EXTRACURRICULAR ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES CODE

Statement of Philosophy
Athletics and activities in South Kitsap School District strive first and foremost to enhance academic excellence and personal growth through involvement in athletics or activities. Our mission is to create an environment in which our student participants develop skills for life while achieving competitive success. All participants are expected to exemplify six core principles:

1. Trustworthiness
2. Respect
3. Responsibility
4. Fairness
5. Caring

We believe that all participants in extracurricular athletics and activities should:

• Experience highly competitive and challenging situations, which promote mental poise and emotional stability.

• Learn the meaning and value of group loyalty and group morale. Experience the esprit de corps that is developed when members of a team practice together, suffer and endure together, and win and lose together.

• Develop an understanding and tolerance for the strengths and weaknesses of oneself and others. Learn to judge others by their behavior and contribution to the success of the team or group, and disregard economic, racial, or religious differences.

• Gain self confidence, recognition, prestige, and group approval.

• Learn to work cooperatively as a member of a group striving for a common goal, and realize that this goal cannot be successfully achieved unless one learns to abide by the rules and play the game fairly.

• Experience the gratification of winning and the humbling lesson of defeat.

• Share a common experience with parents or other family members who themselves may have participated in or enjoyed supporting high school sports and activities.

• Pursue victory and excellence with honor.

Additional Obligations of Athletics and Activities Participants
Extracurricular athletics and activities include all activities that are in addition to classroom instruction and have no bearing on a course grade or course credit. Because participation in extracurricular athletics and activities is considered a privilege, the student accepts the training rules, regulations, and responsibilities unique to the individual activity program in which he/she participates. In addition to the student conduct rules in Procedure 3240, extracurricular athletics and activities participants are also governed and are to abide by this Extracurricular Athletics and Activities Code. Participation in extracurricular athletics and activities within the South Kitsap School District requires that the student maintain successful performance in academics, citizenship and that the student remain in good standing as defined within the Extracurricular Athletics and Activities Code. Those students who violate the Extracurricular Athletics and Activities Code shall be subject to corrective action which may include permanent exclusion from participation in school district extracurricular activities. Such consequences may be in addition to corrective actions imposed by school administrators for violations of general student conduct rules.

**General Regulations**

A. Athletes must follow Washington Interscholastic Activities Association rules, including those regarding eligibility, transfer, physical examinations, insurance coverage, starting dates, and use of school equipment.

B. No athlete may quit one sport and turn out for another after the 5th day of the respective season has begun without the mutual consent of the coaches.

C. Travel Rules for Athletes/Activities

1. School transportation will be provided for away contests or competitions. The participant must travel to and from athletic contests with the team in transportation provided for this purpose. Only on personal written request of a parent/guardian, for a special circumstance, will this practice be altered. Students will only be released to their parent or guardian.

2. Athletes are expected to remain with their squad and under the supervision of their coach when attending any contests.

3. Misconduct of any sort while traveling to and from an away contest will be dealt with according to school and team policies.

4. Visiting athletes are direct representatives of their school, community, and homes and should conduct themselves accordingly.

D. Completion of the athletic season in good standing is required in order for the student to be eligible for a varsity letter or other team or individual awards. (Exception: Injury which limits participation.) Each sport/activity may develop lettering criteria which is more demanding than this policy.
E. An athlete who has been injured should report injuries immediately to the coaching staff and/or Certified Athletic Trainer.
1. The Certified Athletic Trainer or coaching staff will treat injuries and will administer first aid and therapy if in their judgment it is needed.
2. The Certified Athletic Trainer or coaching staff may recommend where treatment for sports-related physical problems can be obtained.
3. The Certified Athletic Trainer or coaching staff may require that a medical authority check an injury and clear the athlete before allowing the athlete to return to the activity.
4. All visits to a medical professional must be reported to the Certified Athletic Trainer or coaching staff and a medical professional’s note detailing the visit and clearing the athlete for participation must be on file. The following information should be included in the note:
   a. Date of examination
   b. Diagnosis
   c. Date of clearance
   d. Recommended treatment

F. Any display of unsportsmanlike conduct toward an opponent or official; use of profane or vulgar language or gestures; game ejections; or technical fouls during a practice or contest will result in the appropriate corrective action.
   a. per WIAA rule, If a coach or player is ejected from a contest they are ineligible to coach or play for the remainder of the contest, and must sit out the next contest in that sport at the same level of competition from which the person was ejected.

   b. The South Kitsap School District places high importance on sportsmanship and will add an additional game suspension for any coach or player ejected from a contest if the ejection was because of profane/abusive language or violence.

G. School-owned equipment and uniforms checked out by a participant in any extracurricular activity are his/her responsibility. The loss or misuse of this equipment will be the financial obligation of the participant. Individuals will not be allowed to participate in any co-curricular activity until this obligation is fulfilled.

H. Coaches and activities supervisors may set dress and grooming standards for students participating in a sport or activity. Any student representing the school in that sport or activity must meet these dress and grooming standards.

I. A participant is expected to attend all scheduled practices, meetings, contests and performances whether or not school is in session. If it is found necessary to miss such, prior arrangements must be made with the coach. Students are not to be given special treatment or privileges on a regular basis to enable them to participate in non-school athletic activities, such as reduced practice times, special workouts, late arrivals, or early dismissals.

J. Clean Slate Rule: Following the 8th grade, a student-athlete may ask for a hearing before the Athletics/Activities Appeal Board to begin a new (clean) slate for his or her
high school career. Following this hearing, the Board may clear any previous violations of the Athletics and Activities Code.

K. Athletic suspensions (which are in percentages) are rounded to the nearest whole number. For example a 25% suspension of a 10 game season is equal to two and one half (2.5) games. Two and one half (2.5) games will be rounded to three games. An athletic suspension may be served only in a sport for which the athlete appears on the roster for a full season. If a student quits a team after serving an athletic suspension, the suspension must be served again during the next sport for which the student turns out.

**Student Attendance Requirements**

A. Attendance at school for at least one-half of the school day is required if the student is going to participate in a practice or interscholastic contest on the same date. If the student is not in class, but has a school approved off-campus pass or is part of an approved school activity, he/she may compete in an interscholastic contest on that date.

B. Students on suspension (in-school or out-of-school) may not participate, for the duration of the suspension, in a practice or extracurricular athletic event or performance. If a student has been excluded from school for any length of time during a season in which they are not participating in activities or athletics, he/she may be placed on probation for the next activity season.

C. Truancy or unexcused absence from any class or portion of a class will be dealt with as follows:
   1. First Offense: Suspension for the immediate or subsequent contest or event.
   2. Second Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the extracurricular activity season.

D. Truancy from practice may result in suspension for the next contest or event as determined by the coach and/or athletic director.

**High School Eligibility Eligibility**

A. Students who wish to participate in athletics or activities must meet the scholastic eligibility standards of WIAA Rule 18.6. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of four full-time classes and have passed at least five full-time classes in the immediate preceding semester. The WIAA rule is that students must pass classes based on the following school schedules:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Passing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 period schedule</td>
<td>4 classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 period schedule</td>
<td>5 classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 period schedule</td>
<td>6 classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 period schedule</td>
<td>7 classes</td>
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</tbody>
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It is the belief of the South Kitsap School District that successful academic performance is important for all students. Therefore, to participate in athletics/activities our students must meet the following academic standard:

“A”= 4 Points “B”= 3 Points “C”= 2 Points “D”= 1 Point “F”= 0 Points.

• If passing all 6 classes, 11 points are required. (1.8 GPA)
• If passing 5 out 6 classes, 12 points are required. (2.0 GPA)
• Plusses and minuses are not figured into point total, and one point is added to each grade earned in an Advanced Placement class.
• Student participants with less than five classes, please refer to the chart below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Passing All Classes</th>
<th>Failing 1 Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 period schedule</td>
<td>9 points</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 period schedule</td>
<td>11 points</td>
<td>12 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>14 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 period schedule</td>
<td>15 points</td>
<td>16 points</td>
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Fall eligibility:
Initial eligibility will be determined by grades from previous semester that ended in June. Players who fall below WIAA standard are ineligible for 5 weeks. Players who meet WIAA standard but fall below SK standard miss 20% of the season. (2 football games, 3 VB, 3 soccer, 2 golf, 2 XC, 3 boys tennis, 2 swim, 3 water polo)
Players can use summer school grades to substitute for previous semester grades and allow them to meet WIAA or SK standard.

Winter eligibility:
Initial eligibility will be determined by the player’s 1st quarter grades. Students who are not meeting the SK standard will be allowed to tryout but must show proof of meeting the grade standard before they can compete in contests.

Grades will be checked on the Friday of the 12th week. Players who fall below SK standards will be informed on the following Monday and have the remainder of the week to raise their grades so that they meet the requirements. Players who do not raise their grades in the ensuing week will be ineligible on Friday at 3 p.m.

Grades will be checked at the end of the semester. Players who do not meet the SK standard will be out for 3 weeks from the day grades are posted.

Spring eligibility:
Initial eligibility will be determined by a grade check during the clearance process for spring sports. Players who fall below SK standards will be allowed to tryout but must show proof of meeting the grade standard before they can compete in contests.

Grades will be checked for all athletes on the Friday of the 6th week of the semester. Players who fall below SK standards will be informed on the following Monday and have
one week to raise their grades so that they meet the requirements. Players who do not raise their grade in the ensuing week will be ineligible on Friday at 3 p.m.

Grades will be checked on the Friday of the 12th week of the semester. Players who fall below SK standards will be informed on the following Monday and have the remainder of the week to raise their grades so that they meet the requirements. Players who do not raise their grade in the ensuing week will be ineligible on Friday at 3 p.m.

**Middle School Athletic Academic Eligibility**

Students who wish to participate in athletics or activities must meet the scholastic eligibility standards of WIAA Rule 18.6. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of four full-time classes and have passed at least four full-time classes in the immediate preceding trimester/semester.

It is the belief of the South Kitsap School District that successful academic performance is important for all students. Therefore, to participate in athletics/activities our students must meet the following academic standard:

“**A**”= 4 Points “**B**”= 3 Points “**C**”= 2 Points “**D**”= 1 Point “**F**”= 0 Points.

- If passing all 6 classes, 11 points are required. (1.8 GPA)
- If passing 5 out 6 classes, 12 points are required. (2.0 GPA)
- Plusses and minuses are not figured into point total, and one point is added to each grade earned in an Advanced Placement class.
- Student participants with less than five classes, please refer to the chart below:

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A student participant who fails to meet the above academic criteria during the preceding trimester/semester shall be placed on probation. The academic probationary period will be set by whichever of the following two standards results in a longer probationary period:

1. **WIAA standard (Rule 18.6.5):** **5 weeks from the start of the trimester/semester at the high school level and 3 weeks from the start of the trimester/semester at the middle level.** **Students will be eligible the 4th Monday of the school year.**
2. **SKSD standard:** 20% of contests or performances.

Student participants must meet the SKSD academic standard at the end of their probationary period to resume competing or performing. Student participants are required to attend all team practices and meetings during their academic probationary period.

Season 1 Eligibility:
Student academic eligibility for athletics will be determined by grades from the semester that ended the previous June. Students must meet the requirements listed above. Students who fail to meet the WIAA standard are ineligible for competition through the first 3 weeks of school (3 or more days of school shall constitute a full week). Students will be eligible the Monday of the 4th week provided they meet academic standards listed above.

Students who meet WIAA academic standards but fall below SKSD standards will miss the 20% of the season (Football: 1 game; Volleyball: 2 games; Cross Country 1 contest. Note: Jamborees do not count as contests).

The school athletic director will perform a grade check on the Friday of the 4th week of the season. Student participants who fall below the SK academic standards will be notified the following Monday. Student participants will have until the ensuing Friday to show they are meeting standard. If the student participants are not to standard by Friday, the student participants will be ineligible for games/matches until they can demonstrate they are meeting standard. They will be expected to continue to attend practices, meetings and games during the suspension period (except in cases where coaches excuse student participants to work on improving their academic standing).

Season 2, 3, 4 Eligibility:
Student academic eligibility for athletics will be determined by a check of current grades at the beginning of the season. Students must meet the requirements listed above. Student participants who fall below academic standards can still tryout and be selected for the team but are ineligible for games/matches until they can demonstrate they are meeting standard. Student participants will be expected to continue to attend practices, meetings and games during the suspension period (except in cases where coaches excuse student participants to work on improving their academic standing).

The school athletic director will perform a grade check on the Friday of the 4th week of the season. Student participants who fall below the SK academic standards will be notified the following Monday. Student participants will have until the ensuing Friday to show they are meeting standard. If the student participants are not to standard by Friday, the student participants will be ineligible for games/matches until they can demonstrate they are meeting standard. Student participants will be expected to continue to attend practices, meetings and games during the suspension period (except in cases where coaches excuse student participants to work on improving their academic standing).

B. Age: A student must be less than twenty (20) years of age at the beginning of that sport season, 16 for middle school.
C. Residence: Should your parent/guardian not live in the South Kitsap School District service area, you must clear your eligibility with the athletic director before participating to avoid jeopardizing the team with forfeiture of interscholastic contests.

D. Amateur Standing: In order to maintain amateur standing, the student/athlete may not:
1. Accept merchandise of more than $500 in value;
2. Accept cash awards;
3. Enter competition under a false name; or
4. Sign or ever have signed a contract with, or play or ever have played for a professional team or a professional sport (whether for a money consideration or not).

E. Season Limitation: After entering the ninth grade, a student shall have four (4) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility. Repeating any grade, nine through twelve, whether a student participates or not will count towards a student’s four (4) consecutive years of high school eligibility.

F. Exchange Students: Students from a foreign country must fill out a form and be cleared for participation by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association before competing on an interscholastic team.

**Requirements for Participation**

A. Complete district participation Form 110, available at school sites or online at www.skitsap.wednet.edu.
Form 110 includes:
1. Demographic information
2. Parent permission
3. Proof of insurance: Insurance is required for athletic participation and recommended for students in other activities. The parent/guardian is responsible for payment for medical care which results from injury. It is recommended that insurance cover the following:
   a. Possible emergency medical costs including X-rays, hospitalization, surgical costs, and ambulance fees
   b. Dental costs for emergency dental care
   c. Signed risk of injury statement
   d. Physical with current medical history to participate in athletics

B. Sign student athlete eligibility checklist (HS only)

C. Complete and sign emergency medical card

D. Purchase an ASB card to support activities

E. Pay the participation fee prior to the first turnout
F. In cut sports, participation fee is due prior to the first contest. Cut sports include basketball, baseball, volleyball, fastpitch, and soccer. Other sports may be determined to be cut sports on an annual basis.

G. Pay all fines prior to first turnout.

**Conduct and Citizenship Standards**
The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship.

1. Students who wish to participate in extracurricular activities are visible representatives of their team, school and community. They are expected to maintain high standards of conduct in school and in the community and during all school related travel and events. They are expected to assume the responsibilities of a positive role model. Conduct that detracts from those expectations, such as chemical use, criminal behavior, or unsportsmanlike behavior, will result in the appropriate corrective action.

2. Sportsmanship and integrity are solid expectations of extracurricular participants. Display of unsportsmanlike conduct, use of profanity, game ejections, technical fouls, unsportsmanlike conduct penalties or other offenses will result in the appropriate corrective action.

3. Harassment, discrimination or hazing (initiation) will not be tolerated. This includes all such behavior that occurs on the basis of gender, race, ability, religion, or position, or for any other reason. Violations of these expectations will result in the appropriate corrective action and, if applicable, referral to law enforcement officials.

4. Students who are suspended from school may not practice or compete during the period of suspension. Serious classroom discipline problems will result in the appropriate corrective action.

**Use of Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco**
A. Rule: A student must be free from actual or constructive possession of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products on or off-campus, in-season or out-of-season, to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

B. Definitions:

- **Actual Possession** — The act of having a substance in one’s custody or control.

- **Constructive possession** — A circumstance in which a student has knowledge that alcohol, drugs, or tobacco are available and/or are being unlawfully used by others and the student fails to remove himself or herself from the premises as soon as it is reasonably safe to do so.

- **Investigative Discovery** — Occurs when an administrator or coach determines after investigation that a student athlete has committed an athletic code infraction when it was not admitted by the student.

- **In-season** — The time period from the first day athletics/activities begin in August through the last day of the school year. Summer camps run by the SKSD or non-SKSD camps chaperoned by SKSD employees will be considered in-season.
**Out-of-season** — The time period from the first day summer vacation until the first day of athletics/activities in August.

**Self-Admittance Discovery** — Occurs when a student athlete admits that he or she has committed an athletic code infraction and cooperates in any investigation.

**Corrective Action for Drugs or Alcohol Related Exceptional Misconduct/Citizenship Violations:**

1st Offense: Exclusion from competition for 25% or 50% of the regular season. If the rule violation is determined by investigative discovery, the exclusion will be for 50% of the scheduled contests. If the rule violation is determined by self-admittance discovery, the exclusion will be for 25% of the scheduled contests. All practice requirements will remain. Required drug/alcohol insight class/screening and follow all recommendations. If there is less than 25% or 50% of the season remaining suspensions will carry over into the postseason. This may cause the participant to be eliminated from postseason competition. If violation occurs during post season, participant will be removed from the team for the remainder of competition.

2nd Offense: Exclusion from athletic/activity programs for one calendar year from the date of the second violation.

3rd and Subsequent Offenses: Expulsion from athletic/activity programs for remainder of school career.

**Procedures for Corrective Action**

A. The head coach/advisor, principal and /or assistant principal, and activities director shall jointly make decisions in relation to corrective action resulting from violation of the Extracurricular Athletics and Activities code.

B. The student participating in any extracurricular activity will be notified of the reason(s) for any corrective action. Also, he/she will be notified how he/she may make necessary corrections.

C. Parents will be notified, in writing, of any probation or exclusion from contests.

D. Appeals of corrective actions for violations of the Extracurricular Athletics and Activities Code should be promptly directed to the Athletics/Activities Appeal Board. The Board consists of the following individuals:

1. The Athletic Director/Activities Director from the student’s school
2. A principal or assistant principal from the student’s school
3. A principal or assistant principal from another secondary school
4. A coach from the student’s school
5. One district employee selected by the student (a teacher, coach, counselor or administrator).

E. The Athletics/Activities Appeal Board shall notify the parents, in writing, of their decision regarding the appeal.

F. Parents may appeal the Athletics/Activities Appeals Board’s decision to the superintendent or their designee.

**Parent/Coach Communication**

**A. Communication to expect from your athlete’s coach:**
1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your son/daughter.
3. Locations and times of practices and contests.
4. Team requirements: equipment, off-season training, etc.
5. Procedures you should follow should your son/daughter become injured during participation.
6. Participant conduct code and consequences for not following these guidelines.
7. Requirements to earn a letter.
8. Disposition of lost/outstanding equipment at the end of the season
9. Communication concerning your athlete’s role on the team and how he/she fits into the future of the program.

**B. Communication coaches expect from parents:**
1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach first.
2. Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concerns with regard to a coach’s philosophy and/or expectations.

C. As your son/daughter becomes involved in the athletic programs in our district, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is also important to understand that there will be times when things do not go the way your son/daughter wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be the quickest and most effective way to clear up issues, avoid misunderstandings, and create opportunities for life lessons.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:
1. The treatment of your son/daughter, psychologically and physically.
2. Ways to help your son/daughter improve.
3. Concerns about your son/daughter’s behavior.

D. Some situations may require a conference between the coach, the athlete, and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important that all parties involved have a clear
understanding of the other person’s role and position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help resolve the concern. If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, please follow this procedure:
1. Please do not approach a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meeting at these times usually does not work well for any of the parties involved.
2. Your son/daughter should first talk with the coach about his or her concerns.
3. Call to set up an appointment with the coach.
4. If the coach can not be reached after a reasonable time, contact the Director of Athletics and he will arrange an appointment for you.
5. If your meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, set an appointment with the building Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
6. If you elect to further pursue a concern you have regarding your son/daughter’s experience in one of our athletic programs, please make contact as follows:
   a. Principal
   b. District Athletic Director
   c. Superintendent or designee

E. At times it may be difficult to accept the fact that your student is not playing as much as you or he/she would like. Coaches are professionals who make judgment decisions based on what they believe it is best for the team and all involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with the coach. We ask that other things, such as those that follow, be left to the discretion of the coach.

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Matters concerning other student-athletes

Questions
For questions about the Extracurricular Athletics and Activities Code, please contact Kelly Kirk, Director of Athletics at the Athletics Office at (360) 874-5731