

High Point Friends School Activities/Athletic Code of Conduct

PREFACE

Extracurricular activities are an integral and valuable part of a student's middle school experience, and High Point Friends School is committed to sponsoring a wide variety of such activities. High Point Friends School recognizes that participation in an extracurricular activity is a privilege offered to its students. While difficult to measure, the educational value of extracurricular participation is extensive. Students not only develop physical, mental, and social skills, but also positive values and attitudes that they will take with them into their adult life.

This code details these expectations as they pertain to all extracurricular participation at High Point Friends School. Participation in activities is earned, in part, by accepting and following the regulations contained in this Code of Conduct.

High Point Friends School does not discriminate on the basis of national origin, race, color, creed, sex, age, handicap or political affiliation in its educational programs, related activities or employment practices.

The following pages contain the minimum requirements for every High Point Friends School student to be eligible for participation in school-sponsored, extracurricular activities. In order to participate in any extracurricular activity, a signed Code of Conduct must be returned to the Activities/Athletics Office for the school's records.

ARTICLE I: DEFINITION OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities at High Point Friends School are defined as those activities in which students appear, perform or compete as representatives of High Point Friends School. Activities in which students represent High Point Friends School as an extension of a specific course are not considered extracurricular activities. All students who participate in the activities listed below or any additions are required to abide by this Code of Conduct. For the purpose of this code, these activities include but are not limited to the following:

- Soccer
- Flag Football
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Rock Climbing
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Chess Club
- Student Council

ARTICLE II: EXTRACURRICULAR EXPECTATIONS

All students participating in extracurricular activities are expected to do the following:

1. Fulfill the responsibility and obligations that go with extracurricular participation by adhering to school rules; school board policy; and local, state and federal regulations.
2. Agree that studies come first and strive for success in academics as well as in extracurricular activities. While High Point Friends School recognizes the importance of extracurricular activities in the overall school program, we firmly believe that academics come first; therefore, to participate in these activities, students must be in good academic standing with a minimum of a "C" average and with passing grades in all classes.
3. Students must attend school and classes as required by law and policy. **A student may participate in an extracurricular activity only if in attendance the entire day of the event unless other arrangements are made through the Head of School's office prior to the event. A student may not practice in any practice session unless he/she has attended all core classes on the day of the practice. He or she is expected to attend school the entire day following the event.** Administrative discretion maybe used in special cases.
4. Recognize that students represent their school and community and both are judged by the student's actions. Therefore, students should demonstrate good citizenship in public and in school and they should adhere to high standards of appearance, conduct, and performance.
5. Complete the season of the activity in good standing in order to qualify for and receive any awards and honors.
6. Respect and encourage excellence of performance and conduct among opponents as well as teammates.
7. Attend practice sessions in order to participate in games.
8. Pay the required athletic/activity fee (if assessed) prior to any practice/game participation. (A separate fee is required to participate in each sport).

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The opportunity to present oneself to the public and to represent one's family and school should not be taken lightly. This privilege is extended to all student/athletes who meet team/club requirements and are willing to assume the following responsibilities:

1. Be a credit to yourself, your parents, your school and your community.
2. Display high standards of social behavior.
3. Demonstrate respect for and acceptance of the rules of competition.
4. Demonstrate respect for those in authority, including coaches, teachers, advisors, officials and adjudicators.
5. Display a strong spirit of cooperation.
6. Use language that is socially acceptable.

ARTICLE III: ATHLETIC ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. All student athletes are required to maintain a **“C” average or higher** in all classes in order to participate in athletics.
2. **No student athlete may have an “F”** in any subject during a grade-reporting period.
3. Any student/athlete who receives a “D” or “F” and/or “I”, or whose average is below “C” will be ineligible for a minimum of one week (academic probation) during which time the grade will be reviewed. If the “F” and/or “I” is raised and the grade is at least a “C”, a student athlete will regain eligibility. If the quarter grade remains the same after 15 school days, then the student/athlete will remain ineligible for that grade-reporting period.
4. During the probation period the athlete will be required to attend study hall (after school), and/or work with a teacher before returning to practice.
5. A progress report will be obtained at the end of the 1st week. If improvement is made the probation will be lifted. If no improvement is made, the probation will be extended an additional week. If no improvement is made in grade or effort after the 2nd week, expulsion from the team for the remainder of the season may result.
6. Incomplete (I) may be given additional consideration for extenuating circumstances.
7. During the 10 days of ineligibility, it is the coach’s option whether the student/athlete will practice. In special circumstances, the Head of School and Athletic Director together may determine eligibility.
8. All classes/courses a student/athlete is enrolled in and for which the student/athlete receives a grade shall count in the determination of athletic eligibility. The grades are reviewed at the quarter and semester. The quarter grade will be used to determine eligibility.

ARTICLE IV: GENERAL ELIGIBILITY POLICIES

1. An Athletic Eligibility and Participation form must be completed and returned to the school office signed by the student/athlete's parent(s) and examining physician prior to beginning practice.
2. Students in grades 5 – 8 are eligible to participate in middle school athletics on coed teams.
3. No student/athlete may participate in any sport until the Code of Conduct form has been properly completed and returned to the Athletic Director and all fees are paid.

ARTICLE V: CODE OF CONDUCT

IMPROPER BEHAVIOR

1. Any athlete found guilty of offenses such as classroom disruption, skipping school, skipping practice and other offenses, shall be dealt with by each individual coach, athletic director, or the Head of School by suspending the offender for up to the maximum practice days in that activity in which the offense occurs.
2. All athletes are expected to display high standards of social behavior, outstanding sportsmanship and proper respect for those in authority in school and within the community. Any athlete who becomes involved in problems with school officials is subject to disciplinary action as outlined above.
3. Improper behavior also includes such behavior as a criminal behavior, fighting, arguing with officials or coaches, vandalism, being at a party where drugs and/or alcohol are being used, dishonesty, disruptive behavior, or vile and abusive language. Any athlete guilty of such behavior shall be suspended as determined by the administration.
4. A 2nd suspension will result in automatic suspension from the team for the remainder of the season.

PRACTICE SESSIONS

1. All athletes are expected to attend all practices unless excused by the coach. Athletes may not practice in any practice session unless they have attended core classes of that day. The administration will decide in special cases.
2. An athlete is ineligible to participate in a game unless he/she has attended the previous practice. Exceptions to this policy are made by the Athletic Director.

TRAVEL

1. Part of being a team member is sharing team experiences. One of these is traveling with the team. It is expected that all student/athletes will travel **to and from** contests with the team. Traveling to and from athletic contests will be on school provided transportation.

Exceptions to athletic travel will only be granted by requests to the Athletic Director by the parent or guardian of the athlete. These requests must be in writing and submitted on the day of the event. No students will be allowed to travel with anyone but his/her parents/guardian.

CARE OF EQUIPMENT

1. Each athlete is responsible for the proper care of all issued equipment.
2. The athlete, parents or guardian will be held financially responsible for any lost, misplaced or damaged equipment.

INJURIES

1. All injuries must be reported immediately to the coach in charge of the team.
2. Athletes requiring medical treatment must obtain a written release form from the attending physician before returning to practice or competition.
3. In case of an emergency, athletes will be sent to a doctor of their choice, if possible, and the parents will be notified.
4. Should a serious injury be discovered after the athlete has returned home, the athlete may go to the doctor, but it is the athlete's responsibility to see that proper forms are completed when the athlete returns to school.

