

# Alvin ISD Athletic Code of Conduct

## STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

The Alvin Independent School District believes that being an athlete in this District is an honor demanding many responsibilities. Being an athlete is a **PRIVILEGE**, not a right. The following are expectations for our athletes:

- Be intense competitors during the contest while exhibiting good sportsmanship and courteous behavior
- Display positive leadership
- Aspire to the highest in moral and ethical values
- Conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen
- Show respect for others (coaches, parents, faculty, students, opponents, and officials)
- Strive to obtain a quality education, keeping this as the primary reason for attending school
- Develop and exhibit school pride

As athletes in the Alvin Independent School District, students present an image that reflects the District to both opponents and our school community. This image should be one of sportsmanship, competitiveness and pride through positive action.

Participation in athletics sponsored by the Alvin Independent School District and the University Interscholastic League is a **privilege**, not a right. Therefore, all students taking part in the program shall conform to all rules contained within the Alvin I.S.D. policies, the Student Code of Conduct, the Athletic Code of Conduct and the University Interscholastic League rules and regulations. When any rules are violated, on or off premises, before, during, or after school hours, the administration and/or coaches, at their discretion, shall have the right to deny the privilege of participation.

Coaches are responsible for decisions affecting the teams they coach. Such decisions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Composition of the team
- Schedules
- Playing time for individual students
- Practice time (within U.I.L. guidelines)
- Disciplinary action
- Awarding letters to athletes
- Selection of individuals to be recognized for outstanding performance
- Other rules not contradictory to the Athletic Code of Conduct

## MANDATORY ATHLETIC FORMS AND FEES

All AISD athletes are required to have the following forms current and on file with the Athletic Department:

- Annual physical and acknowledgement of rules
- Code of Conduct
- AISD Drug Testing

- UIL Steroid
- Insurance Fee for each sport

### **ON THE FIELD OR COURT OF PLAY**

Athletes shall not use profanity or resort to illegal tactics. They should understand that both winning and losing are part of the game. Exhibitions of temper, flagrant rule violations, taunting, and unsportsmanlike actions shall not be tolerated.

Game officials shall be respected and treated with courtesy. Any discussion of decisions made by officials shall be left to the coaches.

Any behavior that is contrary to that specified in the Athletic Code of Conduct, or any other act considered to be poor sportsmanship may result in removal from one or more contests and possible removal from the team.

### **PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND GROOMING**

As voluntary participants in the athletic program, students in the Alvin Independent School District shall meet and maintain certain acceptable grooming and personal appearance standards. In addition to upholding the standards established in the school districts dress code, athletes shall set examples for the school and community in the area of grooming and personal appearance.

To be eligible to participate in competitive sports or practice sessions, athletes shall adhere to the following rules:

1. Hair shall be clean, well groomed, natural in color, and styled in a way that is not distracting or conspicuous.
2. Remain clean shaven. Facial hair, including mustaches, beards, goatees, and extremely long side burns, are not allowed.
3. Be neatly dressed, including proper undergarments, shoes, and socks.
4. School issued or approved clothing shall be worn during contests or practices only. No exceptions shall be made to the team uniform.
5. Male athletes shall not wear earrings and/or body piercing items at school or at school activities. Female athletes may wear up to two earrings in each earlobe, but shall not wear any other body piercing items at school or at school activities. Absolutely no body piercing items shall be worn in practices or games.
6. Comply with all other school rules relating to dress and grooming as described in the dress code policy for students.

### **SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL FROM THE REGULAR SCHOOL SETTING**

An athlete who is suspended or removed from the regular school setting for any disciplinary reason under the Athletic Code of Conduct shall be subject to the following:

- 1) First offense of 3 days or less the athlete may participate and practice and will have Level I disciplinary consequences,
- 2) The second offense or first offense of over 3 days the athlete will be ineligible to participate in all interscholastic activities during the periods of suspension or removal, and be subject to Level II disciplinary actions. A third suspension or removal during

the same school year may result in removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year from the date of the offense.

### **DISRESPECT TO A TEACHER OR COACH**

Any act of disrespect by an athlete to a teacher, coach, administrator, referee, or community member shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension of one game/event or more, and/or removal for the remainder of the school year.

### **DISRESPECT TO A TEAMMATE**

Any act of disrespect or hazing, by athlete to a teammate, shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension of one game/event or more, and/or removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

### **TRAINING RULES**

The training rules apply to all athletes at all times throughout their school athletic careers. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension of one game/event or more and/or removal from athletics for the remainder of the school year. A second violation may result in removal from athletics for one calendar year from the date of the incident.

It is the responsibility of each head coach to convey to his/her team the expectations and need for adherence to team and training rules.

The Athletic Director must be consulted when the following violations occur:

- Use of tobacco by an athlete
- Use of an illegal drug or inhalant
- Use of alcoholic beverage
- Use of any type of anabolic steroid or any derivative
- Any other such violations of which the head coach deems necessary to inform the Athletic Director.

All infractions including use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or criminal activity, shall be referred to the District Athletic Advisory Council for review. Punishment will be assessed according to Alvin I.S.D. policy, the Student Code of Conduct, and the Athletic Code of Conduct and the University Interscholastic League rules and regulations.

Violations of training rules may result in removal from all athletic activities for up to one year. At the end of one calendar year from the date of the violation, the case may be reviewed for readmission to athletics by all parties concerned.

### **PRACTICE**

Practice is an essential part of athletics and students are expected to participate except when injured or sick. During practice situations, athletes shall:

1. Consult the team coach as far in advance as possible when absence is necessary.
2. Avoid using profanity, it will not be tolerated.
3. Make every attempt to be a team member, not an individual.
4. Make every effort to see the trainer before school or practice, and not during practice.

1. An injured or sick athlete will be given an alternative assignment during the athletic period and/or after school practice.
2. All athletes will be required to make up missed conditioning if absent from practice.

### **THEFT**

Theft from other players, students, opponents, schools, or Alvin I.S.D. school equipment shall not be tolerated. Punishment will be decided on an individual basis and may result in suspension and/or removal from all athletic activities for up to one calendar year from the date of the incident.

### **SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

School equipment is purchased for student use during athletic activities. The taking or wearing of athletic equipment, which is the property of Alvin I.S.D., on or off school premises at any time other than specified practices and competitions shall be considered a manifestation of theft of such equipment and punished as provided in the Student Code of Conduct and this Athletic Code of Conduct.

### **LOCKER ROOM**

Safety is of primary concern in locker rooms. The following rules shall be observed:

1. No horseplay (hitting, wrestling, throwing items, popping towels, etc.)
2. Maintain school equipment as directed by coaches.
3. Keep all school equipment and personal belongings locked in the locker at all times.
4. Keep school facilities clean and help ensure their continued good maintenance.

### **TRAVEL**

Because athletes represent the community, parents, school, and coaches, as well as themselves, proper conduct is expected on athletic trips. Athletes shall dress in accordance to school policy and athletic code requirements. Specific travel details are:

1. Be on time for all trips.
2. Dress neatly and in accordance to policy.
3. Be mannerly and courteous in restaurants and other public places.
4. Be quiet and orderly on the bus to avoid distractions to the driver.
5. Show respect for opponents facilities.
6. Travel with the team when leaving and returning. In emergency situations and/or when prior permission has been given by the coach, the athlete may return with parents. Athletes will only be released to their parents or legal guardian. A "Student Travel Release Form" must be filled out with a parent signature prior to the athletic trip.

### **QUITTING/REMOVAL FROM ATHLETIC PROGRAM**

Any participant who quits a sport after beginning shall:

1. Discuss the situation with the coach.
2. Confer with the head coach of the sport before terminating participation in a sport.
3. Notify parent/guardian for any type of removal (disciplinary, credit recovery,

- no longer competing in a sports, etc.)
4. Turn in all equipment that has been issued by the school.
  5. Forfeit the right to an award for the sport.
  6. Forfeit the right to participate in post-season activities (sports banquets, post season ceremonies, all star games, etc.)

Athletics involves hard work, time, and dedication. Think hard before deciding to go out for a sport. Any participant who quits a sport after they have begun will not be allowed to participate in that sport again or in any other sport until the regular season has ended in the sport that he/she quit. If necessary, the Athletic Director will make a decision in regards to this matter. Parents/guardians shall be notified before a student/athlete is removed from an athletic program regardless for any reason

### **OFF-SEASON**

Student athletes may participate in off-season programs when they are not participating in a sport in season or while participating in another sport.

Athletes who participate in two or more sports having off-season programs shall participate on an equal basis in the off-season programs associated with each sport. Exception to this rule shall be made during the official season of the sport as determined by the University Interscholastic League calendar by agreement between the coaches of the sports.

### **TOBACCO VIOLATIONS**

Alvin I.S.D. is a tobacco-free district. Student athletes are not permitted to use tobacco products on or off school premises, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, or chewing tobacco. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension or removal from athletics.

### **DRUG OR ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS**

Student athletes shall not possess, use, transmit or attempt to possess, use, or transmit, or be under the influence of any of the following substances on or off school premises:

1. Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by the Texas Controlled Substance Act, without regard to amount, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate.
2. Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage.
3. Any abusable glue, aerosol, paint, or any chemical substance for inhalation.
4. Any other intoxicant or mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-altering drug.

If the administration, after a thorough investigation, has good reason to believe the student athlete has participated in selling, giving, possessing, or being under the influence of abusive drugs (marijuana, alcohol, narcotics, steroids, crack, cocaine, etc.), he/she shall be suspended from the athletic program until guilt or innocence is determined.

If a student athlete is arrested and charged with selling, giving, possession of or under the influence of drugs, he/she will be automatically suspended from the athletic program until guilt or innocence is determined. If the student athlete is found guilty they will be suspended

from all athletic participation of any kind for a period of one calendar year from the date of the first incident.

Level IV disciplinary consequences will be assessed notwithstanding any prosecution under the juvenile/criminal justice systems.

### **ALLEGATION OR INDICTMENT FOR FELONY CRIMES**

No athlete, while under indictment for having committed a felony crime, will be allowed to participate in any capacity in the athletic program. (This is to include practice and/or games.)

When guilt or innocence is established, the re-admission to the athletic program or the penalty phase will be developed.

Any athlete who has been referred for prosecution to the juvenile justice system based on alleged felony level delinquent conduct or charged with a felony in the criminal justice system shall not be allowed to participate in any practices or games/events.

If the prosecution is unconditionally dismissed or the athlete is found not guilty, then the athlete shall be readmitted to the athletic program.

If the prosecution results in a disposition other than an unconditional dismissal or a finding of not guilty, then the athlete shall be removed from all athletic activities for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of the offense or removed for the remainder of their A.I.S.D. school career.

### **DISCIPLINARY LEVELS AND CONSEQUENCES**

Level I and II Discipline Violations:

Disciplinary offenses in Level I and II range from mild to more severe acts of misconduct that will result in one of the following consequences:

1. Coach/athlete conference.
2. Coach/athlete conference with additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities.
3. Coach/athlete/parent conference with additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities, and a contract detailing ways to improve improper behavior.
4. Persistent violations may result in removal from the athletic program.

Level III Discipline Violations:

Level III offenses are acts of misconduct which are serious and which disrupt the orderly educational process. Standard disciplinary options at this level include suspension, referral to law enforcement, arrest, restitution or damages, and/or assignment to AEC/ADAPT.

Athletes are prohibited from participating in or attending any sports events or school-related activities during the period of removal. In addition, the Athletic Department may impose one or more of the following consequences:

1. Coach/athlete conference.
2. Coach/athlete conference with additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities.
3. Coach/athlete/parent conference with additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities, and a contract detailing ways to improve improper behavior.

4. Removal from the athletic program. (drug-related infractions and felony offenses are discussed later)

#### Level IV Discipline Violations

Level IV offenses are acts of misconduct for which mandatory removal to the SSC/ADAPT center are required. The period of removal may be until the end of the next grading period or until the end of the year. Offenses that occur during the last six weeks of the second semester or third trimester may result in a student's placement at the SSC/ADAPT center for the first semester or first trimester of the next year. Athletes are prohibited from participating in or attending any sports events or school-related activities during the period of removal. In addition, the Athletic Department may impose one or more of the following consequences:

1. Coach/athlete conference.
2. Coach/athlete conference with additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities.
3. Coach/athlete/parent conference with additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities, and a contract detailing ways to improve improper behavior.
4. Removal from the athletic program. (drug-related infractions and felony offenses are discussed later)
5. For an athlete to re-enter the athletic program after having been removed for any reason, the following procedure will be followed:
  - a. The athlete and parent(s) will meet with the campus athletic council. At this meeting a contract detailing probationary re-entry into the athletic program will be developed. After discussing each item closely, all parties present will be asked to sign the contract.
  - b. Upon re-entry into the program on a probationary status, the athlete will be suspended from any participation in competitive participation other than in practice for a period of ten (10) consecutive school days. The suspension will begin the first day of re-enrollment on the school campus.
  - c. During the period of suspension, the athlete will be required to complete additional sport-appropriate conditioning activities as directed by the coach.
6. A second Level IV violation (school sponsored or non-school sponsored) would result in a suspension for one calendar year from the date of the second incident or removal from the athletic program for the entire school career.

#### **ATHLETIC ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Athletic Advisory Council will be composed of the District Athletic Director, Campus Administrator, and another Alvin I.S.D. Administrator. Its function will be to gather facts, interpret facts, and render a fair and just decision in matters of athletic discipline. The Athletic Director may convene the Athletic Advisory Council whenever he/she feels it is warranted or when the potential action taken could result in suspension or removal of a student from athletics.

#### **APPEALS**

Any athlete may appeal the penalty phase for their violation of the Alvin I.S.D. Athletic Code of Conduct. The appeal should be filed through the appropriate process to see that all due process rights are provided any student athlete as required by law. The Athletic Director's decision on a ruling made by the Athletic Advisory Council concerning a penalty assessed

may be appealed by the complaint procedure outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook. An appeal of an Athletic Director's decision or a ruling made by an Athletic Advisory Council shall be entered at Level 2 of the complaint procedure.

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE NEXT PAGE TO YOUR COACH  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT POLICIES**

Student Athlete

I \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the above Alvin I.S.D. Athletic Code of Conduct, sport specific training rules, and agree that I will abide by the Athletic Code of Conduct, the sport specific training rules, and all Alvin I.S.D. policies.

Date	Signature of Athlete
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Parent/Legal Guardian

I \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the above Alvin I.S.D. Athletic Code of Conduct, the sport specific training rules, and agree that I and my son/daughter will abide by the Athletic Code of Conduct, the sport specific training rules, and all Alvin I.S.D. policies.

Date	Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian
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