTEND ANY SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENT. EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GRANTED BY ADMINISTRATION ONLY. STUDENTS MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR AT LEAST 4 CONSECUTIVE HOURS ON FRIDAY TO PARTICIPATE IN OR ATTEND ANY SCHOOL SPONSORED WEEKEND ACTIVITIES. EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GRANTED BY ADMINISTRATION ONLY.**

If students come to school and leave during the day for health reasons, they may **not** return or participate that day in activities without administrative approval. Students are to understand that social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) are powerful tools which may be either positive or negative depending on how they are used. Students are expected to be respectful and responsible when using social media. Derogatory or negative language directed at teammates, coaches, teachers, or other students will not be tolerated. Posting of pictures or statements depicting violations of policies or indicating knowledge of violations subjects students to potential consequences.

Activities occurring outside the school, which are curricular in the sense that they are an extension of a class, are not subject to the above standard.

**\*\*Athletes/participants who have outstanding debts for equipment from a previous sport or activity are not eligible to participate in any contest until the equipment is returned or debts are paid in full.**

### **Transportation to and from daily/weekend practice sessions**

The Smithton School District does not provide transportation to and/or from scheduled practice sessions. It is the responsibility of the student to secure proper transportation to and from practice sessions. Students must be picked up in a timely manner following practice sessions.

### **Transportation to Away Activities**

All participants will ride school sponsored transportation provided by the Smithton R-VI School District to and from each event. The only exceptions to this would be when (1) parents/guardians make a request to transport their student and contact administration to seek permission; (2) when parents/guardians make

a request to the head coach for the student, who is of legal driving age, to drive himself/herself. At no time will participants be allowed to ride with or transport other athletes. Both cases require parent/guardian completion of the “Smithton R-6 District Athletic/Activity Transportation Release” form. Parents may take their son or daughter home from an away event. **Parents must sign the student sign-out form with the coach/sponsor prior to departing the contest site.** Students should be picked up in a timely manner following all home or away contests.

### **Conflict with Other School Sponsored Activities**

Communication between all coaches/sponsors/teachers involved in athletics/activities is of utmost importance in the continued success of the educational process. If a student participates in two or more school sponsored activities and a scheduling conflict occurs, it will be the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian involved to notify coaches/sponsors/teachers of the conflict.

1. National events
2. State events
3. District/sub-state events
4. Conference events
5. Interscholastic events
6. School performances
7. Required practices (dress rehearsal)
8. Regular practices
9. Club activities, events, or competitions

### **Citizenship Standards**

Students who represent a school in interscholastic activities must be creditable citizens and judged so by the proper authority. Those students whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon themselves or their schools are not considered “creditable citizens.” Conduct shall be satisfactory in accord with the standards of good discipline (MSHSAA By-law 2.2, Citizenship Requirements).

- a. Law Enforcement: A student who commits an act for which charges may be or have been filed by law enforcement authorities under any municipal ordinance, misdemeanor or felony statute shall not be eligible until all proceedings with the legal system have been concluded and any penalty (i.e. jail time, fine, court costs, etc.) or special condition of probation (i.e. restitution, community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied. If law enforcement authorities determine that charges will not be filed, eligibility will be contingent upon local school policies. Moving traffic offenses shall not affect eligibility, unless they involve drugs, alcohol, or injuries to others. After a student has completed all court appearances and penalties, and has satisfied all special conditions of probation and remains under general probation only, local school authorities shall determine eligibility.
- b. Local School:
  1. A student who violates a local school policy is ineligible until completion of the prescribed school penalties.
  2. The eligibility of a student who is serving detention or in-school suspension shall be determined by local school authorities.
  3. A student shall not be considered eligible while serving an out-of-school suspension.



4. A student who is expelled or who withdrawals from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 days from the date of expulsion or withdrawal.
  5. If a student misses class(es) without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes.
  6. Each individual school has the authority to set more restrictive citizenship standards and shall have the authority and responsibility to judge its students under those standards.
  7. Each school shall diligently and completely investigate any issue that could affect student eligibility.
- c. **Student Responsibility:** Each student is responsible to notify the school of any and all situations that would affect his/her eligibility under the above standards. If the student does not notify the school of the situation prior to the school's discovery, then the student shall be ineligible for up to 365 days from discovery, pending review by the Board of Directors.

### **Citizenship Violation Consequences**

Non-credible citizenship may result in disciplinary action. These actions may include parental contact, one-on-one conferences, extra athletic conditioning, benching, non-participation in interscholastic games, and/or a percentage of the interscholastic season withheld. Ultimately, removal from participation and/or team can occur. A student shall not be considered eligible while under suspension.

### **Athletic/Activity Participation Rules**

In order to maintain the highest possible standards for activities in the Smithton School system, the following minimum requirements have been established for all students participating in the athletic/activity program. Students should remember these are minimum requirements and each individual coach/sponsor may establish further guidelines.

- In the event of an in-school suspension (I.S.S.), a student will not be eligible to participate in any interscholastic event until he/she has fulfilled all of the disciplinary requirements set forth in the I.S.S. assignment. A student may participate in practice sessions during the I.S.S. period. A student will be required to attend all contests and activities in which he/she is involved during the I.S.S. period as a non-participating member unless directed otherwise by the coach/sponsor or principal.
- In the event of an out-of-school suspension, a student will not be eligible to participate in a practice or an interscholastic event until he/she has fulfilled all of the disciplinary requirements set forth by the administration or as recommended by the athletic/activity council.
- Any student serving an out-of-school suspension is not to be on school property or attend any school sponsored event (home or away), unless he/she has received approval from the Principal.
- The use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or tobacco-related products is prohibited.
- Participants found to be under the influence or in possession of a controlled or prohibited substance will be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures by the administration, coaches and/or sponsors. Disciplinary measures may range from a suspension of a minimum of 30 participation days of the particular sport/s activity season to dismissal from the activity or sport.
- Theft and vandalism is a disgrace and will not be tolerated. The first offense will result in, but not limited to, restitution, suspension, or dismissal from the activity or sport. The second offense will result in complete activity and athletic suspension for the current school year in addition to restitution and other administrative disciplinary actions.

## **Consequences for Chemical Abuse (see Board policy JFCI)**

**First Offense** – upon the first offense for illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, the athlete/participant could be excluded for up to a maximum of 30 participation days and may be required to pass a drug test administered by the district prior to participating in covered (MSHSAA) activities again.

**Second Offense** – upon the second offense for illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, the athlete/participant will be excluded from all covered activities for a minimum of 90 participation days and must pass a drug test administered by the district prior to participating in covered (MSHSAA) activities again.

**Third Offense** – upon the third offense for illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, the athlete/participant will be excluded for all covered activities for the rest of the student’s enrollment in the district.

### **Violations occurring at the end of the season, or off-season**

The loss of eligibility carries over to the next season in which the student/athlete participates. For example: If a student commits a violation during the last contest of the season, he/she loses eligibility (as per the consequence of the category involved) in the next season of participation. The exclusion from covered activities will be reworked per the next season of participation.

For the purposes of this policy, a “participation day” is each day that the extracurricular group meets, regardless of whether that meeting is a practice, a group meeting or an event.

The consequences may be reduced if the student participates in drug or alcohol counseling and additional testing in accordance with procedures developed by the superintendent or designee. A positive test through this random testing program will not result in suspension from school or academic sanctions. The district will not report results to law enforcement.

Participants are representatives of Smithton Schools. Therefore, their appearance is extremely important. The sponsor/coach may establish standards of personal appearance. Students are expected to be home at a respectable time in the evenings.

Any participant or manager saying or committing any act or gesture of UNSPORTSMANLIKE conduct toward an opponent, spectator or official will be immediately removed from the event. Depending on the seriousness of the act, the student may be suspended from additional events or may be removed from the organization/team, as decided by the administration and coach/sponsor. Repeat offenses may result in expulsion from the organization/team.

## **Hazing**

Student hazing is expressly prohibited by the board of education policy. For purposes of this policy, hazing is defined as willful conduct directed at another student, whether occurring on or off school property, for purposes of initiation or admission to any school related activity or athletic team. This includes the following activities; but is not limited to:

1. Paddling
2. Creation of extra fatigue

3. Physical and psychological shocks
4. Requiring or encouraging the wearing of apparel in public that is conspicuous and normally not considered in good taste
5. Public ridicule of students, including morally degrading or humiliating games and activities
6. Late work sessions, excessive time demands, or other requirements that interfere with academic performance
7. Demanding or encouraging any other activities that conflict with civil law and/or school policies

Conduct prohibited by this policy includes, but is not limited to, exposure or contact of genitals, buttocks, or breasts (female students), directly or indirectly through contact with undergarments; threats of physical harm; and infliction of physical or mental harm or humiliation.

**According to Missouri State statutes “consent” to hazing is not a defense.** Students found to have violated this policy will be subject to suspension/expulsion from school and suspension and exclusion from activities/athletic participation depending on the severity of the misconduct.

Non-students who participate or enable the hazing of students may be excluded from attendance at school activities and school athletic events. District employees, including sponsors and coaches who have knowledge of student hazing but fail to take corrective action will be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

### **Student Accountability for Equipment**

In order to give the students a sense of responsibility and an appreciation of their issued equipment, students will be held accountable for the abuse or loss of it. **ANY EQUIPMENT LOST OR STOLEN MUST BE PAID FOR BY THE STUDENTS IN WHOSE NAME IT WAS ISSUED.**

The following guidelines will help lessen the chances for lost or stolen equipment.

1. Do not exchange or loan any of the equipment checked out to you to another teammate. If an exchange is needed, make the coach/sponsor aware of the adjustment.
2. Keep your locker closed and locked at all times. A lock may be issued to you, or if you bring your own, please give the combination/extra key to your coach/sponsor.
3. Any loss of equipment should be reported immediately to the head coach.
4. Any equipment which does not fit properly or has defective parts should be reported immediately to the head coach. Do not wear the equipment until the necessary adjustments have been made. This is for your protection.
5. No equipment may be checked out to an athlete in any sport if the athlete owes equipment/fees to a previous sport.
6. Students need to sign for items checked out.
7. Students must pay in full for items requiring payment before that item will be issued.
8. Students may not compete in other events if equipment, or fines, are owed to another sport or activity.
9. It is against MSHSAA regulations to wear, use, or be seen in official school uniforms unless involved directly in a school-sponsored event or interscholastic contest. Therefore, any school uniforms seen being worn outside of the above participation guidelines is a MSHSAA violation and should be reported to a coach or to the athletic/activity director.

## Athletic Lettering

All of the athletic programs offer an athletic letter. Each sport offers objective criteria and qualifications for lettering set by the individual sport's coaching staff. Subjective criteria such as, but not limited to, the factors of sportsmanship, citizenship, and good team membership also determine the conferring of a letter. Coaches have the right to set the standards they want in order to "letter" athletes. Coaches should communicate to the athletes the varsity lettering standards prior to the start of the season. The head coach is the ultimate authority in the granting of a varsity athletic letter.

### Athletic/Activity Letters and Awards

- To be eligible for consideration to receive an S, the participant must exhibit a proper attitude towards his/her teammates, game/contest officials, and opponents. He/she must exhibit good sportsmanship and school conduct as judged by coaches, sponsors, officials, and administrators.
- A six inch block letter, plus a medal emblem (indicating the sport/activity), and bar, will be presented to all participants, grade 9-12, who have met Varsity level requirements to earn a "S" in any one sport/activity. A bar will be presented each time the student earns an "S" thereafter. The 6-inch letter will be given only one time during the four years of high school.
- Managers earn the same letter as the athletes if they attend practices as well as games. If they only attend games, they must serve as manager for two seasons to letter. Statisticians and scorekeepers must serve in these roles for two seasons to earn a letter.

### Sports/Activities Offered by Season

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Levels</b>	<b>Season</b>
Cross Country	JH-HS	Aug-Nov
Soccer	JH-HS	Aug-Oct
Volleyball	JH-HS	Aug-Oct

<b>Winter</b>	<b>Levels</b>	<b>Season</b>
Boys-Basketball	JH-HS	Nov-Mar
Girls-Basketball	JH-HS	Nov-Mar

<b>Spring</b>	<b>Levels</b>	<b>Season</b>
Baseball	HS	Mar-May
Golf	HS	Mar-May
Softball	HS	Mar-May
Track	JH-V	Mar-May

### Interscholastic Activities

Scholar Bowl	JH-HS	Sept-May
Band	JH-HS	Aug-May
Cheerleading	JH-HS	Nov-Mar
Vocal	JH-HS	Aug-May

### **Expectations of students and parents:**

Your enthusiasm includes a vital responsibility for good sportsmanship. Your habits and reactions determine the quality of sportsmanship, which reflects upon our school and community.

- Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of good sportsmanship.
- Respect, cooperate and respond to cheerleaders.
- Respect school property and authority.
- Show respect for opponents and opposing coaches and fans.
- Show respect for players who are injured.
- Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach (even if you disagree).
- Respect the judgment of games officials (even if you disagree).
- Avoid profane language and obnoxious behavior at all times.
- Avoid applauding errors or penalties of the opponents.
- Refrain from heckling, jeering or distracting opponents, including distracting behavior during the shooting of free throws.
- Refrain from being critical of players, coaches or officials for a loss.
- Refrain from throwing objects on the playing area or in the bleachers.
- Avoid stomping of bleachers or the use of artificial noisemakers.
- Refrain from using cheers that taunt or ridicule opposing players, coaches, cheerleaders or spectators.
- Refrain from booing or showing displeasure with game officials or game activities.

### **DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS (see Board Policy KK and Administrative Procedure KK-AP (1))**

The Board of Education has established the following policy and regulation for visitors to district property/events.

#### **Appropriate Behavior**

The Smithton R-VI School District believes that district events are a vital part of the total educational program and should be used as a means for developing positive social interaction, good sportsmanship and appropriate behavior, in addition to knowledge and skills. Well-organized and well-conducted programs contribute to the morale of the student body and strengthen school-community relations.

To this end, the Board encourages district patrons to exhibit good sportsmanship, citizenship, ethics and integrity at all district events and at all times while on district grounds. The district will work with the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) and other organizations to promote good behavior by patrons at athletic and other events. The Board will work with parents/guardians, alumni associations and local service organizations to keep appropriate behavior a top priority. The superintendent will establish procedures for crowd control at district events consistent with this policy.

#### **Disruptive Conduct**

If a visitor's conduct becomes disruptive, threatening or violent, the superintendent, principal or a designee of either may require the visitor to leave. The superintendent or designee may inform the visitor that he or she is not welcome back on district property or at district events indefinitely or for a specific period of time. During any period of prohibition, the visitor will not be allowed on district property. The superintendent may make exceptions for parents, guardians or custodians of students enrolled in the

district if the person's presence is necessary to transport the student or may benefit the student educationally, or in situations where the parent, guardian or custodian will be supervised at all times. The superintendent may make an exception for visitors to attend a meeting of the Board or its committees but is not obligated to do so. This paragraph does not apply if the person is otherwise prohibited or banned from district property by other sections of this policy.

### **Enforcement**

If a visitor prohibited from district property or events under this policy is on district property, district staff will contact law enforcement and/or escort the person from district grounds and inform the person of the district policy prohibiting his or her presence.

The superintendent, principal or a designee of either may file a report or sign a complaint with law enforcement on behalf of the district. The Board grants the superintendent or designee the authority to consult an attorney for guidance or to seek a court order banning the visitor from district property. A visitor denied access to district property may communicate with the Board in writing but will not be allowed back onto district property unless allowed by the Board.

The Board encourages parents and other members of the public to visit district buildings and attend district events and activities; however, inappropriate behavior or conduct will not be tolerated.

### **VISITORS TO DISTRICT PROPERTY/EVENTS - (Public Conduct on District Property)**

Examples of inappropriate conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance.
2. Possessing a weapon in violation of Board policy.
3. Violating Board policy or the posted or stated rules of the event.
4. Fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person.
5. Failing to obey the instructions of a security official or school district employee.
6. Engaging in any illegal or disruptive activity.

The superintendent may seek to deny future admission onto district property to any person by verbally notifying them or mailing a notice by first-class mail *and* by certified mail with return receipt requested. The notice should contain:

1. A description of the conduct.
2. The proposed time period for which admission to district events will be denied.
3. Instructions regarding the procedure for requesting to address the Board.

The superintendent is not obligated to make exceptions, but may allow visitors otherwise prohibited from being on district property to be on district property for the limited purposes of:

1. Attending open public meetings of the Board of Education and its committees.
2. Transporting his or her child to and from school and school activities.
3. Attending scheduled conferences or meetings with district personnel pertaining to the visitor's child.

The superintendent will notify appropriate district staff of any individuals who are prohibited from being on district property, including the dates of the ban and any applicable exceptions.

Once a decision has been made to ban a person from district property, the superintendent, building principal or designee is authorized to file a trespassing complaint with local law enforcement if the person enters district property.

### **Dual Sport Participation**

A student may choose to participate in two sports during one season. If a student wishes to compete as a dual sport athlete he/she must have submitted their completed dual sport participation contract before contests have begun. The two head coaches of each sport will meet with the student and his or her parents/guardians to review what requirements/expectations are needed to be met by the student in order to participate in both sports. A primary sport will be selected and maintained as the primary sport for the duration of that season. The student must declare the primary sport before the first contest of the secondary sport. Special circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis. The student, parents, and coaches will sign a Dual Sport Participation Contract prior to attending any dual sport practices/events.

Once a primary sport has been chosen, the student is expected to attend the events for the primary sport when a conflict arises. If students have two contests on the same day, and are equal competition level, students are asked to attend his/her primary sport. It will be understood by all coaches and sponsors that conference, district, sectional, and state contests or events; take precedence over a contest or event that is a lower level event. If there are scheduling conflicts, students should communicate with their coach or sponsor and are expected to attend the priority contest or event. If there is a compromise to be made among coaches and sponsors, to allow students to participate in both; it will be up to each individual coach or sponsor to communicate with each other, the student, and their parents. If a student quits their primary sport he/she must meet with both coaches to determine possible playing status for the secondary sport.

### **Substance (Drug) Abuse Testing Program**

The parent or guardian and the student athlete will be required to sign a written consent for random drug testing prior to participating in the athletic program. Board Policy JFCI fully explains the district policy and will be provided to you upon request.

The following groups will have a mandatory drug testing procedure: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Track, Volleyball, and Manager/statistics for each activity.

### **Drug Testing Policy/Procedure (see Board policy JFCI and Procedure JFCI-AP (1))**

#### **I. General Procedures for All Student Drug Testing**

##### ***Sample Collection***

Urine samples will be collected using a method intended to minimize the intrusiveness of the procedure. The superintendent or designee will appoint a same-sex employee or contracted test administrator (the monitor) to accompany the student to a bathroom or locker room. The student will provide the sample

behind a closed stall door. The monitor shall supervise the collection from outside the closed stall door, listening for normal sounds of urination. The monitor shall also verify the warmth and appearance of the specimen. If at any time the monitor suspects the sample is being tampered with, the monitor may end the collection process and notify the superintendent or designee, who will determine whether a new sample should be obtained.

### ***Protection of Information (Privacy)***

Each randomly selected student will be assigned a specimen number that shall serve as the identifier for all materials sent to the lab. The student and his or her parent/guardian shall have access to the specimen number. Either immediately before or shortly after sample collection, students selected for testing will provide to the district, in a sealed envelope, a list of any medications they have taken in the last 30 days, including legally prescribed and over-the-counter medications. The parent/guardian is responsible for submitting a separate list to the district, also in a sealed envelope, of medications the student has taken within the last 30 days, which will be used by the testing facility for confirmation purposes in the event of a positive test result. The sealed envelopes will only be opened in the event of a positive test result. If the sample does not test positive, the envelopes will be shredded without being opened.

The laboratory will report positive test results directly to the superintendent or designee. The superintendent or designee will only notify the student, the appropriate extracurricular sponsor, the parent/guardian of the student and other persons the superintendent or designee determines need to know the information to implement district policies or procedures. All files pertaining to drug testing will be kept confidential and separate from the student's other education records, and only school personnel with a need to know the information will have access to the information.

### ***Positive Test Results***

If a positive test result occurs, the result will be verified on the same specimen. Following a confirmed positive result, the student and his or her parent/guardian shall be given the opportunity to submit additional information to the district administration or the laboratory. The district may consult with the laboratory in determining whether the positive result was caused by something other than the consumption of prohibited substances.

## **II. Random Drug Testing**

### ***Notification and Consent***

An orientation session shall be held before the commencement of random drug testing to inform students and parents/guardians of the sample collection process, privacy arrangements and the drug testing procedures that will be used. Students wishing to participate in extracurricular activities shall receive a copy of the drug testing policy and related administrative procedures. Additionally, each student shall be required to return a signed drug testing consent form to the coach or activity sponsor by the beginning date for practice or interscholastic contest established by MSHSAA. If there is no established beginning date for practice for the activity, the signed consent form must be returned within five calendar days of the first participation day. A signed consent form shall be valid for all covered activities and will remain effective until revoked in writing by the parent/guardian. Students who do not return the signed consent form shall not be allowed to participate in covered activities.

### ***Random Selection***

The district will randomly select five percent of participating students for drug testing periodically throughout the school year. The random selection process will result in an equal probability that any participating student could be chosen. District employees shall not have the authority to waive the testing of any student selected using the random selection process.



### ***Testing***

Samples shall be tested for THC/marijuana, benzodiazepines, cocaine/benzoylecgonine, amphetamines, barbiturates, phencyclidine, methamphetamine, opiates/morphine, alcohol and performance-enhancing drugs, including anabolic steroids. Samples will not be screened for the existence of any physical conditions other than prohibited drug and alcohol use.

### ***Consequences***

Following a confirmed positive test result, the superintendent or designee will immediately suspend the student from all covered activities and will schedule a conference with the student, the parent/guardian and the extracurricular sponsor. Offenses accumulate throughout grades nine through twelve. Depending on the timing of the drug test, the student may be excluded from participation in activities at the end of the school year, over the summer and/or into the beginning of the next school year.

**First Offense** – The first time a student tests positive under the random drug testing program, the student shall be suspended from participation in all covered activities for a minimum of 30 participation days and must pass a drug test administered by the district prior to participating in covered activities again.

**Second Offense** – Students with two positive test results for drugs or alcohol will be prohibited from participating in all covered activities for a minimum of 90 participation days and must pass a district-administered drug test district prior to participating in covered activities again.

**Third Offense** – Students with three positive test results will be prohibited from participating in all covered activities for the rest of their enrollment with the district.

### ***Refusal to Submit or Falsifying Results***

A student refuses to submit for drug testing when he or she fails to provide adequate urine for testing when notified of the need to do so or engages in conduct that clearly obstructs the testing process. A participating student who refuses to submit to drug testing or who takes deliberate action to falsify results will be suspended from all covered activities for one calendar year and will forfeit eligibility for all awards and honors given for covered activities from which the student was suspended.

### ***Self-Reporting***

When a student, of his or her own volition, self-reports consuming drugs or alcohol in violation of district policy to an administrator, coach or extracurricular sponsor before receiving notification that he or she will be tested, that student shall be allowed to continue to participate in covered activities under the same restrictions imposed on a student who had an initial positive test even if the student had tested positive previously. A self-report is considered the same as testing positive for the purpose of future positive tests. A student may only take advantage of self-reporting once between ninth and twelfth grade.

## **III. Suspicion-Based Drug Testing**

A student may be required to submit to a drug test when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of or has recently consumed alcohol or any drug prohibited by district policy. Staff members will report such suspicions to the building administrator or designee as soon as possible. The building administrator or designee will determine if reasonable suspicion exists. The district's attorney may be consulted as necessary.

### ***Consequences***

Students who test positive under this section will be disciplined in accordance with the district's discipline code and may also be temporarily or permanently excluded from all district extracurricular activities in accordance with other district policies or practices.

***Refusal to Submit or Falsifying Results***

A student refuses to submit for drug testing when he or she fails to provide adequate urine for testing when notified of the need to do so or engages in conduct that clearly obstructs the testing process. A student who refuses to submit to testing or takes deliberate action to falsify results may still be disciplined under the district's discipline code for being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. A student who takes deliberate action to falsify results may also receive additional disciplinary consequences

## ACTIVITIES COMMITMENT FORM

I acknowledge receipt of, and have studied and understand, the Smithton R-VI School District's Athletic/Activity Handbook. I agree to abide by these rules and those of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. I understand that all athletics/activities involve certain risks.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name: (Please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING PARTICIPATION CONSENT FORM

I have read the District policy concerning random substance abuse testing and agree to participate in the testing program. I understand that my/our signature(s) below authorize(s) the District to obtain a urine sample from the student whose signature appears below, if his/her name is selected as part of the random selection procedures described in the District policy. I also agree to authorize the substance abuse testing company contracted by the District to perform a substance abuse test on the urine sample for the presence of illegal substances or performance enhancing drugs. I/we also understand that if a "positive" test results, that I/we may need to disclose to the MRO (Medical Review Officer) any over-the-counter or prescription medications the student is or has taken.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date