

BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC CODE

Student Responsibilities

The Boyertown Area School District recognizes the vital role athletics and cheerleading play in promoting the physical, mental, social, emotional and moral development of its students. Involvement in these activities affords students the opportunity to gain valuable experiences and insights into teamwork, self discipline and life itself.

The high profile status of athletics in school gives many students a chance to experience success and develops confidence and self esteem. Participants in athletics often earn the respect of their fellow students and are viewed as leaders within the school society.

It is important to note, however, that while education is a right, participation in athletics is a privilege, and along with that privilege are certain concomitant responsibilities. When a student joins an athletic team and decides to represent his or her school, the student also agrees to accept the training rules, regulations and responsibilities as set forth by individual coaches and the School District.

Student athletes and cheerleaders and their parents are required to read the rules and regulations contained herein before a commitment to join an athletic team or cheerleading squad is made. Before a prospective athlete or cheerleader begins practice for any season he or she must return this form signed by both the student and a parent or guardian signifying that they have read and understood the rules, regulations and responsibilities as established by the Boyertown Area School District Athletic Department as conditions for participating in athletics or cheerleading. Only after they read and become aware of all the responsibilities involved can a student and his or her parent decide whether or not they wish to make the commitment for full participation in athletics or cheerleading.

STUDENT ATHLETE DISCIPLINE CODE

- A. The student athlete or cheerleader is accountable to the rules and regulations set forth in the student handbook dealing with the athletic program and individual team rules and regulations. These include all rules and regulations set forth by the PIAA and the Boyertown Area School District regarding attendance and eligibility.
B. The student athlete shall attend all practices, contests, team meetings, etc., unless excused in advance by the coach or absent from school.
C. Each athlete that competes in any sport must acknowledge that all school issued equipment must be returned at the end of its season, regardless of the condition of the equipment. If equipment is not returned, the athlete is responsible for the full price based upon the replacement costs determined by the Athletic Director.
D. The student athlete who is assigned to detention on a specific date in conflict with a practice/event is ineligible to participate in the practice/event at that time. In the case of a suspension (in-school or out-of-school) that student is ineligible to participate in practices or events during the entire suspension period, including weekend participation where applicable.
E. Insubordinate and abusive behavior or profane language will not be tolerated and could mean suspension or dismissal from the athletic team or cheerleading squad.
F. The possession and/or use of tobacco products in any form is not permitted and will be cause for immediate suspension from the team or cheerleading squad, consistent with the provision as set forth in the Boyertown Area School District Athletic Drug and Alcohol Policy.
G. The selling, providing, possession, or use of steroids or other drugs or alcohol on or off school property is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the School District's Drug and Alcohol Policy. In addition, any student/athlete determined to be in violation of any of the above infractions on or off school property will be dismissed from the team or squad for the remainder of the season. The student shall also be referred to his or her school's Student Assistance Team. Any subsequent drug or alcohol violations will constitute a repeat offense and be subject to disciplinary action as set forth in the Boyertown Area School District Athletic Drug and Alcohol Policy, including one year or permanent suspension from participation in athletics or cheerleading. In the case of extremely serious drug or alcohol related incidents, a student may be immediately suspended from any further participation in the athletic programs offered by the Boyertown Area School District.
H. Certain serious behavior of a student in the context of the athletic program may subject the student not only to discipline under the school athletic discipline code but also under the general student discipline code, which could include but not be limited to suspension or expulsion from classes and/or police involvement. The decision as to whether or not certain behavior would be serious enough to invoke the student discipline code will be within the sole discretion of the Administration.
I. Athletic Team Discipline Code - Junior High East and Junior High West: Students will be removed from their respective athletic teams for the following reasons: 1. Three cuts (unexcused absences from practice or games) will result in dismissal from the team. A. The first cut is a warning. B. The second cut will be a 1 game or 2 game suspension. This will be specified by the coach at preseason meetings. C. An athlete who receives a detention may not attend practice or a game the day the detention is served. An athlete must attend the next scheduled detention session. D. An athlete who receives a suspension may not participate in a game or practice the day of the suspension. 2. A multiple day suspension will count as one cut, but a second multiple day suspension will result in removal from the team. 3. Any single incident that is deemed serious enough by the principal, athletic leader, and coach will result in immediate dismissal from the team.

The athletic programs and cheerleading squads throughout Boyertown Area School District's long history have been a source of joy and pride for the school and community. We commend the efforts of all those young people who have chosen and will continue to choose to represent themselves, their team, their parents, and the Boyertown Area School District in athletic competition. To protect the rights of everyone we basically remind students to be respectful, treat others as you wish to be treated, and always remember that home or away, on or off school property, you represent your school and your family. By following such a code of ethics it is ensured that athletes and cheerleaders will continue to serve as positive models for school and community.

If you have any questions regarding these rules and regulations, please feel free to contact the Athletic Director at 610-369-7452

(Please detach and return this section with your PIAA card.)

I have read the above list of rules and regulations set forth as conditions for participation in athletics or cheerleading in the Boyertown Area School District and understand that failure to comply with those rules and regulations could result in termination of the privilege of participation.

Student's Signature

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Sport

Date