

# SCOTLAND COUNTY MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

## Extra-Curricular, Co-Curricular & Athletic

### CODE of CONDUCT

Participation in any extra or co-curricular activity is an important part of the educational experience in the Scotland County Schools. A primary goal of such activities is to teach students character and self-discipline skills that will enable them to develop to their highest potential. As role models for their peers and younger students, students who participate in extra or co-curricular activities ("participating students") are held accountable for their actions at a higher standard than other students. Because of the public nature of the extra and co-curricular programs sponsored by the Scotland County Schools, participating students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect the high standards and ideals of their school and community. The participating student becomes subject to this Code of Conduct upon the student's signature and date below and continues until graduation from high school. Participating students are subject to this code at all times during the calendar year, including summer months, whether on or off campus. For summer month violations, any discipline or punishment imposed would go into effect at the next scheduled extra or co-curricular activity by the student. This Code of Conduct is, in addition to, any specific team/activity rules or regulations established by the individual program.

#### 1. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

The possession, use, distribution or sale of illegal or counterfeit drugs/alcohol, including possession of paraphernalia for ingestion of such substances by participating students is not acceptable and prohibited. If school officials receive credible evidence such as a police report or criminal charges related to drug or alcohol offense or have a reasonable suspicion that a violation under this section has occurred, the school will investigate. If after investigation of the charges, school officials determine that the participating student committed the violation, he/she shall be subject to disciplinary action as outlined below. Every effort will be made by the school and individual activity programs to make participating students aware of the detrimental effects of drugs and alcohol. Students and/or parents of students suspended under this section will receive information regarding counseling.

**First Offense:** Any participating student found in violation of this offense at any time while on any school premises, including activity buses or other school-approved transportation, or at any time off-campus, will be suspended from participation in all extra and/or co-curricular activities for 365 calendar days. The participating student must also be evaluated by a drug/alcohol counselor as recommended by the school, must comply with all recommendations and treatment programs and must furnish a negative drug test, at their cost, prior to resuming participation.

**Second Offense:** The participating student will be suspended from all extra and co-curricular activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.

#### 2. TOBACCO USE

Participating students found to have used tobacco while subject to this Code will be suspended from participation as outlined below:

**First Offense:** The student will be suspended from all extra and/or co-curricular activities for 7 days of the student's current activity. Violations occurring during the summer months or other non-activity period shall be penalized at the beginning of the student's next activity, including practices.

**Second Offense:** The student will be suspended from all extra and/or co-curricular activities for 14 days administered according to the same guidelines as for the First Offense.

**Third Offense:** The student will be suspended from all extra and/or co-curricular activities for 365 calendar days.

#### 3. CRIMINAL CHARGES

A participating student charged with (or convicted of) a criminal offense, misdemeanor or felony, other than a minor traffic offense, will be immediately suspended from extra and/or co-curricular activities until further review as described in Section 6 below. The participating student must inform his or her coach or appropriate staff of any criminal charges against them as soon as practicable, but no later than the student's next participation in any extra and/or co-curricular event, to include practices, rehearsal, etc. A dismissal, or other disposition of any criminal charges shall not prevent school officials from imposing discipline based on the behavior

#### 4. SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS

**In School:** A participating student serving a disciplinary in-school suspension for a full day or days will be able to participate in any extra and/or co-curricular activity on the particular day(s) the student is serving the suspension.

**Out of School:** A participating student serving a short or long term suspension for less than the remainder of the year will not participate in any extra and/or co-curricular activity for that suspension period. A student serving a long-term suspension for the remainder of the school year, a 365-day suspension, or disciplinary assignment either with or without the option of attending the alternative school, will be suspended from all extra and/or co-curricular activities for the period of the suspension.

**5. INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**

A participating student who engages in any conduct or behavior, which is inconsistent with the student’s position as a role model or representative of the Scotland County Schools, is subject to disciplinary action, including suspension as determined by the Principal. Coaches or school officials may also establish additional training regulations and rules of conduct.

**6. REVIEW PROCEDURES**

A. The Principal will notify the participating student and parent of the violation and provide an opportunity to the student and/or parent to present any information to the Principal regarding the violation. The Principal will consider all relevant information regarding the violation and submit a disciplinary recommendation to the Athletic Director (Director). The Director will review the recommendation and decide what disciplinary action, if any, is necessary and inform the Principal. The Principal will notify the student of the Director’s decision.

B. A participating student may request a review of the disciplinary action by providing written notice to the Superintendent, or his designee within two (2) school days of the date of the Principal’s notification to the student and/or parent. The notice shall state the reason for the review.

C. The Superintendent, or his designee, will review the record of the disciplinary action and issue a decision within two (2) school days of receipt of the request for review. The Superintendent, or his designee will inform the student and parent of the decision of whether to uphold, modify, or overturn the disciplinary action. The decision of the Superintendent shall be final.

D. Any disciplinary action, including suspension from participation, will remain in effect during the review process.

E. Failure by the participating student to adhere to appeal content requirements and time lines as set forth will result in immediate dismissal of the appeal.

It is the responsibility of every participating student and parent to be familiar with the Scotland County Schools Extra and Co-curricular Code of Conduct and any team/activity rules and regulations. It is the responsibility of each faculty leader of this particular activity to make certain that every participating student has been fully informed of the Scotland County Schools Extra and Co-Curricular Code of Conduct and/or any additional rules of conduct and performance pertaining to his/her activity. Violation of this Code of Conduct, or individual activity rules, may result in the revoking of any awards for which the participating student might otherwise be eligible. Seniors are not considered to have completed their extra or co-curricular activity careers for Scotland County Schools until his or her activity has been eliminated from any remaining competition/tournament or upon completion of any awards ceremonies, whichever occurs last.

As per NCHSAA, any student convicted of a felony will lose athletic eligibility in North Carolina for the remainder of his/her high school career.

**We, the parent/legal custodian and the student/athlete, have read and understand the Extra and Co-Curricular Code of Conduct and agree to comply. We also understand that participation in extra and/or co-curricular activities is a privilege and participating students possess no property right to continued participation. We also understand that the student is a representative of the school and role model to others at all times, whether on or off campus. The parent/legal custodian and participating student/athlete further understands that inappropriate behavior, whether illegal or not, may result in suspension from extra and/or co-curricular participation.**

Signature of Student/Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Legal Custodian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/LEGAL CUSTODIAN RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND PERMISSION FORM**

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED PARENT/LEGAL CUSTODIAN, DO HEREBY AGREE AND CONSENT FOR THE ABOVE STUDENT/ATHLETE TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS. WE DO FURTHER RELEASE AND WAIVE, AND AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS THE SCOTLAND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES AND REPRESENTATIVES THEREOF, AS WELL AS THE PROGRAM’S SUPERVISORS, FROM AND AGAINST ANY CLAIM WHICH WE, ANY CORPORATION MAY HAVE OR CLAIM TO HAVE, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FOR PARTICIPATION IN ANY APPROVED EXTRA-CURRICULAR OR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY OR THE RENDERING OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROCEDURES OR TREATMENT, IF ANY. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA AND/OR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES MAY INVOLVE AN ELEMENT OF DANGER AND RISK OF PERSONAL INJURY, AND WE HAVE READ THE ABOVE RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND HAVE OPTED TO ALLOW THE ABOVE ATHLETE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THAT AWARENESS IN MIND.**

Signature of Parent/Legal Custodian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student/Athlete (18 or older): \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_