



*ARCHER CITY ISD*  
**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**  
**AND DRUG TESTING POLICY**

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**FOREWORD**

Participation in athletics means more than competition between two individuals or two teams representing different schools. It teaches fair play, sportsmanship, and an understanding and appreciation of teamwork. It gives the athlete an appreciation of the fact that quitting means failure, while hard work is the most necessary ingredient of success.

With these values in mind, the policies that follow have been formulated for the use of all concerned.

*NO STUDENT IS OBLIGATED TO TAKE PART IN ATHLETICS, NOR IS IT REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.* It is stressed that *ATHLETICS IS A PRIVILEGE*, and the *COACHES AND ADMINISTRATORS HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REVOKE THIS PRIVILEGE WHEN THE STUDENT ATHLETE DOES NOT MEET REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS!*

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- As an athlete, lots of people observe and judge your conduct. Don't kid yourself – People keep a special eye on you. You're held to a higher standard than other students are. You may not always like it, but there is no way to change it. It just comes with the territory.
  - The younger kids in our community look up to you as a hero and a model to emulate – Don't kid yourself about that either.
  - So it is very important that your behavior always be exemplary in those areas where people will be observing and judging you.
  - The payoffs that come with being a Archer City athlete – both in terms of the positive recognition you receive from youngsters, peers, parents, teachers, and community, and in terms of the personal fulfillment you get from being self-disciplined and achieving difficult goals – make the extra scrutiny you'll receive worthwhile in the long run.
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**POLICIES AND RULES**

**I. ON THE FIELD OR FLOOR**

When Archer City athletes take the field or floor, *we will present a class act.*

In the area of athletic competition, a true athlete does *not* exhibit poor sportsmanship or illegal tactics. We expect to win; yet we also expect that our athletes be modest in victory. Losing is also sometimes part of the game, and our athletes are expected to be gracious in defeat. Congratulate your opponent on a well-contested game after play has ended. False athletes often indulge in fits of temper, put on an emotional display, or clown around when things fail to go as desired or when they are replaced by a teammate. A true athlete exercises *self-restraint and self-control* at all times.

The purpose of officials is to insure that both teams will be held to the standards of fair play. We will respect officials for the difficult – and necessary – job they do, and we will communicate that respect in the way we treat officials. It is a Archer City rule that no one except the appointed captain talks to the officials, and then only in a tone of respect – Archer City athletes *always* address officials as “sir” or “ma’am”.

Any behaviors contrary to those stated will reflect negatively on you, your school, your team, and your coaches, so bad behavior simply will not be tolerated. Violations of a minor nature may result

in removal from the game, and integrity training during or after workouts. Those of a serious nature may result in suspension and possible expulsion from the team or even from the athletics program.

## II. YEAR-ROUND PARTICIPATION

ALL football, cross-country, volleyball, basketball, powerlifting, softball, baseball, track, golf and tennis athletes MUST BE ENROLLED IN THE ATHLETICS CLASS, and must remain in the athletics class year-round in order to gain the benefits of the structured speed, weights, agility, and endurance training provided there. Once you have commenced participation in athletics, you are expected to remain in the program. \*

*\*There is one exception to this requirement: That is, if you are in your senior year and an unavoidable conflict in your academic schedule prevents you from enrolling in the athletics class. If you face such a case of an irreconcilable conflict in your academic schedule your senior year, you must secure the approval of the athletic director in order to participate in a sport.*

### *Do I have to sign up for athletics if I only play one sport?*

As a Archer City Wildcat we want to encourage you to compete in multiple sports and be a part of the program. If you are a multisport athlete, you must sign up for athletics for all year. You cannot just sign up for only one semester. An exception to that is if you're a senior and you're only competing in football, volleyball or cross country.

- 1) **Golf Only** - Do not register for athletics. Golf practice is held only after school in the Spring
- 2) **Softball, Baseball, Power lifting, Track, or Tennis Only** - Register for all year
- 3) **Football, Volleyball, Cross Country** - 9th - 11th grade register for all year.  
12th grade register for 1 semester if this is your last sport for the year.

## III. QUITTING A SPORT

Any athlete that quits one sport cannot go to another sport until the season of the sport he/she quits is concluded. The only exception to the rule is if the two coaches involved mutually agree the change would be the best decision for the athlete. In this case, the approval of the athletic director is required.

### **Student Quitting Policy:**

- A. Quitting cannot and will not be an acceptable practice. Athletes are encouraged to always finish what they start. "If you commit you can't quit."
- B. Any athlete that has decided to quit, must schedule a meeting with the athletic director, and the head coach of the sport, the athlete's parents will be contacted
- C. Any athlete that quits any sport, at any time, will not be allowed to compete in any other sports until that season is completed. Athletes will be granted a one school week grace period (beginning with their first day of practice) before a formal commitment is made. At the conclusion of that one-week grace period, the athlete is committed to that sport for the duration.
- D. Athletes will be allowed to return to the team within 24 hours or the next school day, provided the coach will accept the return, all make up conditioning is completed, and the majority of team vote allows it.
- E. Any athlete that quits any sport a 2nd time (does not have to be the same sport) will be suspended from all activities for one calendar year. The athlete will be allowed to rejoin athletics once he/she has completed one semester in the athletic period and demonstrated championship qualities, maintains quality in the classroom, and exhibits strong character (athletic director's approval)
- F. The athletic director has final decision on the consequences of an athlete quitting a sport. If the head coach agrees that it would be in the best interest of both the program and the athlete that the athlete quit his or her sport, there will be no penalty assessed.

IV. **UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE (UIL) RULES**

- A. Archer City ISD is a UIL sanctioned school district, so no one shall take part in any contest or UIL competition in violation of these rules.
- B. It shall be the duty of all persons concerned with the Athletics program to inform student athletes of these rules and to comply completely with them.
- C. The general areas of concern are commonly known as
- 1) Age rule
  - 2) Semester rule
  - 3) Scholarship rule
  - 4) Amateur rule
  - 5) Attendance
  - 6) Changing schools – Prior Participation rule
  - 7) Medical examination\* and parent consent form (MUST BE ON FILE)
  - 8) Awards rule
- \*Texas law states that the examination cannot be done by a chiropractor.
- D. No Pass / No Play
- Students must maintain a minimal 70 average in all subjects each six-weeks in order to be eligible for UIL activities. Certain advanced courses are exempt from this provision.
  - Students who do not pass all subjects are ineligible to participate in games or contests. They are permitted to continue to practice with their teams. Ineligible students will have their grades rechecked in three weeks to determine whether they are passing all subjects and have regained eligibility. Students who regain eligibility at the end of a six-week period will have a seven-day waiting period before being allowed to participate in a contest.
  - An ineligible student may regain eligibility: (1) at the end of a six-weeks period (seven-day waiting period required) if all subjects, except those identified as Advanced or Honors, are passed; and, (2) at the three-week check point (seven-day waiting period) if all subjects, except Advanced or Honors courses, are passed.

IV. **IN THE CLASSROOM**

A. **ISS, DAEP PLACEMENT OR SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL**

As an athlete, you must hold yourself to a higher standard of behavior in the classroom (*for reasons why, see Section "A" above*). Regardless of your personal feelings toward them, as an athlete you should treat all teachers and classmates with respect and self-restraint. Disruptive behavior or disrespect in the *classroom* will be regarded as a violation of your commitment to your *team* (*again, see Section "A"*), and will have commensurate consequences on the field or floor.

ISS Placement – While in ISS athletes are allowed to workout but cannot play in any game while in ISS. If in ISS on game day the athlete is not allowed to play. Athletes will have some sort of punishment workout for being in ISS (to be decided by the in sport coach). Any additional suspensions will be communicated with the athlete and parent.

DAEP Placement – While in DAEP NO athlete is allowed on school grounds, except the DAEP building or room. This includes practices and games at home or away. Athletes will have some sort of punishment workout for being in DAEP (to be decided by the in sport coach). Any additional suspensions will be communicated with the athlete and parent. If the placement in DAEP in of a criminal nature the student athlete may be removed from the program.

Suspension from School - Misconduct at school which results in a student being assigned to home-based instruction setting (suspension) will result in the following additional athletic discipline actions:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: suspension for one contest, day of competition or tournament
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: suspension for remainder of the season

**NOTE:** A student assigned to In-School Suspension (ISS), Alternative Education Program (AEP), or Home-Based Suspension cannot participate in any school activities while in those placements.

**B. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION**

- 1) School attendance is critical to success as a student-athlete. Except in unusual circumstances, a student who is absent from school may not participate in a school sponsored activity scheduled that same day. Exceptions may be granted with proper medical documentation at the discretion of the coach, athletic director, and principal.
- 2) Students who miss the last school day of the week may not participate in events scheduled over the weekend unless an exception is granted as in #1 above.
- 3) Students who miss the school day or are tardy the day after a competition will be suspended for the next game unless an exception is granted as in #1 above
- 4) Students who are injured and receiving medical treatment may not participate until released by the physician. Written documentation may be required.

**VI. BEHAVIOR, GROOMING, AND APPEARANCE STANDARDS**

Appearance on campus and on athletic trips is of great importance, because as an athlete, you are a representative of your school and community. You are expected to maintain the following standards:

- A. Keep a neat and well-groomed appearance.
- B. Don't be profane in speech or manner.
- C. Hair and facial grooming will meet the standards of school board policies.  
(Boys Hair -High and Tight and clean shaven)
- D. Tattoos and/or icons are not acceptable. The restrictions designated under "General Guidelines of the Dress Code" shall apply to any icon or representation visible on the person. This includes, but is not limited to, tattoos, drawings, and/or markings on the body or designs cut into the hair. In addition, any such markings on the body that cannot be removed shall be covered at all times in an unobtrusive manner. A student who has such markings on his/her body and who wishes to participate in extracurricular activities shall ensure that the markings are covered by the standard uniform for the activity, in compliance with the guidelines set forth above.
- E. No Sagging! No one wants to see your underwear!
- F. Caps will be worn correctly.
- G. NO earrings allowed at anytime for boys. This includes at games as a spectator.
- H. The athletic director, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of the extracurricular activity, shall regulate and enforce these guidelines.

**VII. TEAM TRAVEL**

On trips out of town, athletes directly represent their community, their school, their coaches, and their families. Therefore, all participants will dress in an acceptable manner when traveling and conduct themselves at all times in a manner in keeping with this code.

- A. You will remain with your squad and under supervision of your coach when attending out-of-town contests.
- B. You must travel to and from out-of-town athletic contests in transportation provided by the school. \*  
\*You may travel home with parents or legal guardians **with written permission from parents or guardians and with consent from your coach. YOU MUST SECURE PREAPPROVED WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR IN ORDER TO LEAVE THE EVENT WITH SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOUR PARENT.**
- C. In order to travel to a game/contest with your parents (Saturday meet/tournament and you live closer to that area or town) you must get pre-approval from the athletic director.
- D. If you miss the bus. It will be at the discretion of the head coach or the coach in charge if the athlete is allowed to compete.

VIII. **INJURIES AND INSURANCE COVERAGE**

The school assumes no responsibility for medical expenses as a result of injuries, however, ACISD provides accident insurance coverage for University Interscholastic League activities up to \$10,000 per injury. The ACISD Student Athletic Insurance Policy is supplemental only. It coordinates with the parents' primary insurance carrier for claims over \$150. The policy does have limitations which are explained in the master contract. Parents must assume responsibility for payment of charges that exceed the benefit schedule provided by the policy. The coverage DOES NOT provide benefits for ANYTHING but UIL activities. Parents may purchase the additional AT SCHOOL or 24-HOUR COVERAGE to provide more general coverage for injuries. Questions regarding this policy may be addressed to the ACISD staff, but final determination of coverage is governed by the Master Contract available for review at the ACISD Business Office.

IX. **EARNING A LETTER JACKET**

ACISD will purchase ONE letter jacket for any athlete that meets the criteria below. ACISD will not pay for any patches or extra stitching. Any athlete that quits in the middle of the season forfeits their letter in that sport and will not receive their jacket until they earn it in another sport. No one will be allowed to purchase a letter jacket unless lost or out grown. Letter jackets can only be earned.

- 1) **Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Softball** - Athlete must have played in a varsity game or been on the varsity roster for 50% of the games, and in good standing with the team at the end of the season. (not kicked off or quit)
- 2) **Track** - Athlete must have scored a point at the district meet individually or as part of a relay OR run on Varsity in 50% of the meets throughout the season, and in good standing with the team at the end of the season. (not kicked off or quit)
- 3) **Cross Country, Power Lifting** - Athlete must qualify for the regional meet, and in good standing with the team at the end of the season. (not kicked off or quit)
- 4) **Golf** - Athlete must compete in 6 varsity tournaments, and in good standing with the team at the end of the season. (not kicked off or quit)
- 5) **Tennis** - Athlete must have played in 50% of Varsity matches/tournament, ranked 10 or higher on the ladder, and in good standing with the team at the end of the season. (not kicked off or quit)
- 6) **Student Trainer** - Student Trainers will letter after completing 2 years of athletic training. 2 years of Middle School training will count as 1 year. Trainers must be in good standing with the team at the end of the season. (not kicked off or quit)

X. **TRAINING RULES AND TEAM RULES**

***Athletics is a privilege, not a right.*** Behavior that compromises your fitness and ability to perform, or that embarrasses the school, athletics program, or community, will result in the loss of this privilege. Consequently, the athlete who violates rules of training and honorable behavior established within the program will invite disciplinary consequences and may forfeit the privilege of participation for a specified period, up to and including permanent dismissal from the program.

Coaches can initiate removal of a participant in the Athletics program if the participant fails to meet the program's standards of behavior, and the athletic director reserves the authority to decide if or when the student becomes eligible to participate again.

As a student athlete, you are expected to place yourself on the "Honor System" and report yourself when a mistake or infraction occurs. You shall accept your coach's judgment regarding the handling of any case.

**A. CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION, OR SUSPENSION OR DISMISSAL FROM A SPORT OR FROM THE ATHLETICS PROGRAM:**

**1) USE OF RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES**

When you commit to being an athlete, you commit to maintaining a higher standard of fitness, both physical and mental. Thus, the use of substances that impair your ability to perform is forbidden. Alcohol, illicit drugs and paraphernalia are all restricted by school district policy, and they all in varying degrees have a damaging affect on your ability to perform as an athlete. Any use of those substances in violation of district policy and good athletic training standards will not be tolerated. The severity of disciplinary consequences within the athletics program will be determined accordingly.

**1.1 DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES PURSUANT TO VIOLATION OF THE RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES RULE:**

**a. Alcohol/Unauthorized Prescription Drugs**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Athlete will be suspended for 10% of their contests. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Athlete will be suspended for 30% of their contests. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play. The athlete is also required to complete an approved alcohol/drug counseling program before returning to competition.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Athlete will be suspended for 50% of their contests. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play. The athlete is also required to complete an approved alcohol/drug counseling program before returning to competition.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: Athlete will be removed from athletic for the remainder of their ACISD career.

\*Athletes are required to report their alcohol related offenses to the athletic director as soon as possible. Any offenses that are not reported will move up one level in consequences.

Alcohol related offenses are cumulative for the athlete's entire career at ACISD. The athlete's parents are financially responsible for the alcohol/drug counseling programs.

**1.2 VIOLATION OF RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES (alcohol or drugs) RULE WHILE ON AN ATHLETICS TRIP, AT AN ATHLETICS EVENT, OR ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Student is suspended for up to 50% of their contests. This decision will be made by a committee to look at the facts of the case to determine his/her suspension. The committee will be appointed by the Athletic Director. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play. The student is also required to complete an approved alcohol/drug counseling program before returning to competition.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Suspension from the Athletics program

**1.3 USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO OR VAPING PARAPHINALIA WHILE ON AN ATHLETICS TRIP, AT AN ATHLETICS EVENT, OR ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Athlete will be suspended for 10% of their contests. This decision will be made by a committee to look at the facts of the case to determine his/her suspension. The committee will be appointed by the Athletic Director. A physical regimen outlined

by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Athlete will be suspended for 50% of their contests. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Athlete will be removed from athletic for the remainder of their ACISD career.

#### **1.4 DRUG TESTING POLICY**

Archer City ISD wants to deter potential drug use among our students and help them to live drug free lives. The objective of this drug testing policy and the program that goes along with it is not designed solely to punish kids, rather to help them to “Just say No”.

##### **Drugs Testing Information**

1. Drug screening includes
  - A. THC - Marijuana
  - B. COCAINE – Coke, crack
  - C. OPIATES - *Morphine, Codeine, Oxycodone, Hydrocodone*
  - D. AMPHETAMINE – Speed, Uppers, Ecstasy
  - E. METHAMPHETAMINES – Meth
  - F. Nicotine (*NEW for 2020*)
2. All students desiring to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities will be tested at the beginning of the school year. If initial testing is missed, a student will be tested at the next random test session.
3. All high school and middle school students involved in extracurricular activities are subject to the random drug test. ACISD can also test based on suspicion of drug use. Some examples include, but are not limited to – change in behavior, disruption of class, parent request, discipline referral, etc.
4. Students will not be notified in advance of the test. Students will be called from class by a school official with efforts to be the least disruptive as possible to the student’s academic schedule.
5. Students shall remain under supervision until an adequate sample is collected.
6. Students who do not provide a urine sample before the end of the school day, become ineligible to participate in all extracurricular activities until a negative sample is provided at the next random testing date. Parents may provide medical documentation within 24 hours to receive consideration for lifting the suspension.
7. Any student who fails to report for testing when summoned or refuses to be tested will be considered in violation of this policy and subject to subsequent punishment.

##### **Drug Testing Procedures**

A licensed medical facility or third party administrator selected by the Superintendent and approved by the Board will conduct all testing for the presence of drugs in student urine samples. The Superintendent is the program manager who will administer the program with the selected drug testing provider.

Substances specifically tested for will include substances that are illegal to buy, possess, use, sell, or distribute under state or federal law and alcohol, including prescription drugs. These substances include marijuana, cocaine, methaqualone, benzodiazepines, phencyclidine (PCP), methadone, barbiturates, propoxyphene, amphetamines, opiates, and metabolites of any of these substances; and performance enhancing substances.

Samples will be taken under conditions that are no more intrusive to students than the conditions experienced in a public restroom. The Superintendent, in

cooperation with the selected drug testing provider, will develop administrative regulations for collection and testing.

Any student who refuses to be tested during a semester or who tampers with, or assists others in tampering with, any sample will be removed from extracurricular activities.

All positive results must be confirmed by a second, more definitive test before being reported as positive.

**Testing Positive/Received ticket for possession**

If a student tests positive or received a ticket for possession of any illegal drugs, the punishment shall be:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** Student is suspended for 10% of their contests. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play. The student will be subject to weekly drug testing, at student parent expense, for five weeks. Satisfactory completion of the five-week counseling program and is verified.
  
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** Student is suspended for 30% of their contests. A physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play. . The student will be subject to weekly drug testing, at student parent expense, for five weeks. Satisfactory completion of the five-week counseling program and is verified.
  
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:** Student is suspended for two consecutive calendar years.

If the offense falls at the end of one sport (for example last football game) the punishment will carry over to the next sport. A suspended athlete will not be allowed to join a sport not competed in the previous year (for example power lifting) just to finish their suspension before their next sport or extracurricular activity.

- Drug offenses are cumulative for the student's entire career at Archer City ISD.
- Once a student has tested positive, ACISD reserves the right to test them during any random test date.
- The parents are financially responsible for the alcohol/drug counseling program.
- In the event a positive test occurs between activities, the suspension will be carried into the next activity.

**1.5 ALCOHOL/DRUG COUNSELING PROGRAM REQUIREMENT PURSUANT TO VIOLATION OF THE RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES RULE:**

All offenses of this nature will require that the athlete undergo substance abuse counseling, which shall be obtained at the expense of the athlete's parents, prior to the athlete being re-admitted to participation in any in-sport contests. The school district will provide a list of approved providers.

**2) OTHER OFFENSES**

Any other types of behavior that violate training standards established by each head coach, or that bring discredit on Archer City Athletics, will be dealt with on an individual basis by the athlete's head coach and the Athletic Director. Such violations may incur disciplinary consequences determined by the coach or Athletic Director.

**2.1 TRUANCY FROM THE ATHLETICS PERIOD**

Skipping Athletics period will be treated as both a violation of normal school day attendance rules, as well as a violation of team training standards. The following consequences shall apply:



- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Office referral, plus a physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Office referral, plus a physical regimen outlined by the coaching staff will also be completed before return to play.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Suspension from Athletics program for one Athletic Year

**2.2 STEALING**

Stealing will not be tolerated. Any athlete caught stealing from another athlete or from the athletic department will more than likely be remove out of athletics. Any theft of \$300 or more in value, a cell phone, or computer will be turned over to the sheriff's office.

**3) PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS DURING A PERIOD OF DISCIPLINARY SUSPENSION FROM CONTESTS**

The athlete who is in disciplinary suspension from contests will continue to attend practices and workouts as usual, until the required disciplinary action and the prescribed period of suspension from contests has been satisfied.

This provision does NOT apply to any athlete who has been completely suspended from participation in a sport or in the Athletics program.

**B. NOTE REGARDING OTHER BREACHES OF TRAINING STANDARDS AND OTHER DISCIPLINARY MEASURES**

The listing of infractions and disciplinary measures above shall not be construed to mean that the coaches and the Athletic Director my not at their discretion employ other disciplinary measures for breaches of training standards that have not been included in this list.

**XI. ENFORCING AND FOLLOWING POLICIES**

All coaches will administer athletic policies consistently and compassionately. Each coach, with the assistance of the athletic director, is responsible for enforcement of these policies within his or her squad, team, or program during its particular season. When the athlete changes from one sport's season to the next, the new coach will take over policy enforcement.

Once an athlete has been instructed to conform to given standards, no other action should be necessary. **Athletes not wishing to comply with these guidelines are demonstrating that they no longer wish to participate in the athletics program and, therefore, are subject to dismissal.**

As an athlete, you are obligated to not only follow Athletics policies, but to also adhere to all the more general policies and rules that apply school wide to the entire student body. Understand that if you violate a school wide policy or rule, you may be disciplined not only under school policies, but may be subject also to discipline or dismissal from the athletics program.

**XII. ATHLETICS CUT POLICY**

Choosing THE members of athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coach. Prior to trying out, the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:

- EXTENT OF TRY OUT PERIOD
- CRITERIA USED TO SELECT THE TEAM
- FINAL NUMBER OF TEAM MEMBERS
- PRACTICE COMMITMENT IF THEY MAKE THE TEAM
- GAME COMMITMENTS

**When a squad cut becomes a necessity**, the process will include three important elements:

- COMPETED IN A MINIMUM OF 5 PRACTICES
- BE PERSONALLY INFORMED OF THE CUT BY THE COACH AND EXPLANATION OF THE REASON.

Coaches should discuss alternative possibilities for participation in that sport and/or other athletic possibilities in order to keep the student athlete engaged in athletic endeavors if that is in the best interest of the student athlete.

### **XIII. SUB-VARSITY ATHLETICS**

This program is organized to encourage maximum student participation. It is our philosophy to try to play all 7th graders who participate in athletics an equal amount of time during a contest. As players progress from 8th to 9th and JV teams, coaches will determine playing time as the contest or game allows.

Sports at this level will emphasize fundamentals and will be coordinated with the high school athletics program in terminology and discipline.

### **XIV. MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECTS**

#### **A. PRACTICE REGULATIONS**

- 1) Your coach must be contacted and consulted if you must miss a practice. If you are in school and become sick during the day, you must report to the office (unless it is during the athletics period), and then you must report to or call the field house or gym to inform your coach that you are leaving and will miss practice. Failure to inform your coach could result in extra workouts or a one game suspension.
- 2) Unexcused absence from scheduled practice will result in a decision by the head coach of that sport with possible:
  - A. suspension for one contest following the first violation.
  - B. suspension for remainder of the season following the second.
- 3) You must obey the practice rules specifically established by your supervising coach.
- 4) Neither jobs nor detentions constitute reasons for missing a practice or a contest. Consult the coach if special arrangements, due to extenuating circumstances, must be made.
- 5) Practices or games that must be missed due to schedule conflicts with other school-related activities, such as Band, Academic UIL, FFA, Cheerleading, and so on, must be worked out ahead of time on a case-by-case basis between you and your coach. Because we are a small school, we understand that it is mutually beneficial for all programs to seek ways to equitably share our good students. While it may be necessary to make up practice in specific skills you miss in your sport due to a conflict with another school program, it is *not* the policy of the athletic department to permit disciplinary punishment for such conflicts. It *is* the philosophy of the athletic department that we will seek to accommodate within reasonable bounds other school-related activities in which our student-athletes participate, and we expect other activities to reciprocate.

#### **B. WALKING OFF THE FIELD OR COURT**

Never is it acceptable for an athlete during practice or a game to walk off or leave the field or court in frustration. It is considered giving up or quitting on the team. If an athlete walks off during a practice it will be at the discretion of the head coach whether to let them back on the team. If an athlete walks off during a game, it is an automatic removal from that sport for the remainder of the season.

#### **C. QUITTING AND MISSING PRACTICES**

- 1) If you quit the team after the first game of the season, or miss a game without legitimate reason, you will forfeit claim to any awards or letters.
- 2) If you quit a sport after the first game of the season, you will not be allowed to participate in any type of contests in any other sport until the season of the first sport is completed.

**D. NON-SCHOOL TEAM PARTICIPATIONS**

It is a violation of local policy for any student athlete to participate on a non-UIL team during the season of that particular sport. If it is a sport in which Archer City does not participate, then the student may do so with the permission of his or her coach. Archer City ISD varsity teams will not schedule or play non-school team.

**E. SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

- 1) You are financially responsible for all equipment checked out to you. Any athlete who has school equipment charged against them will not be given an award or receive his/her equipment for the next sport or the next year. Athletes who continue to owe for equipment will be referred to the principal's office.
- 2) All equipment will be treated with care. It will not be abused. It will be stored and cared for in the manner prescribed by your coach.
- 3) Theft or malicious destruction of any school or individual's equipment or property will Not be tolerated.  
1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the sports season and a referral of the student to the school administrator.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Suspension from the athletic program

*\*Students* will be required to make restitution for property or damages.

**F. LOCKER ROOM RULES**

- 1) Lockers should be kept in a neat and orderly state. Don't stuff your locker with extraneous items, or leave it in an unsightly condition.
- 2) Roughhousing, throwing objects, etc. will not be allowed in the shower or dressing room.
- 3) All showers must be turned off after use. If you are the last person using a shower, turn it off.
- 4) Soap and used tape must be put in its proper place, not on the shower or dressing room floor.
- 5) No first aid supplies will be taken from the training room without permission from the trainer or coach.
- 6) No first aid will be prescribed by anyone other than the trainer and/or coach.

**G. TEAM SPIRIT AND SPORTS PARTICIPATION**

- 1) Your personal goals and aspirations for recognitions, honors, and so forth are important. They'll drive you to work harder, but understand: for you to receive recognition, your team must be successful. You may have all the talent of a superstar, but if you're not a team player, and your team suffers because of your selfishness, then who is going to be paying attention to your wondrous talent? Players on lousy teams don't get recognized for much. On the other hand, players on great teams get more recognition. So in order to gain recognition for yourself, you have to take care of your team first! Be a team player, help your team succeed, and personal recognition for you will follow.
- 2) Think of yourself as a *Archer City athlete*. Be willing to participate in *any* Archer City sport where you can make a positive contribution.
- 3) Archer City athletes should support other Archer City athletes in *every* sport, whether as a participant or a spectator.

**H. CONDUCT OF PARENTS, FANS, STUDENTS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS AT ARCHER CITY ATHLETIC CONTESTS**

- 1) Encourage spectators to always remember good sportsmanship when Archer City competes against other teams and schools. Consistently let our supporters know it's important to us that "Archer City always presents a class act."
- 2) **Any spectator who is ejected from a contest by a Archer City ISD Administrator, a Sport Official, or a Police Officer, MUST meet with the Archer City ISD Administration before attending any other Archer City contest or event.** Coaches, sponsors, or directors who are involved in a contest or event in which the ejection of a spectator occurs will be present at that meeting. Administrative concerns will be reviewed at this meeting. Archer City ISD administrators shall reserve the option to restrict attendance at future Archer City contests or events.

**I. PARENTS BE PROMPT WHEN PICKING UP YOUR CHILD**

Please be available to pick up your child after practice, games, and out of town trips. Coaches are required to stay until the last child is picked up. If they have to wait for you, then that puts them home late for their own families. Your child's coach should be able to tell you what time to expect practice to be over, so that you can make arrangements. On all out of town trips your child will be asked to call you when we leave the interstate toward Archer City. This should give everyone enough time to be at the gym or field house. If a problem persists then your child can be removed from the athletic program.

**J. CLUB BALL PARTICIPATION**

Once an athlete commits to a team they are expected to be present 100%. It is not acceptable for an athlete to choose their club ball team over their school team. The athlete must make a decision before he commits to either.

- 1) Athletes may NOT miss a ACISD game for a "club ball" game or practice.
  - 1st Offense - 1 ACISD game suspension.
  - 2nd Offense - Removal from the ACISD team.
- 2) Athletes may not miss a ACISD athletic practice for a "club ball" game or practice.
  - 1st Offense - 1 ACISD game suspension.
  - 2nd Offense - Removal from the ACISD team.

**K. SOCIAL MEDIA**

As an athlete the ACISD Athletic Department holds you to a higher standard because you are a role model for the youth of Archer City. Any action by you that is detrimental to that image will not be tolerated. Athletes can be suspended for what they put on any social media sites. (Facebook, Vine, Twitter...)

- 1) Any athlete who talks negatively about his or her team or coach will be suspended from 1 game up to 10% of the season games. This will be determined by the Athletic Director. A repeat offense could result in removal from the team.
- 2) Any athlete whose picture is posted on social media drinking or using drugs (whether true or as a joke) will be subject to the ACISD athletic policy on alcohol and/or drug use.
- 3) If any Social Media posts/pictures are questionable the Athletic Director or coach will speak to the athlete and parents will be notified.

**L. CHEERLEADING VS ATHLETICS**

As an athlete you have chosen to be committed to a team. No athlete will be allowed to choose to cheer instead of competing in a contest with her team. Any athlete that makes this choice will be suspended from their next game.

**N. Locker rooms are off limits to Parents**

Locker rooms are off limits to parents before and after a game and practice. If you feel you need to enter the locker room. You must clear it through the head coach ahead of time. This includes hanging posters, placing goodie bags or food in the locker room.