
It is a privilege to represent the Whitney Point Central Schools. This document is inclusive of all students involved in athletics. The student's first responsibility is to represent the school, extra-curricular programs and community with honesty and integrity. This Code of Ethics and Conduct is designed to assist students to participating at their optimum level as well as give the structure necessary to succeed later on in life. Students perform at their best when they are in peak mental, emotional and physical condition. All students and their parents/guardians are expected to recognize the need and importance of following our Code of Ethics and Conduct.

The Code of Ethics and Conduct is part of the minimum sports standards. In the case of a coach establishing certain rules or guidelines above and beyond the minimum, these will be committed to writing and distributed to all participants.

This Extracurricular Code of Ethics and Conduct is in effect for the entire school year. August – June.

Behavior expectations for students:

Students who participate in interscholastic athletics represent themselves, their team, and Whitney Point Central School District during and out of the season. Athletes should demonstrate character, competence, civility and citizenship by:

- Exhibiting good sportsmanship and attitude on and off the field/court/ pool/track, etc.
- Being a law-abiding citizen.
- Abstaining from bullying and hazing.
- Refraining from vulgar language and obscene gestures.
- Treating coaches, advisors, officials, teammates, parent/guardians, spectators, adults and opponents with respect.
- Attending and remain at all practices, contests and events unless excused by the coach/advisor.
- Refraining from inappropriate use of cell phones and social media sites.
- Showing respect for the property of others which includes Whitney Point facilities and equipment, buses and the facilities/equipment of opposing schools and or venues.

Should a student violate one of the above expectations the consequences will be determined by the coach/advisor and/or the Director of Athletics, and/or Building Principal.

Attendance

Attendance in school is essential for academic success. All athletes should be in school for the entire day.

- Students may not practice or participate in a contest if he/she is absent from school on the day.
- If arriving late to school, in order to participate in a practice or a contest, a student must have a legal excuse like a doctor's appointment, college visit, funeral or educational field trip.
- Any student arriving after 8:30 am due to illness or unexcused tardy or absence may not attend practice or the contest that day.
- Students may not practice or participate in contest on non-school day if he/she was absent or late after 8:30 am on the previous school day.
- Being absent for special situation or extenuating circumstances need to have to an administrator's approval.

Physical Education

Athletics is an outgrowth of the Physical Education program. N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. regulations state that a student must be enrolled in physical education to participate in athletics. Those students demonstrating competencies in psychomotor, cognitive and affective skills and strategies are encouraged to participate in sports.

- If the student athlete does not participate in physical education class, he or she may not practice or participate in the contest that day.

Training Rules

Training rules are expectations set by the coach for each specific team to help prepare student athletes to be physically, mentally and emotionally prepared for that particular sport.

- Student athletes should abide by the training rules established by the coach for that sport in season.
- Student athletes not following the training rules may be subject to consequences.

Unexcused absence from practice/contest

Athletic success is improved when student athletes are in attendance to practices and contests. If a student is in school it is the expectation that they will attend practice unless sent home sick by the school nurse or have parental/guardian permission and the coach is notified. Having other student athletes notify the coach is not acceptable.

- Should a student miss practice the day before a contest (excused) there may be coaching decisions regarding the line-up of who may start the contest. If it is determined that a student has an unexcused absence the day prior to a contest student may not be able to participate.
- When student athletes commit to athletics, he/she should assume that practices and/or contest may take place over school vacations. The student athlete and parent/guardians must notify the coach if he/she will not be in attendance. The student athlete needs to recognize and understand that at the discretion of the coach, participation and playing time may be affected by missed practices or contests due to vacations or other non-school functions.

Changing of Sports

Student athletes are encourage to make a commitment to the team for the entire length of the season. A student athlete can only participate in one interscholastic team per sports season. If cut from one team they may join another team if there were no try-outs within the first week of the sports season.

- Student athletes who are quitting a team must notify the coach and have parental consent.
- Any student quitting the team must meet with the athletic director to be eligible to participate in the next sport season.

Releasing a Student Athlete from a Team

At times it is in the best interest of the athletic program and student athlete to release him/her from the team.

- If a student athlete received an amicable release from his/her coach, no further action is required and the athletic director and parents/guardians are notified
- If a student athlete is released for not following the athletic code of eithcs and conduct or team training rules the athletic director will review with the student athlete the reason for termination and parents/guardians will be notified.

School Suspensions

- Any student athlete involved in out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to practice or play in athletic contests during the duration of the suspension. Additional consequences may be applied if necessary.
- Any student involved in-school suspension will not be allowed to practice or play in athletic contests during the duration of the suspension. Additional consequences may be applied if necessary.

Sports Physicals

- No student may practice or participate in any interscholastic athletics until the school physician has approved them. Sports physicals will be given and approved by the school doctor. Students not wishing to take a physical exam with school's

designated physician may see their family physician for review by the school doctor. The sport physical will be valid for a period of 12 months from the date of the exam in that sport season. In addition to a physical, an updated health inventory form must be completed prior to each season by the school nurse before any student athlete is allowed to participate.

Transportation

Transportation is provided to student athletes to and from contests to ensure their safety. It is important student athletes follow the transportation expectation and not engage in misconduct.

- Student athletes may leave with their parent or guardian following an athletic event after conferring with his/her coach and signing off on the authorization form.
- Any athlete may ride to the contest with a parent if athletic director and coach are notified three days in advance in writing.
- An athlete may be allowed to ride to or from an away contest with another adult provided notification is given to the coach and athletic director three days in advance in writing. Student athletes with approval leaving with an adult must still sign out on the authorization form.

Athletic Equipment and Uniforms

Athletic equipment and uniforms are issued to teams for sports identification, guideline and safety. Student athletes are responsible for all school issued uniforms and equipment. All school issued uniforms and equipment must be returned to the coach in reasonable condition in a timely manner at the conclusion of the season.

- A student athlete will not be eligible to participate in the next athletic season until all parts of the uniform and equipment are returned.
- Student athletes will be financially responsible for any school issued items not returned.

Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco

In order to function at maximum performance levels, athletes are expected to maintain optimal health and physical condition. Student athletes will be able to reach these optimal levels through an athletic training program. The use of any drugs can compromise student athletes' ability to reach his/her full athletic potential. All suspensions for violations for Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco will carry over from season to season (including spring to fall). This will include middle school students transitioning to the high school.

For these reasons, the use or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs/paraphernalia, tobacco products or other illicit substances publicly or privately are prohibited. These products are illegal for minors and can create serious health problems.

A student athlete attending social gatherings where alcohol, illegal drugs/paraphernalia, tobacco products are illegally present must leave the situation within a reasonable time

learning of their presence. Any student athlete who remains present will be subject to consequences.

Any athlete who is part of any identifiable image of a photo or video which establishes that the student athlete is manufacturing, using, possessing or distributing tobacco, alcoholic beverages or controlled substances will be subject to consequences.

- First violation- period of suspension during the athletic season.
- Second violation- removal from the team for that athletic season. Athletes will not be recognized at the end of the season as a member of the team.
- Third violation- suspension from all extracurricular participation for 1 calendar year.
- Fourth violation- suspended from further participation in the extra-curricular program for the remainder of the students high school career.

N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A Section IV Misconduct Policy

Section IV believes that the purpose of interscholastic athletics is to help promote sportsmanship and also believes that coaches, athletes and officials should set examples by their behavior. Any coaches or players should refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct. Any specific act of misconduct of the kind described herein by any coach or player from the modified level through varsity level in any sports shall result in action by Section IV.

Any school whose coach or player is ejected from an interscholastic competition for having used profanity, engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, or who physically assaults an official shall be sanctioned for such conduct.

Cross ref:

7421 – Minimum Sports Standards
7422 - Academic Eligibility Policy
5730 - Transportation of Students Policy

Updated: 11/19/2013