2011 – 2012
NEUQUA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITY CODE

ACTIVITIES ARE A PRIVILEGE

The activities / athletics included in this Code place the student participants in the role of representatives of the high school and their fellow students. Participation is a privilege extended to these students, which permits them to benefit from an well-organized program of special interest for which the school provides coaches, sponsors, equipment, and facilities. No student has the right to participate in any of these activities or any other extracurricular/co-curricular activities.

With the privilege of participation comes the additional responsibility of each participant to learn, understand, and follow the rules established by the District, the high school and the coaches/sponsors of the particular activity.

Because these activities are voluntary and because those participating represent their school, we expect the behavior of those who try out and participate to be of the highest order. This is particularly true of academic requirements, honesty, school citizenship, and sportsmanship. The dignity of the school is reflected in its activity program. Since it is a privilege to participate and represent the school, it is logical that the school has the authority to revoke or restrict the privilege for those who do not conduct themselves in a responsible manner. This sense of responsibility extends to the activity as well as to conduct inside and outside the school.

When the doors of participation and competition are opened to those who have questionable habits or who are not good citizens, the activity program can fail. The privilege of representing the school should be left in the hands of those who have earned it.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible to participate in any co-curricular activities, students must be in good academic standing as proscribed by the Board of Education in compliance with state law. Coaches and sponsors will review eligibility standards at the beginning of each season and as new members join the activity.

PARTICIPATION RULES

Once a student begins participation in any program of athletics/activities at the high school, this Code will be in effect for the remainder of the student's high school attendance in District 204, including summer months. The high school will attempt to make all participants aware of this Code and other rules established by coaches/sponsors. Information may be furnished at enrollment, initial participation in an activity and periodically in connection with other activities. However, the responsibility of learning, understanding and following this Code and other applicable rules lies with the student participant. Written acknowledgment of this Code by each participant will be sought, but will not be a prerequisite to enforcement of this Code or other rules.

High School Participation

In order to be eligible for participation in any school-sponsored or school-supported athletic or extracurricular activity, each student in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 must maintain a passing grade in no less than (5) courses, as determined on a weekly basis.

Any student who fails to meet the aforesaid requirement will be suspended from further participation in all school-sponsored and school-supported athletic and extracurricular activities for seven (7) calendar days.

In addition, any student who fails to maintain a passing grade in no less that five (5) courses for a given semester will be prohibited from participating in any school-sponsored or school-supported athletic and extracurricular activities for the following semester.

Participation in school-sponsored or school-supported athletic or extracurricular activities may also be subject to additional eligibility requirements imposed by the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) or other governing bodies.

School-sponsored and school-supported athletic and extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to:

- All activities sanctioned by the IHSA
- Poms and drill team
- All events of a competitive nature between two or more schools.
- The list of included activities will be periodically reviewed and updated by the administration. Activities which are linked to a student's grade will not be considered to be school-sponsored or school-supported athletic or extracurricular activities.
- Performances (i.e. drama, dance, co-curricular music, etc.), which are not linked to students' grade, will be considered on a semester basis only.

PROCEDURE

A student accused of a violation will be informed of the charge and given the opportunity to explain or respond.

a) For violations, which occur at school, or at school-sponsored events a school administrator/dean will be informed and will follow the normal school conduct code. With regard to the extra-curricular penalty, the administrator/dean will inform the Athletic/Activities Director, head coach/sponsor, and parents.

b) For reported violations, which occur outside of school or in the summer, the Athletic/Activities Director will investigate and inform the head coach/sponsor, student, and parents. The Athletic/Activities Director will meet with the student and render a decision regarding Athletic/Activities participation.

APPEAL

Since athletic/activity participation is a privilege, it is not protected by due process procedures applicable to regular public education. A participant may appeal the declaration of the ineligibility to the building principal. Such appeal must be submitted within 48 hours of the declaration. A parent must attend the appeal. **The penalty remains in force during the appeal.** The decision of the principal is final.

ACTIVITY PENALTIES SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS

During out-of-school suspensions, no practices or contests are allowed. In addition, the student may not be in practice or a contest if that conflicts with an assigned school penalty (e.g. P.M. detention, Saturday School).

CRIMINAL ACTION

When the school has substantiated knowledge of criminal offense or that a student has been charged with a criminal offense, he/she will immediately be temporarily suspended from participation in all extracurricular activities. The high school administration and Athletic/Activities Director(s) will consider duration of the suspension and reinstatement of the student to a program based upon a review of the information.

SUBSTANCE USE OR POSSESSION

Schools have a significant interest in discouraging the use of prohibited substances to provide a safe and healthy environment conducive to learning. It is considered a violation of the athletic and activity code if a student is in the presence, possesses, uses, distributes, or sells illegal drugs, look-a-like drugs, paraphernalia, controlled substances, or alcoholic beverages, and if a student attends a party or gathering where alcohol or drugs are present and or being consumed. The following procedure will be used if a student who tries out or participates in athletics or activities is involved in an alcohol or drug-related situation.

Voluntary Admission / 1ST Offense: A student may admit that he/she violated the code provisions regarding drugs and alcohol only one time in his/her high school career. The voluntary admission to the coach / sponsor / athletic or activities director must occur within the first 24 hours following the rule violation. The student may be required to attend an education program and / or the athletic/activities director may suspend the student from one or more contests/events. Failure to follow the recommendation, may result in further suspension.

Voluntary admission is not applicable if authorities respond to a gathering where alcohol or drugs are present and report to school officials, if a ticket is issued for attendance at, consumption/possession or names appear in the newspapers.

1st Offense: The student will be suspended ***40% of athletic/activity scheduled at the level of competition***. If the student completes an assessment program from a professional agency the suspension may be reduced ***to 20% of scheduled contests*** following the completion of the recommendations of the educational program/assessment, with documentation provided of completion of the program.

During this suspension the student may practice but will not participate in contests/events. If the student does not complete the suspension or does not complete the assessment, the penalty will continue into the student's next activity. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the athletic/activities director(s) with prompt evidence of the required assessment/evaluation/ ***recommended program before reinstatement of privilege.***

The student who does not obtain an assessment will be suspended for ***40% of season***. During this suspension, the student will not practice or compete/participate.

2nd Offense: The student will be suspended for one calendar year from participating in all school activities. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the athletic/activity director(s) with prompt evidence of the required assessment/evaluation prior to reinstatement of athletic/activity privileges.

3rd Offense: The student will not participate or attend any school activity or event for the rest of his/her high school years (i.e. sport events, dances, and prom) until submitting substantial evidence of rehabilitation to the athletic activities director(s) to seek reinstatement of activity privileges.

STEROIDS AND PERFORMANCE ENHANCING SUPPLEMENTS

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The use of steroids and performance-enhancing dietary supplements, listed on the IHSA banned list are prohibited.

Beginning with the 2008-09 school term, any student who ingests or otherwise uses any of the banned substances on the association's banned list, without written permission by a licensed physician, to treat a medical condition, violates IHSA By-Law 2.170 and its subsections, is subject to IHSA penalties, including ineligibility from competition. The IHSA will test certain randomly selected individuals from the schools list of all athletic participants/teams at any given time throughout a school year, during selected IHSA state series or during the school day for banned substances. The results of all tests shall be considered confidential and shall only be disclosed to the student, his or her parents, and his or her school.

As a prerequisite to participate in IHSA athletic activities, no student athlete may participate unless the student and the parent/guardian consent to random drug testing. A complete list of current IHSA banned substances can be accessed at:

http://www.ihsa.org/initiatives/sportsMedicine/files/IHSA_banned_substance_classes.pdf

The National Center for Drug Free Sport, Inc provide easily accessible resource designed to answer student and parent questions about its drug testing program, banned substances and questions about dietary supplements. The Resource Exchange Center (REC) may be accessed at:

http://www.ihsa.org/initiatives/sportsMedicine/files/REC_2008-2009_Intro.pdf

TOBACCO

It is a violation of this code to use or be in possession of tobacco or smokeless tobacco products.

1st Offense: The student will be suspended from 10% athletic/activity contests/events.

2nd Offense: The student will be suspended for ***20% of scheduled contests***, which could result in the consequence being served over two seasons. The student will participate in all practices and attend contest during the time they are serving the consequence. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the athletic activity director(s) with evidence of completion of the required education program, ***before reinstatement of privilege.***

3rd Offense: The student will be suspended for one calendar year from participating in all student athletic/activities. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the athletic/activity director(s) with evidence of completion of the required education program.

4th Offense: The student will not participate in any school activity or events for the rest of his/her high school years (i.e. sport events, dances, and prom) until submitting substantial evidence of rehabilitation to the athletic/activities director(s) to seek reinstatement of athletic/activity privileges.

HAZING/HARASSMENT/BULLYING

Hazing/harassment/bullying in any athletic/activity program or outside the program is unacceptable. Students involved in hazing/harass-ment/bullying may be suspended from athletic/activity contest/events or removed from team. ***If a student is unsure of an appropriate behavior or practice, a building administrator can clarify.***

HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. All athletes **MUST** have on file a current physical exam certificate that will not expire within the season in order to practice or participate.
2. All athletes must show evidence of being covered by a health insurance plan. Students must show proof of insurance at registration by submitting insurance company name and policy # or by enrolling in the school insurance plan.
3. If the Athletic/Activity Director has reasonable cause to believe a student's health condition may pose a risk to the student or others in the activity, he / she may require a more current certification of fitness to participate from a physician.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, MEDICAL EXCUSES and VACATIONS

1. Daily school attendance, no less than five (5) academic classes, is required for a student to participate in daily practice, contest or events. Exception can only be made by the activity/athletic director(s). It will not be the practice for participants to purposely miss part of a school day. Documentation of medical appointments, college visits, court appearance, must be provided to the coach, athletic/activity director(s) prior to participation of practice, or contest/event.

2. Athletes who are medically excused from regular physical education classes may not participate in school activities, practices, or games without a doctor's release or a release from the school nurse. However, participation in athletics for such students may be limited by the school based on the safety judgment of the Athletic Director after consultation with the coach.

3. Participation in regular pre-season practices is important for the safety and health of students. Absence from such practices for vacations will be considered by the coach in restricting participation. However, absences due to illness will be

considered in a different light and will be subject to individual review by the athletic/activity director with advice from the head coach in perspective of what is best for the student participant and school.

4. Vacation absences during an activity or team season can result in ***restricted participation*** or release from the team/activity. See the individual coach/sponsor at the start of the sport/activity for details about absences.

FUNDRAISING

Indian Prairie District 204 has revised its policy (Policy 730.10) on student participation in fundraising activities. In conjunction with the current fundraiser, we would like to inform you of the major points of that policy.

- Participation in or donation to any fundraising activity is always optional.

- Each fundraising activity may establish a suggested donation as an alternative to participation.
- Under no circumstances will any student be compelled to participate or donate, or penalized for not participating or donating.
- Door-to-door solicitation is not required by any fundraising activity and is discouraged.
- If you have any questions or concerns about a fundraising activity, please contact the sponsor, athletic director or the building administrators.
- Thank you for your continued support.

Sportsmanship Mission Statement

Good sportsmanship is the attitude and behavior that exemplifies positive support for the interscholastic programs of the IHSA member schools, as well as for the individuals who participate in such programs. People involved in all facets of the interscholastic program are expected to demonstrate respect for others and display good sportsmanship.

Sportsmanship Is Everybody's Responsibility

Sportsmanship starts on the court or athletic field and extends into the bleachers and beyond. In today's increasingly competitive environment, the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat seem to be more intensified than ever before. It is important to raise the public awareness of sportsmanship and interscholastic activities. It is everyone's responsibility to practice good sportsmanship. Recognizing the efforts by students, coaches, administrators, spirit groups, and fans is a valuable part of the interscholastic experience.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION

Because participation in athletics/activities is a privilege, this Code is merely a guide for responding to certain identified actions or conduct. Nor every situation involving conduct inconsistent with a student participant's status as a representative of the high school is or can be covered. The high school reserves the right, but not the obligation, to alter, revise, adjust, or increase sanctions and discipline on a case-by-case basis, as the interests of the school require.