

**AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
#408**

Auburn, Washington

**6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE  
STUDENT ATHLETIC  
HANDBOOK**



# STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

## FOREWARD

Athletics is a privileged part of your total educational experience. It creates a special environment that produces experiences promoting loyalty and dedication to yourself, family, home, school and community.

Athletics, as a part of the total education process, is an integral factor in the overall curriculum. It honors social, mental, moral, and spiritual development.

To help the athlete realize the above goals, it is necessary to understand that athletics are more important to the athlete than the athlete is to athletics.

We invite you to accept this challenge.

*Coaches of the Auburn School District*

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## I. **Philosophy**

“Athletics” means more than competition between individuals or teams representing different schools. It is, rather, a means of building a way of life respected in our society. It teaches understanding and appreciation of teamwork—that to participate means success, and to follow training rules means healthy living habits and establishes high team morale. This results in a mutual trust by coaches and other team members. Athletics exemplifies the philosophy that dedication, drive, and determination bring eventual success.

The athlete is a role model for younger students and peers. Therefore, it is important that the athlete’s behavior remain above question. As a student leader, the athlete must accept the responsibilities and obligations placed by those represented.

## II. **Definition of Participants and Period of Coverage**

The Athletic Code applies to all students participating in the inter-school athletics and includes the cheerleaders as well as athletes for a given academic school year. It is determined that provisions of the Athletic Code shall govern from the first “turnout” of a sports season until the culminating awards ceremony for the particular sport. Rules of Conduct A through H of the Athletic Code shall also apply to “non-participating” periods during the academic school year.

## III. **Rules of Conduct (During Periods of Participation)**

The following rules of conduct are intended to clarify, for the athletes, their obligations as leaders and participants during periods of participation. The athlete:

- A. Shall not provide, use, and/or be in possession of illegal drugs, legend drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products.
- B. Shall not knowingly remain on premises where illegal or legend drugs, steroids, alcohol, or tobacco products are being used.
- C. Obey all school rules and regulations.
- D. Maintains a satisfactory attendance record; attends all regularly scheduled classes unless appropriately excused.
- E. Meets WIAA Academic Eligibility Regulations.
- F. On athletic trips, obey bus riding, training, and school rules and regulations. Remain with the squad group or team, at all times, and complies with the reasonable request and directions of the coaching/teaching staff.
- G. Turns out for all regular and special practices and meetings, unless excused by the coach and/or school.
- H. Follows the written regulations as established by the head coach.

**EACH HEAD COACH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING AND DISTRIBUTING WRITTEN RULES OF CONDUCT TO ATHLETIC PARTICIPANTS AND PARENT/GUARDIAN. THESE WRITTEN RULES AND REGULATIONS SHALL BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE BUILDING PRINCIPAL. WRITTEN PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE “RULES OF CONDUCT,” AS STATED IN THE ATHLETIC CODE, WILL BE ESTABLISHED.**

IV. **Disciplinary Rules and Regulations**

A. Probation

Probation is a period of time which an athlete may be given an opportunity to correct deficiencies that could result in suspension, or expulsion from athletic participation. In the event of probation, the following shall prevail:

1. The length of the probation shall be a minimum of five (5) calendar practice days, but shall not exceed one sport season.
2. **During this period of probation, the athlete must turn out with the team but will not be permitted to compete in scheduled athletic events.**
3. While on probation, any violation of the “Rules of Conduct” of the Code and/or conditions of probation may result in suspension from the squad.
4. In all cases in which an athlete is placed on probation, the athletic director or coach shall inform the athlete and the parent/guardian of the infraction and the condition of probation. Notification shall also be directed to the building principal, building athletic coordinator, and the district administrator of the Athletic Code.
5. Any athlete or parent/guardian feeling aggrieved by the imposition can contact the coach and/or building athletic director to discuss the concern.

B. Athletic Suspension

Athletic suspension shall include exclusion from all athletic participation:

1. During the period of suspension, the athlete will not be permitted to “turnout” with team members during regular or special practice sessions or to participate during scheduled athletic events.
2. The coach and building administrator shall be responsible for hearing and investigating all infractions and deficiencies punishable by suspension. A parent/guardian contact shall be conducted to discuss and impose sanctions.
3. In all cases in which an athlete is placed on suspension, the coach/athletic coordinator shall inform the athlete and parent/guardian of the infractions and the sanction.

4. In all cases in which an athlete is placed on suspension for an athletic rule of conduct violation, the building athletic coordinator or coach shall inform, in writing, the athlete and parent/guardian of the infraction and the sanction. Copies of this notification shall be directed to the building principal, building athletic coordinator, and district administrator of the Athletic Code.
5. If, after meeting informally with the coach and building administrator, the athlete or parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the sanction, a conference may be requested with the Building Athletic Review Board.

### C. Athletic Expulsion

Athletic expulsion is the exclusion from athletic participation for the remainder of the current school year.

1. Athletic expulsion shall be imposed for accumulative violations of the Athletic Code.
2. The coach and building administrator shall be responsible for investigating the events which occurred.
3. The expulsion from athletic participation shall proceed in accordance with the district due process regulations, except that the Building Athletic Review Board shall inform, in writing, the athlete and parent/guardian of the infraction and the decision of the Board. Copies of this notification shall also be directed to the building principal, building athletic coordinator, and the district administrator of the Athletic Code.
4. The athlete or parent/guardian may appeal the decision of the Building Athletic Review Board to the District Athletic Review Board.

## V. **Building Athletic Review Board (Each Secondary School)**

The Building Athletic Review Board shall be comprised of the building Administrator, the building athletic coordinator, and two coaches (the head coach of the sport involved and a coach from another sport), and the district administrator. The building coordinator shall act as chairperson except in cases where that person also serves as the coach of the sport involved.

A. This board shall meet as prescribed by the following situation:

1. Upon request by the athlete or the parent/guardian to appeal an athletic sanction as prescribed by the athletic code. This request shall be made to the building principal or athletic coordinator.

B. In all situations, the Building Athletic Review Board shall convene within five (5) school days. The athlete shall not participate in practice or scheduled competitive events until the Building Athletic Review Board renders its decision.

C. All Building Athletic Review Board meetings shall be sound recorded.

- D. The decision of the Building Athletic Review Board shall be conveyed, in writing, to the athlete, parent/guardian, building principal, and district administrator of the Athletic Code.

## VI. District Athletic Review Board

- A. The District Athletic Review Board shall convene upon request of the athlete and/or parent/guardian to appeal an athletic sanction imposed by the Building Athletic Review Board.
- B. In all situations, the District Athletic Review Board shall convene within five (5) school days.
- C. The District Athletic Review Board shall consist of the district athletic director, three (3) secondary building principals, and the head coach involved. The District Athletic Director shall act as chairperson.
- D. All District Athletic Review Board meetings shall be sound recorded. The decision of the District Athletic Review Board shall be conveyed, in writing, to the athlete, parent/guardian, building principal, building athletic coordinator, and the district administrator of the Athletic Code.

## VIII. Attendance Regulations

### A. School Attendance

In order to compete or practice, the following attendance regulations shall prevail:

1. Students need to be in attendance at least half a day to be eligible to compete or practice that day. **Middle school students must be in class a total of three (3) hours (excluding lunch) to be eligible to compete or practice on that day.**
2. If you leave school before half a day, you must obtain special permission through the principal, or designee, to be eligible to compete or practice on that day.

### B. Practice Attendance

Regular attendance and promptness is imperative if you are to succeed as an athlete. Occasionally, it may be necessary to be either absent or tardy; however, common courtesy dictates that you notify your coach in advance or have a valid excuse when you return.

## IX. An Athlete's Behavior

- A. Equipment--School equipment checked out by you is your responsibility. You are expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Loss of any issued equipment is your financial obligation. Guard carefully against loss by remembering to lock up the equipment when you are not using it.
- B. Traveling--The following rules will be enforced whenever it is necessary to travel to other schools or athletic contests:
  - 1. You will remain with your squad and under the supervision of your coach when attending away contests.
  - 2. You will refrain from misconduct of any sort while traveling to and from an away contest.

**For a complete copy of the WIAA Handbook please go to**  
**<http://www.wiaa.com/subcontent.aspx?SecID=350>**