

## Harbor Lights Middle School Activities and Athletics Code

### PHILOSOPHY

Bandon School District No. 54 believes that involvement in athletics and other extra-curricular activities can be a very important part of a young person's growth and maturation process. It is also this district's philosophy that participation in such activities is a privilege and not a right or a requirement of attendance. Therefore, in order to retain that privilege, participants in these programs shall conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times, not only while practicing, performing, and competing, but at all times outside the playing arena as well. The following rules of conduct shall be strictly adhered to by every participant in every activity and sport sanctioned by Bandon School District #54. A director of an activity or a coach of a sport may establish more stringent participation requirements if, before the season begins, those requirements are set down in writing, approved by the athletic director and the building principal, distributed and explained to each participant and signed by each participant in that activity or sport.

### Responsibilities of membership

1. Each director, coach, and participant shall acknowledge and abide by the philosophy that the most important reason for attending school is the pursuit of an academic education. Furthermore, students are not required to report for coaching activities until 4 p.m. *if they need to seek help or make up work with their teachers, or serve detention.*
2. Each director and coach shall emphasize the importance of good sportsmanship both by teaching and by example. While the district acknowledges that the goal of winning in competitive participation is indeed a major objective, to win at any cost with no regard for rules, fair play, or good sportsmanship is not the sole purpose of the program. Each participant shall attempt to practice good sportsmanship at all times, in and out of the playing arena.
3. For athletic teams, training rules shall be established by the coach of each team. Areas of concern should include but not be limited to diet, amount of sleep, and any other behavior that might affect the physical and/or emotional well-being of a participant.
4. Each participant shall maintain a neat appearance in and out of the playing arena, practice good hygiene, and abide by established regulations regarding hair length and facial hair where applicable.
5. Transportation for participants to and from out-of-town contests and activities is provided by the school district. Each participant shall travel with the team or group to all out-of-town contests and activities and shall return with the team or group. This includes all support personnel including but not limited to managers, statisticians, camera people, accompanists, coaches and directors. A participant may leave with a parent or legal guardian, but only after a written request, dated and signed by that person, is given to the responsible director or coach, and with the coach or director's permission or permission of the athletic director or building principal.

### ACADEMICS

Harbor Lights Middle School Athletes will have three levels of participation.

1. Clear: Result of all Cs or better. Full participation, no restrictions.

2. Probation: Result of receiving a D or F on grade check (must bring up any Fs within one week)
  - a. Required study hall, 3:30-4:00, Monday through Friday
  - b. Full participation on athletic team
3. Suspension: Result of receiving a F on grade check after one-week grace period
  - a. Required study hall, 3:30-4:00, Monday through Friday
  - b. Suspension from current week's competition
  - c. Athlete will continue to practice with the team
  - d. If a student has no Fs at next grade check, athlete will move to Probation or Clear Status, based on grades

Additional Information:

- Grade checks will begin two weeks into the season.
- Grades will be checked weekly after FamilyLink update.
- If a sport spans two grading periods, there will be a grace period: grades will not be checked until the third Friday of the new grading period.
- Eighth graders have two grading periods (semester one and semester two), and sixth/seventh graders have four grading periods (quarters one, two, three, and four).

**PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Each participant shall be in attendance at school all day, *and* each day practices, contests, performances or activities are held unless the absence is pre-arranged or excused through the athletic director or the building principal. A participant shall be in all classes on Friday to be eligible to participate in an activity during the weekend unless pre-arranged or excused by the athletic director or the building principal. Coaches are responsible for checking absences before their practices.
2. Each participant in athletics, cheerleading, or any other activity that requires more than nominal physical involvement shall provide a statement from a doctor acknowledging his/her physical fitness to participate in that sport or activity. Physical examinations are required at least once every two years.
3. Quitting/rejoining:
  - a. When a participant chooses to voluntarily quit an activity or a sport after being on the roster, he/she shall immediately communicate that desire to the head coach. If it is mutually agreed by both the participant and the coach that it is in the best interest of the participant and/or program for him/her to quit, he/she shall be immediately dropped from the program. When a participant quits a program, he/she will not be allowed to rejoin it without the approval of both the coach and athletic director.
  - b. If the participant then wishes to join another activity or team that season, he/she may do so only after a conference between the athletic director and both coaches. The decision of the athletic director in such cases will be binding.
4. Dual sports: If a participant desires to participate in two sports in the same season, he/she may do so only after a conference with the athletic director and both coaches, in which a workable practice schedule and competition schedule has been mutually agreed upon.

## MISCONDUCT

1. The coach of a sport/activity shall monitor the affairs of all participants under his/her charge to make certain they abide by all applicable rules and conditions for participation. When a participant is guilty of any misconduct, the principal or athletic director shall have the authority to administer consequences as stated in written policy or, if not specified in writing, to determine and administer reasonable consequences at his/her own discretion. A principal or athletic director may temporarily or permanently exclude a participant from membership in that activity or on that team. Any severe consequences, including exclusion from membership, shall be administered only with the knowledge and approval of the athletic director and principal.

2. Athletes will begin each sport season with a clear status. Monitoring of Office Discipline Referrals (ODR) will start when the sport starts. If a student-athlete receives three ODRs during the current season, they will be suspended from the next competition. Each subsequent ODR will result in an additional suspension. While on behavior suspension:

- Suspension from next competition
- No traveling with the team
- Athlete will continue to practice with the team

3. Any participant who in any way conducts himself/herself in such a manner as to bring discredit to himself/herself, to his/her team or group, or to Bandon School District #54 shall be immediately excluded temporarily from the activity or sport by the director or coach. The director or coach shall then communicate as soon as reasonably possible with the athletic director or the building principal for review of the matter pending continuing or additional consequences.

4. A participant shall not practice, compete, perform or participate in any manner in his/her activity or sport during any school-related disciplinary (Suspensions or expulsions) period.

5. A principal or athletic director may permanently exclude a participant from membership if he/she accumulates three unexcused absences from practices or meetings. One unexcused absence from a scheduled contest, performance or activity may result in dismissal from that activity or sport and shall preclude membership from any other activity or sport for the remainder of that season.

6. No participant dismissed from a program may become a member of any other program that season without the written permission of the athletic director. Prior to making such a decision, the AD will meet with both the dismissing coach and the coach of the new program. The decision of the AD in such cases will be final.

7. A participant who purposely or continually misuses or abuses school facilities, equipment or property, or who uses them for his/her own personal use without permission, may have the privilege of that use temporarily or permanently withheld as determined by the director, coach, athletic director or the building administrator.

8. Drug, Tobacco, and Alcohol policies:

- If there is reasonable suspicion that a participant is guilty of the possession or use of real or imitation tobacco products and/or real or imitation alcohol beverages, at the time or place while a member of an activity group or team, the participant shall be immediately excluded by the director or coach for two weeks (14 calendar days), beginning with the next official event or competition. During this exclusion, the

student must attend every practice and exhibit excellent work ethic and behaviors. The student will dress in street clothes during home competitions and will not be allowed to travel with the team to away games. If the offense is repeated, the athlete will be excluded from all athletics for the remainder of the school year.

- Students choosing to participate in extra-curricular activities are prohibited from knowingly attending or remaining at events where individuals are engaged in breaking the law by possessing, using, delivering, and/or selling real or imitation alcohol, marijuana, and/or other illegal substances. These events include, but are not limited to, parties and group gatherings. It is the student's responsibility to immediately remove himself/herself from the party or group gathering as soon as the student becomes aware that alcohol, marijuana, and/or other illegal substances are being possessed, used, delivered, or sold. The district recognizes a student cannot be responsible for the misbehavior of other individuals; however, it is the student's responsibility to avoid associating with individuals engaging in illegal activities. Students found guilty of knowingly attending or remaining at such an event will be suspended from participating in competitions or events for two weeks. (14 calendar days), beginning with the next official event or competition. During this exclusion, the student must attend every practice and exhibit excellent work ethic and behaviors. The student will dress in street clothes during home competitions and will not be allowed to travel with the team to away games.
- If there is reasonable suspicion that a participant is guilty of the possession, selling, distribution, or use of illegal drugs or substances at any time or place while a member of an activity group or team, the participant shall immediately be excluded from all athletics for the remainder of the year. However, if this is a student's first violation of this policy, the superintendent, after consultation with the coach, athletic director and principal, has the option of modifying the exclusion. After no less than 90 calendar days, the exclusion may be modified if the student and his/her parents agree to conditions that may include but are not limited to the following conditions:
  - *Have completed a drug/alcohol assessment by a certified counselor at parent expense*
  - *Sign a release allowing the assessor and the school administration to exchange information regarding student behavior*
  - *Agree to random drug testing at parent expense*
  - *Maintain grades and attend school on a regular basis*
  - *Serve approved community service*
  - *Consistently follow school rules*

*Failure to complete the conditions set forth in the modified exclusion will result in the implementation of the original exclusion.*

There is no requirement that the superintendent modify the year-long exclusion.

9. The commission of/or participation in any activity prohibited under Oregon State Law and/or school district regulations regarding student rights and responsibilities shall be considered a breach of the Athletic Code of Conduct (i.e. Receiving a citation or arrested for a crime or have papers filed in juvenile court based on an offense which if an adult would be deemed a crime) will result in suspension from the activity for the remainder of the season.



10. Any participant in an activity or sport who believes he/she has received inappropriate or unfair disciplinary consequences may request a hearing from the building principal within seven calendar days of the incident. The building principal, athletic director, program coach, and one teacher shall make up the hearings committee. A hearing date shall be determined within five calendar days of the disciplinary action. The participant shall be notified as to the date, time and location of the hearing. The participant shall be suspended from participation in the program until the decision of the appeals committee is given.

- a. The participant shall have the right to have counsel during the hearings proceedings.
- b. The participant shall have the right to present evidence on his/her own behalf during the hearings proceedings.
- c. Bandon School District #54 shall have the right to present evidence during the hearing proceedings.
- d. The participant shall receive in writing the findings and conclusion of the Appeals Committee within five days of the completion of the hearing. The decision shall be final.

### **MANDATORY PRACTICES**

1. Practice on weekends and holidays are optional and cannot be mandated (i.e. required or counted as unexcused) under any circumstances;
2. Practice on vacation days (i.e. Winter Break, Spring Break) may or may not be required, depending upon the coach;
3. Practice may be excused for the following reason:
  - Illness/injury
  - School sponsored academic activities
  - Death in the family
  - Pre-arranged family activities/obligations
4. Coaches may allow excused absences other than the above;
5. Coaches may advise their players, but no coach may mandate what an athlete may or may not do on his/her own time; this choice must be left up to the athlete (though all athletes must, of course, abide by laws, school rules and the athletic code);
6. Practice out of season cannot be mandated; such practice includes open gym, summer league, summer camps, and summer practice, etc.;
7. The number of hours an athlete practices per day should be kept to a reasonable limit to leave time for other activities/obligations; a maximum of 2-3 hours a day is a common limit.

### ***DIRECTOR/COACH RESPONSIBILITIES***

At the beginning of each season or activity, the Code of Conduct will be reviewed and discussed by the director or coach with parents and the students participating in the activity. The coach or director is responsible for scheduling a parent meeting to discuss this Code of Conduct each season.

### ***STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES***

Students must read the Code of Conduct prior to participating in the activity. Students are responsible for asking the director, coach, or a school administrator if they have questions about the content of the Code of Conduct.

Students must sign the acknowledgement form and return it to the athletic department.

### ***PARENT OR GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES***

Parents or guardians are responsible for reading the Code of Conduct prior to allowing their son/daughter to participate. Parents or guardians are responsible for asking the director, coach, or a school administrator if they have questions about the content of the Code of Conduct.

Parents or guardians must sign the acknowledgement form and return it to the athletic department.

### **GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### ***Due Process***

A student will be given the opportunity to respond to allegations that he/she has violated a rule in the code of conduct. When a school administrator has reasonable belief a student may have violated a rule, the administrator is responsible for investigating the allegations.

#### ***Documentation***

School administrators are required to provide written notification to the student and parent/guardian when it has determined that the student has violated a rule within this code of conduct. The notification will identify the rule that has been violated and the consequences given as a result of the violation. Copies of the notification will be provided to the director or coach of the student.

#### **Definitions:**

For the purpose of this Code, the Bandon School District defines the following terms:

- Extra-curricular activities: Those that are outside the scope of a course/class and do not earn credits for graduation. They include all sports teams, cheerleading, dance team, and the speech team.
- Calendar days: Monday through Friday when school is in session or when official events or competitions are held. (i.e., Saturday or a day during winter break could be counted if there is an official game or competition on that day.)
- Tobacco: includes, but is not limited to, real or imitation, lighted or unlighted cigarettes, cigars, pipes, bidis, clove cigarettes, and any other smoking product (including vapor pens), and spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew, and snuff, in any form.
- Alcohol: includes, but is not limited to, real or imitation, beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor.
- Marijuana: includes, but is not limited to, real or imitation, any part of the marijuana plant or substance derived from marijuana and related paraphernalia.
- Illegal substances: include, but are not limited to, real or imitation, all drugs that cannot be legally purchased, unauthorized prescription and over-the counter medications, performance-enhancing chemicals, and illegal inhalants.
- Illegal drugs: include, but are not limited to, real or imitation, marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamines, heroin, and all drug-related paraphernalia.

BANDON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS CODE

I have read and I understand both the Activities and Athletic Code and the Academic guidelines that govern participation in all extra-curricular activities sanctioned by Bandon School District #54. I agree to comply with all rules and provisions stated therein. I understand that I will receive these documents and sign this acknowledgement only once during the current school year and that the agreement is in force for participation in each and all activities and/or sports for the entire year.

Any participant who has an Individualized Educational Program (I.E.P.) is subject to all the conditions and provisions included herein unless other wise modified by his/her multidisciplinary team (MDT). The MDT may waive or modify any part of this document. The MDT has authority over all aspects of the participant's involvement in extra-curricular activities including but not limited to standards of conduct and conditions of membership, eligibility and misconduct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's name (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's name (PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

This signature page is to be signed and dated by the participant and his/her parent or guardian, detached from the materials and returned to the athletic director or high school office. The "Activities and Athletics Code" should be retained for the entire school year by the parent or guardian as a reference to the conditions and provisions for participation.