

PSD Student Athletics Code of Conduct

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Co-curricular activities are a privilege, and participation is completely voluntary. They promote enjoyment, a high level of motivation, and the pursuit of excellence. Co-curricular activities shall include all school-approved student activities which occur outside of the normal school day. Students participating in co curricular activities in the Peninsula School District are considered to be in positions of leadership. They represent the school and community.

This Activities Code is designed to establish a reasonably high standard for participants in co-curricular activities rather than to be punitive and deny access to such activities. The Code is designed to support students in their choice to avoid participation in illegal and unhealthy activities, and to support parents/guardians in their efforts to guide children into healthy lifestyles. These rules incorporate by reference the [Washington Interscholastic Activities Association \(W.I.A.A.\) Handbook](#).

Requirements: Students in grades 6-12 participating in co-curricular activities shall abide by the following rules during the calendar year, effective on the first day of the co-curricular activity.

Eligibility: Participating students must be regular members of the school they represent in order to participate in an interscholastic athletic activity. Students are a “regular member” of a school if they are enrolled half time or more, exclusive of interscholastic athletic activities. (See 18.0.0 STUDENT STANDARDS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY in WIAA handbook)

Rules participation: As a condition of participation in co-curricular activities, participants will agree in writing or electronically at time of enrollment, to abide by all rules set forth in section 18.00 in 2023-2024 WIAA Handbook. Parents, guardians and/or legal custodians shall indicate in writing or electronically that they have received a copy of the rules and understand and accept them including:



18.8.6 ACADEMIC INTERVENTION

For the purpose of this rule: Probation is defined as - a period of monitoring student academic progress, while still being eligible to compete. Suspension is defined as - the determined period of time that a student is making academic progress, while not being eligible to compete but may participate in practice.

18.8.6.1 FALL - A student will be placed on academic probation at the start of the fall sport season if they failed to meet the grade requirements of 18.8.4 in the second semester or the third trimester of the previous school year.

- The probation period for high school students shall be from the end of the previous semester through the fourth (4th) Saturday in September.
- If, at the end of the probation period, the student is passing in the minimum number of classes required above, the student may then be removed from probation.
- If the student fails to meet the academic standards of rule 18.8.4 at the end of the probation period, the student will be placed on academic suspension for three (3) weeks and will be ineligible for contests.
- If a student meets the academic standards of 18.8.4 at the end of the three (3) week suspension, the athlete will no longer be on academic suspension and will be eligible for contests as long as they remain in compliance with a school's regular monitoring of academic progress.
- In the fall, an incoming ninth grade student is not required to meet the previous semester scholarship rule in 18.8.4 provided they have met all other eligibility requirements. The student's grades will be monitored during the first designated monitoring period established by the school and every three (3) to six (6) weeks thereafter.
- In the Fall sports season, students that do not meet the regular attendance standard of rule 18.7.2 and 18.10.0 are not eligible for a probationary period at the beginning of the fall and must be placed on a five (5) week academic suspension. Their eligibility can be reinstated after the fourth Saturday in September if at that time they are meeting the academic standard of rule 18.8.4.

18.8.6.2 WINTER / SPRING - A student who failed to meet the grade requirements of 18.8.4 shall be placed on suspension because the grading period ended during the same school year (i.e. second semester for a winter or spring athlete). Suspension is the first five (5) weeks of the succeeding semester/trimester. If the suspension period falls during a non-school week (as



defined in 17.14.1) and the athlete is missing scheduled competition, the week may count toward the five (5) week suspension.

1. Attendance: Whether attending school via remote learning or in a modified in-person schedule, a participant is expected to attend all scheduled practices, meetings, contests, and performances, whether or not school is in session. If it is found necessary to miss such, prior arrangements must be made with the adviser/coach. Participants are expected to be fully engaged in their specific learning module. Excessive unexcused absences and lack of progress may result in suspension from co-curricular activities. Student athletes must be in attendance on competition days, and exceptions will only be made for family bereavement or emergencies; pre-arranged, school-related or school-approved activities; and doctor, dental or legal appointments (written documentation from the physician, dentist, etc., must be provided to the coach/advisor prior to the activity). Completion of the activity season is required in order for the student to be eligible for a letter or other team individual awards (exception: injury or illness which limits participation). No awards shall be given to any student suspended for the remainder of the season as the result of an Activity Code of Conduct violation or a suspension from school.

Attendance Consequences: The consequences of unexcused absence are the following:

- **1st Offense:** Suspension from co-curricular competition or performance for the next event or activity, or a comparable suspension for non-athletic activities.
- **2nd Offense:** Suspension from co-curricular competition or performance for the next two events or activities, or a comparable suspension for non-athletic activities.
- **Subsequent Offense:** Suspension from co-curricular activities, competition or performance for the next four events or activities, or a comparable suspension for non-athletic activities.

2. Equipment: Students are required to wear all issued equipment as directed by their coach/advisor. Students should not alter equipment without the coach/advisor's approval. Students must notify their coach/advisor of any poorly fitted or defective equipment. School-owned equipment checked out by a participant in any co-curricular activity is his/her responsibility. The loss or misuse of this equipment will be the financial obligation of the participant. Individuals will not be allowed to participate in any co-curricular activity or receive awards until this obligation is fulfilled and may also be subject to disciplinary action.



3. Health and Safety: All participants must advise their coach/advisor if they are ill, have any prolonged symptoms of an illness or sustained an injury. An athlete who has been injured and has had medical treatment cannot participate until a signed medical release is presented to the head coach. The release will be kept on file by the athletic director.

4. Travel: Participants are required to travel to and from contests with the team/group when transportation is provided for this purpose. When transportation is provided by the school, the only permitted exceptions to traveling via school transportation include:

- Injury to a participant which would require alternate transportation; and
- Written parental request/permission is obtained submitted at least 48 hours in advance, or personal contact between the parent/guardian and to the coach/advisor and has resulted in prior approval. The release of the student must be approved by a designated school official. The student may then be released to a parent/guardian. Permission may be granted only for that parent or guardian's student.
- For emergency requests under 48 hours, parents/guardians must obtain permission from the school athletic director.

When overnight team travel is required, conduct in violation of the athletic code, team rules or any district behavior violations may result in a student being sent home. In these instances, the parent/guardian will be responsible for any expenses related to transporting the student safely home if they are unable to arrange a pick up themselves.

Conduct Rules: Students who commit unlawful acts or engage in delinquent behavior may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension from the team. All PSD students are expected to adhere to all PSD policies as explained in the District's Student/Parent Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. In addition to these general rules, coaches may establish other team expectations specific to their program.

- **General Consequences:** Students participating in co-curricular activities who violate rules of student conduct will be suspended from competition or performance as a consequence. If necessary, the suspension will carry over to the next activity or season in which the student participates. Parents or guardians will be notified of action(s) taken. These include:

Tobacco Products, (i.e. cigarettes, chew, and like chemicals): Participants will abstain from the use, possession, transmission or sale of any tobacco products or like chemicals, or any



other product that has a similar flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances, throughout the calendar year. When it is determined by the administrative team that a student has used, possessed, sold or transmitted any tobacco product, or like chemical, the following consequences will occur:

- **1st Offense:** Suspension from co-curricular competition or performance for the next event or activity, or a comparable suspension for non-athletic activities. The student is required to participate in a tobacco cessation/education program.
- **Subsequent Offense:** Suspension from co-curricular activities, competition or performance for the next four events or activities, or a comparable suspension for non-athletic activities. A student who is participating in an approved tobacco-cessation program may be reinstated after serving the suspension as long as he/she continues to follow the provisions of the program and on approval of the principal. *

** This encourages participation in a tobacco-cessation program while clarifying the consequence to be served.*

Illegal Controlled Substances, Alcohol, Legend drugs and Controlled Substances and/or Delivery Type Devices (e- cigarettes, vaporizers, etc.): Participants will abstain from the use, possession, transmission or sale of any controlled substances. This includes the possession, consumption, use, storage, or distribution of drugs (including marijuana/cannabis, alcohol or other illegal drugs the possession, consumption, use, storage, or distribution of drugs (including marijuana/cannabis), alcohol, substances purported to be alcohol, anabolic steroids, and other similar chemical substances, all delivery devices (e.g. e-cigarettes, hookahs, vaporizers, etc.) and other paraphernalia associated with use of tobacco and/or drugs, throughout the calendar year. To be clear, this includes summer vacation and all other breaks. Therefore, the expectation is that a student will abide by this stipulation 365 days a year while participating in co-curricular activities.

Participants will not engage in behavior which enables or condones the illegal use of alcohol or other drugs by other students. Examples include serving as a pre-arranged driver in order that others may participate in illegal activities; promoting illegal parties or activities; attending or knowingly remaining at parties, events, or in proximity when illegal activities occur. Note: The term “knowingly” is interpreted to mean knowingly remaining in surroundings with a reasonable



suspicion that illegal activity may be occurring. In that circumstance, a student has a duty to either withdraw or thoroughly investigate and rule out occurrence of illegal activities.

Penalties for the possession, use or sale of anabolic steroids, legend drugs (drugs obtained through prescription, ([RCW 69.41](#)) and controlled substances ([RCW 69.50](#)) and alcohol shall be as follows: When it is determined by the administrative team that a student who is found to use, sell and/or be in possession of one or more drugs or alcohol or has abused alcohol or drugs in such manner at any other time or place during the chronological (not school) year, the student shall immediately become ineligible for competition/activity in the current sports/activity program and will be subjected to the following consequences in accordance with WIAA 2023-2024 Handbook: 18.26.0 USE OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

18.26.1 Alcohol and tobacco - Each WIAA member school shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to the use of alcohol or tobacco products that are specific to the middle or high school levels.

18.26.2 Legend drugs and controlled substances – Penalties for the possession, use or sale of legend drugs (drugs obtained through prescription, RCW 69.41.020-050) and controlled substances (RCW 69.50) shall be as follows:

- **1st Violation** - A participant shall be immediately ineligible for interscholastic competition in the current interscholastic sports program for the remainder of the season. Ineligibility shall continue until the next sports season in which the participant wishes to participate unless the student accesses the assistance program outlined in B (below.) **An athlete who is found to be in violation of the Legend drugs and controlled substances rule shall have two options.**
 - A) The athlete will be ineligible for participation in contests for the remainder of that interscholastic sports season and must meet the school's requirements in order to be eligible to compete in the next interscholastic sports season. The school principal will have the final authority regarding the student's participation in further interscholastic sports programs.
 - B) The athlete may choose to seek and receive help for a problem with use of legend drugs or controlled substances. Successful utilization of school and or community assistance programs may allow him/her to have eligibility re-instated in that athletic season, pending recommendation by the school.
- 

- **2nd Violation** - A participant who again violates any provision of RCW 69.41.020 through 69.41.050 or of RCW 69.50 shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the second violation.
- **3rd Violation** - A participant who violates for a third time RCW 69.41.020 - 69.41.050 or of RCW 69.50 shall be permanently ineligible for interscholastic competition.

18.27.0 HARDSHIP - The WIAA District Eligibility Committee and the Executive Director are given the authority to make specific exceptions to those student eligibility regulations contained in Article 18 provided such exceptions are based upon hardship conditions that are deemed to have contributed in a significant way to non-compliance with specific regulation(s) that may be appealed. See your School Athletic Director to discuss.

Notice and Due Process: When parents and/or students are notified of an alleged violation of the Athletic/Activities Code of Conduct and the consequence(s), such notice shall be in writing and include a description of the disciplinary grievance procedure. The Administrative Team, following recommendations from the coach or activities adviser and/or athletic director, will impose Activities Code of Conduct discipline. Activities Code discipline (or suspension) will remain in effect pending appeal. The District Co-Curricular Hearing Board will hear any appeal of Activities Code discipline. Administrative Team: For purposes of enforcement of the Activities Code of Conduct, the Administrative Team will consist of building administrator and other personnel as designated by the principal. The District Co-Curricular Hearing Board will consist of the opposite district athletic director, a building administrator, and the District's Risk and Compliance Manager.

Enforcement: All members of the community should be alert and aware of the behavior of students and should follow up on concerns brought to their attention by reporting to District personnel. District personnel shall report alleged violations to building administration, who will be responsible for reporting to a designated district office administrator. In cases of exceptional misconduct or a violation of the activities/athletic code, schools of similar level will coordinate consequences for the purpose of consistency. If the school disagrees, interpretation/decision comes from the district administration.



Reporting: Building administrators will submit an end-of-semester report of all activity under this Code to the Superintendent and the Board. The reports will be of sufficient scope and detail to satisfy the Superintendent and the Board.

Advisors/Coaches: The following procedures are established related to advisors/coaches:

1. Any student who joins a school team must accept the full authority of the coaches/advisors who are employed by the school district and are expected to take his/her direction. Each participant is subject to the rules and guidelines established by the team coach at the beginning of every season. Failure of a student to follow such instruction could result in loss of eligibility, letter points or possible dismissal from a school team.
2. Private coaches may not participate in either school practices or school competitions. The private coach may be a spectator at any practice or competition but will not be allowed to communicate with any participant for any reason while the student is under the authority of the school coach. Failure to comply may result in removal from the practice or competition by school officials.
3. The school coach, the private coach, and the parents/guardians of the student are encouraged to discuss any issues of disagreement regarding the student's training, preparation, and performance. However, the school coach has the final authority to make decisions on any issue dealing with the school team.
4. Students and families are to refrain from inappropriate comments, either verbally or in writing, including electronically that may harm the authority or reputation of the coaching staff or advisor. If there are issues, these should be brought to the attention of the athletic director or building principal for investigation.

Hazing Rituals: Hazing will not be tolerated in any form and is never to be part of our program. Acts of hazing can escalate to the point that the students participating are at risk. It is also quite possible that many acts of hazing will result in legal action being taken against the coach, advisor, student group leader, administration, or the school district.

Any student who participates willingly in a hazing ritual is subject to disciplinary action, including suspension from school or the team or both, and possible legal action dependent on the severity of the incident.



Any student who observes and does not attempt to stop and/or report such a violation can also be subject to disciplinary action by our school. Repeated acts of hazing can result in further school action and permanent suspension from athletics.

Initiation ceremonies and rituals are different from hazing rituals in that they are positive, open, and public events. Initiation ceremonies welcome new members to a team or group, promote bonding and orientation to the purpose, culture, and expectations of the team, club, or group. The coach, advisor and parents/guardians are informed of the ceremony and are invited to participate.

Awards and Letters: Completion of the activity season is required for students to be eligible for a letter or other team individual awards, except for injuries that limited participation. No awards shall be given to any student suspended for the remainder of the season as the result of an Activity Code of Conduct violation or suspension from school.

Sportsmanship: High levels of sportsmanship are expected of all participants involved in any team sports and activities in the

Peninsula School District. The school reserves the right to set a higher sportsmanship standard and may administer a more severe consequence when deemed appropriate. Behaviors or attitudes determined to be detrimental to the team may result in a player being suspended from participation, or in exceptional cases, removed from the team. The building principal, athletic director and advisor/coach will be responsible for making any specific decisions regarding additional consequences for the student's behavior. Any decisions to remove a student permanently from participation will be made by an administrative team that will include, at the minimum, the principal, the building athletic director, and respective coach/advisor.

