

ATHLETIC POLICIES FOR THE STUDENT ATHLETE

Eden Consolidated Independent School District

Participation in the athletic program and/or University Interscholastic League contest is not a right but a PRIVILEGE. No student is required to take part in the contests or activities. Therefore, it is imperative that all students taking part in the program understand the following athletic code and conform to the rules therein, and that the coaches of the sport or activities and the Athletic Director shall have every right to remove these privileges.

It is extremely important that everyone understands that situations do arise from time to time and not every situation is listed in the handbook to follow. When this happens the coaching staff, and athletic director, with the assistance of the campus principal, will work together to make the best decision for the program involved.

General Policies for Eden CISD Athletes

1. Academics come first! We as coaches and student athletes must attempt to motivate each student/athlete to maintain his/her grades. "No Pass-No Play" is state law. The primary objective of all students is to gain an education. Academic progress and conduct in the classroom are very important and will be checked periodically.
2. Don't miss school, don't miss practice! Every day is a learning process for every team. Coaches and players are dependent on everyone's participation. If you do miss, you will make up for the work missed.
3. Practice clothing or equipment that is issued to athletes must be kept at the school and brought to every practice. We want to instill the team concept and need everyone to be dressed as similar as possible. Individualism will not be tolerated.
4. School issued clothes or equipment are not to be worn outside of practice or team activities.
5. If you lose anything that belongs to the school, you will be required to reimburse the school for the cost of the item.

Expectations of Athletes

1. Be in control of your life.
2. Be a good family member.
3. Strive to get a good education.
4. Work hard in practice.
5. Play hard in games.
6. Be loyal to your teammates, coaches, and school.
7. Be a class person.
8. Show character at all times.
9. Be enthusiastic.
10. Respond to adversity.

What You Can Expect from Your Coaching Staff

1. Coaches that care about you as a person.
2. Coaches that are quality teachers.
3. Coaches that have class and character.
4. Coaches that will do whatever work is necessary to succeed.
5. Coaches that will discipline you.
6. Coaches that will be loyal to you.
7. Coaches that will respect you.
8. Coaches that are proud to be a part of the Eden CISD Athletic program.
9. Coaches that are here for your benefit.
10. Coaches that will always be honest and fair with you.

Playing Time

At the sub-varsity level every player will play in every game unless a player fails to maintain expectations regarding behavior, academics, or practice attendance. It is not required that each player play the same amount of time. At the varsity level, playing time is 100% at the coach's discretion and is never negotiable.

On the Field or Court

The athlete must never use profanity or resort to illegal tactics. He/she must learn that both winning and losing are part of the game and that you have to be a good loser as well as a gracious winner. Temper fits, flagrant violations of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Total respect to officials is an absolute must. Only the coach will discuss the calls made by officials. Any behavior contrary to the above mentioned or any other act which is not conducive to good sportsmanship may result in removal from the contest and possible expulsion from the team.

Practice Regulations

1. A coach must be consulted ahead of time if any athlete must miss a practice or game. Missing a game or practice without permission may result in suspension or removal from the team.
2. Obey all rules set up by the coach.
3. Profanity will not be tolerated.
4. Poor effort will not be tolerated.

Travel

All athletes in junior schools and high schools represent the communities, school, and coaches. Therefore, it is expected that all will dress in an acceptable manner on trips and conduct

themselves in a manner in keeping with this code. Violations may result in suspension and possible expulsion for the team or program.

1. Be on time for all trips.
2. Dress neatly as directed by the coach.
3. Be mannerly in restaurants.
4. Show respect for the opposing teams and facilities. Make sure not to abuse dressing areas in any way.
5. All athletes making trip on the bus are strongly encouraged to ride home with the team. Players may ride home with their parents if it is out of their way to pick up their athlete at the school or under extenuating circumstances. In this case they will be allowed to ride home with their parents as long as parents sign them out.

Suspension from School

If an athlete is suspended from school for any reason, he/she will be ineligible from all activities during the period of suspension.

Classroom Behavior

Athletes who are habitual problems in the classroom and receive repeated poor conduct grades may be suspended from a team on a temporary basis or permanently if the problem continues.

Athletic Periods

The athletic period is considered a class period and will be treated as such. All students must attend their respective athletic period each day. Any student who participates in a sport at ECISD must be in an athletic period. The only exception will be for lifetime sports which are: Cross Country, Tennis, Golf.

Parent Conferences

Parents who wish to have a conference with the coaching staff must set the meeting up through the high school office. Coaches and parents are only allowed to have conferences during school hours unless otherwise approved by an administrator. The conference will not take place without the presence of an administrator and will not take place immediately before or after a game. The following topics will not be discussed:

1. Playing time
2. Other students or athletes
3. Game strategy

Miscellaneous

The following rules apply to all athletes at all times during his/her school career.

1. No use or distribution of illegal drugs (marijuana, narcotics, etc.)
2. No involvement in criminal activity of any kind.
3. No use or possession of alcohol.

With the first offense the student-athlete will run twenty miles before he/she is allowed to play in a game. This running must be done outside of practice time and must be witnessed by a Eden CISD coach. If a second offense occurs during the school year the student-athlete will be required to run forty miles before participating in a game. This will stand as the last warning and if a third offense occurs the student-athlete will be removed from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

Theft

Taking things from other players, schools, etc., will not be tolerated. Punishment will be handled individually and may result in expulsion from all athletic activities for up to one calendar year from the date of the incident. At the end of one calendar year from the date of the incident all parties concerned may review the case, and his/her conduct during the previous year will determine reinstatement into the athletic program.

Injuries

All high school athletic injuries must be reported to the Head Coach of that sport within 24 hours. If you need to see a physician, you must notify a coach so an accident report and insurance claim form can be filled out prior to your doctor's visit. Injured students will be excused from participating in their athletic period for ONE DAY with a parent note. Injured students MUST have a written doctor's note to be excused from participating in their athletic period for an extended amount of time. Students will also need a doctor's "release" note before they are allowed to rejoin the athletic period. Injured students will still be required to "dress out" and be with the rest of the class. Students who do not have a parent note or a doctor's note will be required to participate in their athletic period.

Quitting the Team

Think hard before you decide to go out for a sport. Athletics takes a lot of hard work, time, and dedication. A student has 12 days from the first day of the season to practice with a team, without consequence, if they decide to leave the team. Any participant who quits a sport after the 12 day "grace period" will not be allowed to participate in any other sport until the season has ended in the sport, which he/she quit. The only exception to this will be if he/she quits upon the recommendation of the coach. An athlete will be reinstated to the athletic program only with

the approval of the Athletic Director and the head coaches involved. The athlete must receive approval and then make up the work that was missed before he/she will be reinstated in the program. He or she must also run twenty miles that is monitored by a ECISD coach before they can participate in the next sport.

Conflict Resolution

The Athletic Department is here to provide athletes the opportunity to develop physically, emotionally and socially while competing in a individual and team setting. We will do whatever it takes in working with parents to achieve that goal. If an issue or conflict ever arises, please give due diligence to the department communication protocol:

1. Question your child for clarification.
2. Speak with the Head Coach of the team.
3. Speak with the Head Coach of the program.
4. Speak with the Athletic Director.

Discipline

No athlete can do his/her best without self-discipline. A great deal of self-sacrifice is involved. At times, it becomes necessary for discipline to come from the coach. It is the coach's responsibility to maintain team discipline. There are three levels of discipline to be used in our program, depending upon the nature, severity, or recurrence of the problem. It is our intent to be extremely fair and consistent with our athletes. If you have a question, contact the coach or Athletic Director.

Types of Disciplinary Action

1. Extra Duty – This would be defined as any extra “conditioning” with the purpose of disciplining an athlete. This would include, but is not limited to, extra running, bear crawls, flipping tires, pushing towels, etc. The type and amount of extra duty is at the discretion of the coach of that sport.
2. Probation/Suspension from the sport for a specified time.
3. Suspension from the athletic program

Parents will be notified in cases involving suspension. Every effort will be made to head off any problem before it becomes serious enough for suspension. However, serious misconduct or use of illicit drugs will result in immediate suspension.

Summary

The Eden CISD Athletic Policy is not intended to be all encompassing. Coaches, under the direction of the Athletic Director, shall have the right and responsibility of dealing with individual discipline problems on a case-by-case basis. All disciplinary situations will be handled as consistently and fairly as possible.

Athletes will not be allowed to participate in games until they have satisfied the requirements of their punishment. Punishment will begin after all appeals to the proper authorities have been exhausted.

This policy is in effect from beginning of the athlete's enrollment in the Eden CISD Athletic Department and ends after they have completed their athletic eligibility. Please note that only the minimum punishment is shown. If an offense is considered to be extremely severe or flagrant, the punishment may be stronger (more running, game suspensions, etc.)

Athletic Policy Acknowledgement

Eden CISD

I understand and consent to the responsibilities outlined in the Eden CISD Athletic Policy. I also understand and agree that my child, _____, shall be held accountable for the behavior and consequences outlined in the Eden CISD Athletic Policy. I understand that any athlete who violates the policy codes shall be subject to disciplinary action. I also understand that my child will not participate in any game or scrimmage until this sheet is signed and turned in to the coaches.

I, (athlete's printed name) _____, agree to adhere to the above rules and regulations concerning the Eden CISD Athletic Department. I understand that failure to do so at any time will result in the disciplinary actions stated above.

Athlete's Signature

I, (parent/guardian's printed name _____), the parent (or guardian) of the above named athlete, understand the rules and regulations stated above and will, to the best of my ability, guide our athlete to adhere to these rules.

Parent or Guardian's Signature