

Belton Independent School District



Extracurricular Code of Conduct

Belton ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct

Statement of Expectations

BISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the District whether or not they are actively performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and whether or not they are wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as BISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total BISD student body at all times and places.

I. Extracurricular activities

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, clubs, special interest clubs, co-curricular fine arts performances, career and technical student organizations, student government and any other activities or group that participates in contests, competition, community service projects on behalf of or as representatives of BISD. The term includes any non-curricular event or membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized or approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district and sponsored by the district or campus.

II. Jurisdiction

Belton ISD has a high standard for the personal conduct of all of its members and participants of extracurricular activities. This includes behavior on school trips, during contests, in the classroom, while at practice, and in the community. In addition to consequences imposed through the Belton ISD Student Code of Conduct, students participating in extra-curricular activities, who do not exhibit satisfactory conduct may face consequences deemed appropriate by the director/head coach/sponsor, which could include suspension or removal from teams.

*****The Random Drug Testing Program policy and consequences supersede this document.**

This Extracurricular Code of Conduct will be enforced with all students grades 6th – 12th participating in extracurricular activities regardless of:

- Whether school is in session;
- Whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- Whether the extracurricular activity is in-season;

- Where or when the conduct occurs.

III. Prohibited Conduct

BISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from the following:

- Knowingly possessing or drinking alcoholic beverages;
- Knowingly possessing or consuming illegal drugs or possessing or using any drug paraphernalia;
- Knowingly misusing prescription drugs or non-prescription drugs or other mood-altering substances;
- Attending or remaining at any activity after becoming aware that illegal alcohol consumption is occurring at the activity;
- Attending or remaining at any activity after becoming aware that illegal drugs are present or being used at the activity;
- Attending or remaining at any activity after becoming aware that prescription or nonprescription drugs are being misused, or where other mood-altering substances are being used at the activity.

A student will be found to have “remained” at an event, if the student actively engages in the event or fails to promptly take steps to leave the event as reasonable under the circumstances.

IV. Criminal Activity

Any student arrested for any criminal activity during or outside of school hours, will be suspended from extracurricular activities pending an investigation. At the conclusion of the investigation, it will be determined if the student will be allowed to remain in the activity by the coach/sponsor/ director.

V. Consequences

First Offense

The penalty for a first offense is suspension from current or nearest competitive season or activity for a minimum of 20% of the competitions and or performances. In addition, if the student holds an office (or title of authority), elected or appointed, the student will be suspended from the office for the duration of the activity suspension.

Elected or appointed offices will include, but not be limited to, captains and player committee members of athletic teams, student council officers, cheerleader officers, drill team officers and lieutenants, club officers, and officers of athletic teams.

All or some of the following additional penalties may also be imposed at the discretion of the Coach/Sponsor/Director or Campus Administrator:

- Suspension from all extracurricular activities until thirty (30) hours of community service approved by the Coach/Sponsor/Director are completed. The community service will not count toward graduation requirements and will be directly related to alcohol and drug abuse prevention and/or education.
- Completion of sport/activity specific skill improvement drills to be determined by the coach, director, or sponsor.
- Referral of the student and/or the parents to an alcohol or drug awareness program and the successful completion of that program. Completion of the program may not have to be a requirement for reinstatement if satisfactory progress is being made.
- If the student holds an office, elected or appointed, the student may be removed from the office for the remainder of the school year.
- Other penalties or requirements deemed appropriate by a discipline panel, including removal from the extra-curricular activity.

Second Offense

The penalties for a second offense are:

- Mandatory suspension from the current or nearest competitive season for a period of 6 weeks or 50% of the scheduled competitions and or performances, whichever is greater.
- Mandatory removal from all appointed or elected offices. Upon completion of the suspension, the student may participate in extracurricular activities but may not serve as an officer or be appointed to an office for the remainder of the school year.

All or some of the following additional penalties may also be imposed at the discretion of the Coach/Sponsor/Director or Campus Administrator:

- Suspension from all extracurricular activities until thirty (30) hours of community service approved by the Coach/Sponsor/Director are completed. The community service will not count toward graduation requirements and will be directly related to alcohol and drug abuse prevention and/or education.
- Completion of sport/activity specific skill improvement drills to be determined by the coach, director or sponsor.
- Referral of the student and/or the parents to an alcohol or drug awareness program and the successful completion of that program. Completion of the program may not have to be a requirement for reinstatement if satisfactory progress is being made.

- If the student holds an office, elected or appointed, the student may be removed from the office for the remainder of the school year.
- Other penalties or requirements deemed appropriate by a discipline panel, including removal from the extra-curricular activity.

Third Offense

The penalty for a third offense is mandatory suspension from all extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year.

After a one-year period, the coach/sponsor/director and administration will determine reinstatement. Reinstatement will be based on such things as academic record, attendance, behavior record, and any other information deemed appropriate.

Mandatory removal from all elected or appointed offices for one calendar year. The student will also be prohibited from running for or holding any new office during such a calendar year.

Cumulative offenses will be determined during two periods, grades 6 – 8, and beginning again in grades 9 – 12. Conduct will only be considered a subsequent offense if the conduct occurred after the consequences for the conduct forming the basis for the first offense were imposed.

All or some of the following additional penalties may also be imposed at the discretion of the Coach/Sponsor/Director or Campus Administrator:

- Suspension from all extracurricular activities until thirty (30) hours of community service approved by the Coach/Sponsor/Director are completed. The community service will not count toward graduation requirements and will be directly related to alcohol and drug abuse prevention and/or education.
- Completion of sport/activity specific skill improvement drills to be determined by the coach, director or sponsor.
- Referral of the student and/or the parents to an alcohol or drug awareness program and the successful completion of that program. Completion of the program may not have to be a requirement for reinstatement if satisfactory progress is being made.
- If the student holds an office, elected or appointed, the student may be removed from the office for the remainder of the school year.
- Other penalties or requirements deemed appropriate by the discipline panel, including removal from the extra-curricular activity.

VI. Procedures

The following administrative procedures have been adopted by Belton ISD to address violations of the Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct. Administrators, coaches, sponsors, and directors will review the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular event and determine appropriate disciplinary actions. The final decision will be that of the department director.

- Coaches and sponsors will report violations of this policy, including self-reports, to the student's administration. Likewise, the administration will notify the student's coach or sponsor of a reported violation of this policy.
- If a report is made, the coach, sponsor, director, or administrator will take reasonable steps to keep the identity of the reporter confidential, but confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. For tips received through the Anonymous Alert system, the administration will take reasonable steps to collect more information; however, investigations may not be feasible if limited information is reported.
- Only violations that come to the attention of school officials within one (1) calendar year of the conduct in question will be subject to sanctions under this Code. Timely reported violations will be investigated by school personnel starting with the next scheduled school day after the report, when feasible.
- Campus administration/coaches/sponsors/directors will review the facts and circumstances surrounding an alleged violation to determine whether a violation of this Code occurred. All sources of information, including hearsay, rumor, photographs and information posted on the Internet, including social networking sites, may be considered by the administration to determine if a violation of this code has occurred.
- The student and the student's parent/guardian will be given the opportunity to discuss the facts and circumstances involved in the alleged violation with the administration, coach sponsor, or director before a decision is made as to whether a violation occurred and the consequences are applied.
- If the administration determines that a student violated the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, the following individuals will be notified:
 - The student and the student's parent or guardian;
 - The coaches and/or the sponsors of all extracurricular activities in which the student is currently involved or is expected to be involved during the period of the suspension or removal from extracurricular activities
- In determining the appropriate disciplinary consequence to be imposed for a violation of this Code, the coach, sponsor, director, or administrator will take into consideration:
 - The seriousness of the offense;
 - Whether the safety and well-being of the student and/or others were put at risk by the conduct;
 - Whether any citations issued or other actions taken by law enforcement;

- The extent of the student's participation in the event;
- Whether the student self-reported the offense;
- The cooperation of the student and the parents in the investigation; and
- The student's prior academic and disciplinary record

VII. Appeal

The students or the student's parent or guardian has the right to appeal the decision of the coach, sponsor, or director. Please reference FNG(LOCAL) for the appeal process.

Disciplinary consequences will not be deferred pending the outcome of an appeal, and formal grievances regarding involving extracurricular activities will not be heard by the Board of Trustees, unless grievances allege a violation of Chapter 26 of the Texas Education Code.

This page must be signed by both the student and parent/legal guardian of the student and returned to the coach or activity sponsor before the student can participate in the activity.

Signing this sheet signifies that the student and parent/legal guardian of the student has read and understands the procedures and consequences determined for a violation of the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

Student's Name (please print): _____

Student's Signature: _____

Parent/legal guardian (please print): _____

Signature of Parent/legal guardian: _____

Date: _____

School: _____

Grade Level: _____

This signature page must be signed and turned in to the offices of the Coaches, Sponsor, or Director prior to any practice or competition.