

DATE: _____ SPORT NAME: _____

HEAD COACH NAME: _____

ATHLETICS

Athletics available at Athens Area Schools:

Baseball: JV/Varsity

Basketball: JH/JV/Varsity

Competitive Cheer: Varsity

Cross Country: JH/Varsity

Football: JH/JV/Varsity

Golf: Varsity

Soccer: JH/JV/Varsity

Softball: JV/Varsity

Swimming: JH/JV/Varsity

Track: JH/JV/Varsity

Volleyball: JH/JV/Varsity

Wrestling: JH/JV/Varsity

ATHLETIC REGULATIONS: CODE OF ETHICS

A code of ethics is a set of ethical principles and standards designed to guide a group of people in taking acceptable and approved actions. The following code of ethics is set forth for Athens Area Coaches and athletes.

I. COACHES: A coach in Athens Area school district must:

- A. Understand that the purpose of interscholastic athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, and social well-being of the athletes.
- B. Set an example of good conduct for team members, students and the general public by:
 1. Acting in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.
 2. Avoiding the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or profane language while supervising any team.
 3. Maintain complete control of team members at all practices and games.
- C. Make certain that all training rules, awards systems, and dress codes are explained to team members prior to the first practice.
- D. Respect the decisions of officials and remain undemonstrative in accepting these decisions.
- E. Be courteous to visiting teams and coaches.
- F. Achieve a thorough knowledge and understanding of the rules (and the spirit of the rules) of the game.
- G. Make certain that all injuries are given proper attention and reported in a timely manner.
- H. Be responsible for the supervision of players at practices, games, in the locker room, and on the bus, and for any other arrangements related to sign-outs for transit to pre-game events.
- I. If for any reason players are to leave the building, supervision must be provided (coach, assistant coach, and staff) for dismissal and transit.
- J. Serve as the acting authority for the school system at away events in the absence of the principal or director of athletics.
- K. Receive written consent from a physician before permitting an injured player to return to practice or competition.

- L. Make certain that all athletes meet the school insurance requirements before practice or competition.
- M. Make certain that no practice or competition by teams or individuals occur on Sunday.
- N. All coaches/volunteer or paid must be approved by the Board of Directors each year and submit required clearances to the District Office before working with students.

II. **ATHLETES:** Athletes in the Athens School District must comply with the following regulations:

- A. The use of drugs and alcohol is strictly forbidden. Violators, who admit guilt, plead guilty or accept ARD, will be dismissed from the team for a minimum of 8 calendar weeks. Use or possession of tobacco products by an athlete results in penalties listed in the tobacco policy adopted by school board.
- B. Language used by the players both in practice and at games shall be free from profanity.
- C. At no time shall team members show any discourtesy to an official, a member of an opposing team, or a spectator on or off the field of play.
- D. Team members must refrain from being involved in acts of vandalism or theft. Athletes guilty of such acts will be responsible for financial restitution and will be suspended from practice and competition for 10 school days.
- E. Team members must inform the coach ahead of practice time and receive his/her permission to be absent from practice.
- F. No player shall be permitted to practice or compete on the day he/she is absent from school. Athletes who are late to school on the day of a game will not be permitted to compete that day. Any exceptions to this rule must be granted by the principal.
- G. Athletes must attend a full day of school following a game. If an athlete is absent for all or part of a day following a game, a written legal excuse must be provided. A courtesy phone call to the principal is requested. The principal, in consultation with the coach, reserves the right to not allow an athlete to compete in the next scheduled event if absenteeism is determined to be unacceptable or chronic.
- H. All team members will be required to go to away contests on transportation provided by the school district. The player's parent or guardian may request (in writing) that the coach allow the player to return home with him/her. Team members not returning home with a parent/guardian must use school transportation. Any other additional dismissal and/or transportation arrangements must be discussed by the athlete, parent, coach, principal, and approved in advance. Such agreements must consist of the proper forms and, ultimately, permission from the building principal.
- I. If an athlete is ineligible in a sport because of academics or for any reason, he/she may practice with the team during that time. Accompanying the team to a scheduled event and remaining with the team during the event shall be at the discretion of the coach and with permission from the building principal. Such a decision will also be based on the time of dismissal for the event and whether or not it interferes with academics of the school day. Under no circumstances shall the athlete be permitted to either dress for competition or compete in any scheduled event during the period for which he/she

is ineligible.

J. Each athlete -

1. Must be an amateur
 - a. Cannot play under an assumed name.
 - b. Cannot receive money or valuable award for playing.
 - c. Cannot sign contract to play for professional team.
2. Must not have reached his/her 19th birthday before July 1, of the school year.
3. An athlete who is declared ineligible by semester standing will not be allowed to participate in athletics before October 10 of the first semester or March 10 of the second semester. He may not practice or participate in athletics until he is eligible.
4. Is ineligible for interscholastic athletics after the class in which he/she entered the 9th grade has graduated.
5. Is ineligible if he/she transfers to Athens Area from either a public or parochial high school without a change of residence.
6. Must have satisfactorily passed the physical examination given by the school physician or the family physician.

K. An athlete absent from school 20 or more days during a semester is ineligible for practice or game/contest until he/she has been in attendance 45 days following the 20th absence. Attendance at summer school does not count toward the 45 days required.

L. Criteria for Eligibility

1. The student must be passing both the cumulative marking period grade and the cumulative course grade. Grades will be checked on a weekly basis.
2. In order to be eligible for extra-curricular activities, the student must be passing at least four full-credit subjects or the equivalent. Subject calculation shall be based on the subjects the student is actively taking at the time eligibility is determined.
3. In cases where the student's cumulative work from the beginning of the grading period does not as of any Friday meet the standards provided in this section, he/she shall be ineligible from the immediately following Sunday through Saturday.
4. If these requirements are not met by the end of the marking period, the student becomes ineligible for the next fifteen (15) days, beginning on the first school day after report cards are issued.
5. Extra-curricular eligibility for fall sports shall be determined by the student's final grades and credits in his/her subjects rather than the last marking period. An athlete attending summer school who corrects his/her deficiencies shall be eligible for fall sports.
6. The student must demonstrate good attendance. Unexcused absences or cutting of any classes will not be permitted.
7. The student must demonstrate good citizenship based on attitude, behavior, and decision-making.

8. In addition to the above requirements, the student must adhere to all the PIAA requirements.

- M. No player who has been on a varsity squad for thirty or more days may become a candidate for another varsity team until one week after the last game of the previous sport has been played. (Exception - players dropped from a squad because of injury will be considered individually.)
- N. No student may participate in two sports simultaneously unless:
1. He/she has written parental permission.
 2. He/she maintains a scholastic average of at least 77%.
 3. He/she has written consent from both coaches involved.

***** Administration and Enforcement**

The coaching staff, athletic directors, guidance counselors and high school principals shall be responsible for administering and enforcing these regulations. Should any issue arise requiring investigation, a committee consisting of the principal, assistant principal, athletic director, assistant athletic director, head coach involved, and one non-involved head coach shall investigate and recommend a course of action.

P.I.A.A. ANABOLIC STEROID POLICY

Pennsylvania Act 1989-93 required the Board of School Directors ("school board") in every Pennsylvania school district to prescribe, adopt, and enforce rules and regulations to prohibit the use of anabolic steroids, except for a valid medical purpose, by a pupil involved in school-related athletics.

The act required the School Board to prescribe the following minimum penalties for any pupil found in violation of the rules and regulations adopted by the School Board.

1. For a violation, suspension from school activities for the remainder of the season.
2. For a second violation. Suspension from school activities for the remainder of the season and for the following season.
3. For a third violation, permanent suspension from school activities.

A student who has been suspended for violation of the School Board regulations shall not be eligible to resume participation in school athletics unless there has been a medical determination that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

The penalties, which the law requires School Boards to adopt, are minimum penalties. More severe penalties by individual school districts and the actual penalties may therefore vary from school district to school district.

TITLE IX

Athens Area Secondary Schools are in compliance with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, which require that:

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

A copy of the Athens Area policies will be posted on the school district website and available in written form upon request.

Parent Signature	Date	Student Signature	Date
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