

## KIRTLAND HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The most important goal of the interscholastic athletic program is to provide every participant the opportunity to grow mentally, morally, physically, and emotionally. To assure that the program can provide these opportunities, a degree of self-discipline is required of each participant. Self-discipline involves compliance with rules and regulations concerning personal behavior. Rules promote order and safety, and assists participants to reach maximum performance potential. Compliance with the rules can help individuals learn values that carry beyond the extracurricular programs and into daily living. It must also be remembered that participation in extracurricular activities is not a right, but a privilege that may be regulated.

Therefore, all students who participate in interscholastic athletics must meet the following regulations during the full duration of his/her sports season. Sports seasons begin with the first day of organized practice set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, and terminates when the athletes competitive season is over and is no longer under the jurisdiction of the coaching staff. Actions between the end of the season and presentation of awards could jeopardize the privilege of recognition.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS

To participate in interscholastic athletic programs at Kirtland High School, the student must abide by the following regulations:

1. Comply with all eligibility requirements established by the OHSAA, including but not exclusive to those pertaining to age, scholarship, residency, and attendance. Ineligible students will not be permitted to participate when eligibility requirements are not met.
2. The student must have a completed physical exam card on file, signed by a physician and parent/guardian prior to the first practice.
3. A student must be adequately covered by a legitimate insurance carrier.
4. A student must accept financial responsibility for careless use of issued equipment.
5. A student will behave in a manner which reflects positively on the school and his/her activity.
6. A student will comply with all additional training rules or requirements set by the coach of the activity.
7. Participants are required to attend school for 1/2 day to be eligible to practice or participate on any given school day
8. A participant shall not engage in criminal activity or violate civil law.
9. A participant will not attempt to use and/or possess smoking or smokeless tobacco in any form at any time.
10. A student will not attempt to use, distribute, sell, and/or possess drugs ( narcotics, hallucinogens, intoxicants, alcoholic beverages, or counterfeit drugs), or controlled substances at any time. The only exception would be supervised, prescribed medication.
11. A student shall not be involved or participate in any form of hazing.
12. A student shall not sexually harass another person.

### DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

#### SCHOOL CONDUCT

In matters of school conduct, the KHS athlete will be treated in the same manner as other students. Any conduct by the athlete which causes suspension from school will affect athletic participation in the following manner:

**1st Suspension:** The athlete will be ineligible for participation in the contest on the day of the suspension, or the next scheduled event following the suspension.

**2nd Suspension:** The athlete will be denied participation for the remainder of that sport season and no post season school award.

#### TEAM CONDUCT

Since participation in interscholastic athletics is on a voluntary basis, the KHS athletes behavior will reflect actions that are considered positive by the KHS Athletic Department, not those of personal preference. Due to the adverse effects of tobacco, drugs, and alcohol, or the severity and concern over criminal/civil violations, the following guidelines are listed for each area.

**Procedure:** The coach will notify the parent/guardian of any breach of team guidelines by the athlete as soon as possible. A hearing will be held with the student to discuss the circumstances concerning the incident and present her/his version. Recommendation for penalty assessment will be made by the coach, athletic director, and principal. Any appeal should state the exact reason the decision is being appealed.

**Training Rules:** The attempted use, possession (the custody and control of property), distribution, or sale of smoking and smokeless tobacco, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or controlled substance by an athlete, is subject to the following action:

**1st Offense:** A first offense for use and possession shall result in an immediate 20 percent denial of participation from all scheduled events the athlete participates in. If the offense occurs late in the season, it will carry over into the next sport season or year if necessary. The student may participate in scheduled practice sessions during the denial at the discretion of the coach. The student will be required to participate and successfully complete, at student expense, counseling and/or assessment as determined by the school. Failure to comply with all requirements shall result in immediate dismissal from the squad. Athlete will only qualify for participatory post season award.

**2nd Offense:** A second offense for use and possession shall result in a denial of participation for the remainder of the sport season. A second violation may occur at any time during the school year. A student may not go into another sport season until he/she has appealed for reinstatement to the athletic council after successful completion of any program or stipulations established for reinstatement, at the athletes expense. Student would not qualify for any post season award.

**3rd Offense:** A third offense for use and possession shall result in immediate denial of participation from all activities for a full calendar year and completion of a mandatory, professional assessment at student expense. An appeal to the athletic council for reinstatement is required once the student has followed the appeal procedure and successfully completed the recommendations of the professional assessment.

Any person who attempts to sell and/or distribute any of the described substances above will be immediately removed from the squad.

**Sportsmanship:** KHS athletes will display good sportsmanship prior to, during, and after athletic events. This refers to opponents, fans, game and school officials, and school property. The Ohio High School Athletic Association states that any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests (one in football) are played at the same level as the ejection. A student under suspension may not sit on the bench or have any affiliation with the team going to, during, or traveling after the contest. Violations of sportsmanship may range from warning to denial of participation at the discretion of the coach, athletic director, and principal.

**Squad Discipline:** The athlete will adhere to all specific guidelines established by the coach which are in addition to the training rules and sportsmanship regulations. Consequences can range from a warning to denial of participation at the discretion of the coach, athletic director, and principal.

**Criminal/Civil Violation:** Recognizing the various degrees of severity of violations, consequences for involvement may result in warnings to denial of participation, depending on the nature of the offense. Consultation between coach, athletic director, and principal will determine the consequence.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE K.H.S. ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES AND CODE OF CONDUCT. BY THIS SIGNATURE, I AGREE TO COMPLY WITH ALL STIPULATIONS REGARDING PHYSICAL EXAMS, INSURANCE COVERAGE, GUIDELINES OF CONDUCT, AND EQUIPMENT.

MY INSURANCE CARRIER IS : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date \_\_\_\_\_