

Deer Park High School  
*Student Athletic Handbook*  
2011 - 2012



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## **DEER PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR PHILOSOPHY**

The extra-curricular program in the Deer Park School District is extra-curricular only in the sense that student involvement is voluntary, and to a great extent, requires the investment of considerable teacher and student time outside the regular school day. Otherwise, there is little distinction between extra-curricular and other educational opportunities offered by the District. Extra-curricular activities are an indispensable part of a total educational program.

It is the philosophy of the extra-curricular program to always relate to the general public, students, fellow faculty and other school districts in a courteous, helpful and professional manner. The extra-curricular staff should always consider the impact that staff behavior has on the students and community and should always strive to work with both in a positive manner.

It is the philosophy of the extra-curricular program to allow and encourage as much student participation as possible. While it is recognized that the program should encourage all students to become involved, it also recognizes that each individual needs to feel that he/she is an integral part of the program. The integrity of the program will be maintained to meet individual needs as well as group needs.

Finally, it is the responsibility of the school district to provide extra-curricular programs that are responsive to the general goals and objectives of the community. The district, to the best of its ability, should provide the staff adequate equipment, facilities and training to accomplish its philosophical base. It will be necessary to coordinate with the community and its resources for an integrated and responsive program.

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

#### **It is the Duty of All Concerned with School Athletics:**

- To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
- To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
- To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
- To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
- To establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts.
- To respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
- To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
- To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well being of the individual players.
- To encourage leadership, use initiative, and good judgment by the players on the team.
- To remember that an athletic contest is only a game -- not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, official, fan, community state or nation.

## GOALS

- All athletic teams shall comply with the laws of the State and Federal governments applicable to athletics.
- Interscholastic athletics in the Deer Park School District shall adhere to and comply with all regulations prescribed for the secondary athletic programs by the W.I.A.A. and the Board of Directors of the Deer Park School District.
- The athletic programs in the Deer Park Schools shall aim for the development of good character, citizenship, academic achievement, and good health.
- The athletic programs in the Deer Park Schools shall be so structured to insure that participating students have an enjoyable and satisfying experience.
- The development of good sportsmanship and positive self-worth, as students represent their school, team and community, are of equal importance to the development of physical skills and winning contests.
- Participants in athletics shall be challenged to think and make decisions within the realm of team obligation, and to improve themselves as individuals in deeds and actions.
- Participants in athletics shall have equal opportunity for total development within the limits of their ability and the resources allocated by the district for athletics.
- Participants in athletics shall be encouraged to develop and adopt the positive moral values of the society.
- Participants in athletics shall be provided the opportunity for the satisfying experience of following rules of discipline and behavior necessary for the team success.
- The prime responsibility of coaches in the Deer Park Schools is that of an educator and they shall observe the standards inherent in public trust positions.
- The coach's influence shall not be limited to athletics but shall extend to other areas of the school operations involving student morale and student discipline.
- The athletic programs shall be broad-based and involve as many students as possible within the resources allocated to the athletic programs by the district.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The interscholastic athletic program is completely voluntary. Participation is not required for graduation, nor are athletic credits needed for college entrance. Involvement in the athletic program, however, does require extra effort and extra time, on a voluntary basis, beyond the regular school day. Although interscholastic athletics are voluntary, those participating do represent their student bodies and communities. Therefore, standards, including academic requirement, citizenship, sportsmanship, conduct and loyalty, shall be maintained at a high level. The total school program is reflected in the interscholastic athletic program.

The selection of team members is necessary. However, the selection of team members is not based solely upon athletic performance, but also upon attitudes, conduct, cooperation, loyalty, and an earnest and sincere desire by the student to participate on the team in a fashion that compliments the school and the community.

### **SECTION I - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The coaches and the administration at the high school believe there is a positive correlation between an athlete's performance and his/her adherence to specific training practices. Following are rules and regulations concerning interscholastic athletics for ALL of our student athletes at Deer Park High School.

The following rules and regulations apply only to a student athlete for a given sport season as defined as the first date of practice for that season until the last date of contest for that season or individual:

- A.** Each student athlete shall abstain from the use or possession of alcoholic beverages and drugs during a given sport season. If a student is in violation, the student will receive a two-week suspension from playing in games. The student will be allowed to practice during the two-week suspension. Expulsion will occur upon the second violation during the school year. If an athlete turns him/her self in for alcohol or drug use, they will receive one-week suspension. A second violation whether self reported or not will result in expulsion from sports during that school year. If an athlete attends a party where alcohol/drugs are being used and does not leave immediately the athlete will receive two-week suspension from all athletic contests. A second infraction of this regulation will result in expulsion from the team.
- B.** Each student athlete shall abstain from possession and/or use of tobacco (including chew) during a given sport season. At the high school, all infractions will receive a two-week suspension from playing in games. The student will be allowed to practice. Expulsion from the team will occur upon the second violation during one sport season.

- C. Any student athlete that admits to or is found guilty of a felony crime shall be expelled from the squad with the loss of letter.
- D. Reasonable attention to an appropriate diet is expected from each student athlete.
- E. Each respective coach shall establish his/her own curfew hours which student athletes are expected to adhere to during the sports season.
- F. Each student athlete is expected to be a good citizen in school, in the community and in all athletic contests.
- G. Each student athlete shall be in attendance at school, or school related activities, for the ENTIRE school day to participate or practice in a sport that day. The exception to this regulation is a signed excuse from the Principal or the Athletic Director, which is to be presented to the coach by the athlete, due to medical or bereavement reasons.
- H. The use of profane or obscene language and/or acts of vulgarity will not be tolerated.
- I. Each student athlete representing Deer Park High School is expected to exemplify the highest standards of good sportsmanship. Sportsmanship consists of those qualities of courteousness, fairness, and respectfulness to officials, teammates, opponents, coaches, and all others associated with the sport.
- J. A student suspended from school will be ineligible for the next athletic contest. If the contest occurs during the suspension time, this will satisfy this rule.
- K. School Board policy has established dress code expectations. In relation to the goals of the athletic program discussed on Page 3 (in particular goals 3 and 5), extracurricular activities, as a representative group of the school district, shall adhere to a dress code as established by board policy and procedure. Administrators shall only regulate students' dress when it is found to be contrary to the goals established by the district and the athletic program. Note: The Board has ruled that sports tops may not be worn without a covering tank top or T-shirt.

## **SECTION II - PROCEDURE FOR VIOLATIONS**

A student athlete who does not abide by the above rules and regulations shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions. Any disciplinary decisions, resulting from any violation, shall be subject to the following procedures:

- A. In the event a coach has reason to suspect a student athlete of a violation of the rules, he/she shall have a conference with the athlete. If in the coach's judgment the violation is of a "serious" nature, disciplinary action will be taken.
- B. Incidents, which may occur on any court, practice field or during any athletic contest, which require disciplinary action, *(but not to the extent of suspension or expulsion of the*

*participant*) shall be carried out by the coach of that squad.

C. Prior to suspension or expulsion the head coach shall discuss the situation with the building athletic director (building principal if athletic director is also a head coach).

D. Other guidelines for the head coach handling the disciplinary action.

1. Restrict the disciplinary action to the sport in which the individual is involved.
2. Talk to the individual to make sure he/she is aware of the cause for disciplinary action.
3. Action taken by the coach and understood by the individual shall not be carried on during the remaining sport season after the original disciplinary action has been dealt with.
4. Inform the parent immediately about the infractions and the disciplinary action taken.
5. Coaches will utilize the Behavior Contract when applicable for disciplinary purposes.

E. Types of sanctions:

1. Verbal reprimand/discussion.
2. Extra practice time.
3. Benching.
4. Probation.
5. Suspension - less than the remaining sport season - the student athlete may practice with team.
6. Expulsion - the remainder of the sport season and loss of letter award.

F. Each student athlete of Deer Park High School has the right of grievance for all athletic disciplinary actions.

G. Discipline Grievance Procedure: Any student, parent or guardian who is aggrieved by the imposition of discipline shall have the right to an informal conference with the building principal or his/her designee for the purpose of resolving the grievance.

Subsequent to the building level grievance meeting, the student, parent or guardian, upon two school business days prior notice, shall have the right to present a written and/or oral grievance to the Board of Directors at the Board's next regular meeting. The Board or their designee shall notify the student, parent or guardian of its response to the grievance within ten school business days after the date of the meeting. The discipline action shall continue notwithstanding the implementation of the grievance procedure.

## **SECTION III - ELIGIBILITY**

Prior to participating in athletics or cheer leading, each student must meet the following requirements:

### **Academic Criteria**

A Student /Athlete must meet all Deer Park High School academic criteria which states an athlete must be passing all classes. If an athlete is failing one or more classes, they will be eligible for practice but not for athletic contests, until the grade is passing.

In addition, if a student is participating in athletics and having academic problems in a class or several classes, the teacher or teachers may work with the coach to support the student toward academic success.

### **Other Criteria**

- Parent permission/release.
- Physical exam from a private physician.
- Insurance (school or private carrier).
- Purchase of an ASB card.
- Attendance is required in all classes that day to attend practice or participate in game/match.
- Follow guidelines of the athletic handbook.

### **No Pass-No Play**

#### **Deer Park Athletic/Co-Curricular Eligibility Policy**

- A student must pass all classes at DPHS during the preceding semester in order to participate immediately in an athletic or extra-curricular program.
- A student who failed one or more classes during the preceding semester will automatically be placed on academic probation for 5 weeks from the start of the semester. During the probationary period, a student may practice, but may not participate in any competitions.
- A student must be enrolled in a minimum of 5 classes in a 6 period schedule in order to maintain athletic or extra-curricular eligibility.
- A student who is failing a class during a season, in which he or she is participating, will be placed on probation until the grade is raised to passing. The student may continue to practice, but cannot participate in competition.

## **SECTION IV – PARTICIPATION**

- A. Prior to a student athlete participating on any athletic team or being issued any athletic equipment, he/she is responsible for having on file with school officials a record of the following:
1. Physical examination and physician's signature.
  2. Parental permission\release form.
  3. Emergency information form.
  4. Paid insurance or waiver form signed by parents.

5. Signature of parent and athlete signifying they have read and accepted the handbook regulations.
6. ASB Card

- B.** Student athletes will not be allowed to participate in an athletic contest or practice if they are not in attendance in school that particular day. An exception to this rule would be written permission granted by the Principal or Athletic Director due to medical or bereavement reasons.
- C.** A student athlete is expected to be at every practice and contest on time unless excused by the coach.

## **SECTION V - EQUIPMENT**

### **A. Issued Equipment**

1. School equipment checked out by the student athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it clean and in good condition.
2. Loss of issued equipment or damage to issued equipment will be the student's financial obligation.
3. Transcripts will be withheld should equipment not be returned or if there is money owed for damages or lost equipment.
4. No athlete will be cleared for subsequent sports until all equipment is returned or paid for from a previous sport.

### **B. Wearing Issued Equipment**

1. Issued equipment is to be worn only while participating with the team in practice or during a scheduled contest!!!
2. The W.I.A.A. prohibits the use of school issued equipment while participating in any event outside the yearly school program or activities not sponsored by the W.I.A.A.

### **C. School Equipment and Facilities**

1. The school district provides students with excellent physical facilities for athletics, at great expense, in the form of taxes to parents and community members. Therefore, it is important that student exercise care and personal regard for these facilities.
2. Misuse of dressing room facilities, lockers, towels, benches, and gymnasium or field facilities will not be permitted. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in denial of their use.

## SECTION VI - TRAVEL

Transportation to and from athletic contests will be provided by the Deer Park School District.

- A. All student athletes must travel to and from athletic contests and practices with the team and in transportation provided for this purpose. (Only upon personal request by the parent/guardian to the Athletic Director prior to the event, will this be waived to allow the student athlete to travel with his/her parent/guardian.) A student athlete may ride home with a parent (**only**) with written notice given to the coach at the game site. Coach must see parent.
- B. Each team member will remain with the team and under the supervision of the coaching staff when attending away games.
- C. Each team member, while traveling to and from athletic contests, will obey all school bus regulations.
- D. It is requested that student athletes be conscious of what constitutes appropriate dress for home and away contests. (In our opinion appropriate dress promotes pride in the team and in Deer Park Schools.)

## SECTION VII - AWARDS

An athletic award is a symbol of athletic accomplishment, good sportsmanship, and observance of athletic policies. Since the award is a symbol of accomplishment, its value lies in its implication rather than in its monetary worth.

In order to qualify for an athletic letter, a student athlete must meet the requirements set forth by the head coach of the sport and be recommended by the Head Coach. Athletic letters and awards shall only be presented to participants who complete the entire season for a given sport. (This does not apply to participants who are unable to complete a season due to illness or injury.)

Upon voluntarily dropping out of a sport or being dropped from the squad for disciplinary reasons, a student athlete automatically forfeits any points, awards, or letters he/she might have received in that sport.

**THE DEER PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPLIES WITH ALL FEDERAL AND STATE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, OR DISABILITY. THIS HOLDS TRUE FOR ALL STUDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, EXTRACURRICULAR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, OR SERVICES PROVIDED BY THIS OFFICE. INQUIRIES REGARDING COMPLIANCE AND/OR GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S TITLE IX/RCW 28A.640 OFFICER AND/OR SECTION 504/ADA COORDINATOR: P.O. BOX 490, DEER PARK, WA. (509) 464-5500**