

# ATHLETIC CODE FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPANTS

## *Our Purpose*

The Jacksboro Independent School District provides extra-curricular athletic programs for the benefit of our students. We believe that participation in the various athletic programs can provide students an opportunity to learn many things not available to them in the classroom. Students are encouraged to participate in all extra-curricular activities.

It is recognized that some of the following rules are stricter than for the general student body. However, participants are expected to accept and to follow the established rules. Violation of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action. All known facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration when determining what action will be taken. Students may be disciplined or dismissed from the athletic program(s) for violation of these rules.

## *Statement of Intent*

The following statements have been prepared by the Athletic Director with the approval of the Superintendent and the Principals for Jacksboro Independent School District:

- Participants and their parents will be required to sign a statement indicating that they are aware of the significance of these guidelines. This acknowledgement must be signed and returned to the coach before a student can participate in any games or scrimmages.
- One acknowledgement per school year is adequate. This signed agreement is in effect for the remainder of the school year from the signing date.

## I. ACADEMICS

The number one reason all students are here is to obtain a quality education.

1. Participants must meet the minimum grade standards of UIL and TEA. At the present a participant must be passing “all subjects” with a 70 average at the end of each six weeks grading period.
2. Grade checks will be done every two weeks. If an athlete has a grade of 75 or below he/she will be required to attend tutorials until the grade is above 75 at the next report.
3. If an athlete is ineligible for two consecutive six week grading periods he/she may be removed from athletics for the remainder of the school year.

## II. ATTENDANCE

Being at school and practices is part of making a commitment. We will expect all athletes to be in class *on time* and to be at practice and the athletic period unless we are otherwise notified.

All coaches plan extensively before practices begin and when an athlete is an unannounced ‘no show’ many changes have to be made. Extenuating circumstances for an absence will always be taken into consideration.

There will be two types of absences within the Jacksboro athletic department:

1. Excused – an athlete’s absence will be deemed excused when they have contacted a coach *before* the beginning of workout. This can be done with a simple message left on the athletic department answering machine. Sickness, death in the family, etc. are valid reasons for an excused absence. Prior notice of a family shopping trip, etc. is not.

**School related absences are automatically considered excused absences.**

Please call before 8:00 a.m. – 940-567-7307

\*Missed conditioning will be made up at the next work-out. If an athletic period is missed, the workout missed must be made up before an athlete can compete in any competition. If a game/contest is missed, future playing time may be affected.

2. Unexcused – an unexcused absence will occur when an athlete misses a practice, game or athletic period without having communicated with his/her coach.

Conditioning for unexcused absences – Make up of previous days conditioning, plus extra

If an athletic period is missed, the workout missed must be made up before an athlete can compete in any competition. It will be up to the head coach of each sport to determine the specific punishment for unexcused absences. At the discretion of the A.D. and head coach there may be a minimum one game/contest suspension for this violation.

- \*In-School Suspension – ISS- student is placed there for discipline purposes.

ISS will be treated as an unexcused absence and the same punishments will apply. Any athlete who is placed in ISS will also not be allowed to compete in games/scrimmages until dismissed from ISS. The athletes in ISS will be allowed to participate in after school practices.

## Breaking the Law

We stress to our student/athletes that are not only representing themselves, but their coaches, Jacksboro I.S.D., and the Jacksboro community.

If one of athletes does make a poor choice and is caught with an illegal substance (alcohol, tobacco, drugs) or is caught stealing there will two ways we define the punishment. As with the legal system each will fall under two categories: misdemeanor or felony offense.

### III. TOBACCO

Although accepted by a certain percentage of the American society, smoking of cigarettes and the use of other tobacco products are dangerous, unhealthy, unlawful for teenagers and incompatible with desirable training programs for extra-curricular activities.

A participant, who is smoking or using tobacco products is willing to jeopardize his/her own and his/her teammates' chances for success during the season and has shown that he/she cares little for either. They have further shown that they are very easily misled or that their program is not important to them or both.

An athlete will be deemed 'guilty' of breaking this rule when:

- receives an MIP, etc. by the police.
- visibly seen by a school employee or coach

### MISDEMEANOR PUNISHMENTS:

1. First Offense of the School Year  
Suspension for one calendar week. No contests or performances during that week.  
Disciplinary action administered by coach: 10 miles.
2. Second Offense of the School Year  
Suspension for two calendar weeks. No contests or performances during those two weeks.  
20 miles of disciplinary running.
3. Third Offense of the School Year  
Suspension from the entire athletic program for the remainder of the school year.

### FELONY PUNISHMENTS:

1. First Offense  
Suspension from the athletic program beginning on determination of guilt. **Removal from the athletic period. The athlete may not be allowed to compete in events until charges are cleared.**
2. Second Offense  
Permanent removal from the athletic program.

### IV. STEALING

Taking things from another teammate, coach, school equipment, or theft outside the school setting will not be tolerated.

**Stealing While Participating in Athletics:**

1. First Offense - An athlete caught stealing will be dismissed from the athletic program for a minimum of 1 contest up to a maximum of one calendar year.
2. Second Offense – dismissal from the program for 1 calendar year.
3. Third Offense- dismissal for remainder of high school career.

**Stealing While Outside the School Setting:**

see misdemeanor / felony punishment chart under “Tobacco” section

***V. ALCOHOL AND DRUGS***

A person’s performance in mental and physical capacities has been proven time and again to be affected adversely by the use of both legal (medicine both prescribed and over the counter) and illegal drugs. A participant using legal drugs such as medicine must inform his/her coach of such action. Illegal drugs of any type, including narcotics, marijuana, hallucinating agents, sedatives, steroids not prescribed by a licensed physician, and amphetamines are never acceptable. Due to the illegality of obtaining and using these drug types, a participant violating these rules is subject to a more *severe* penalty. An athlete will be deemed ‘guilty’ of breaking this rule when:

- receives an MIP, DUI, DWI, etc. by the police.
- visibly seen by a school employee or coach

**MISDEMEANOR PUNISHMENTS:**

1. First Offense – 30 days suspension and 15 miles of disciplinary running.
2. Second Offense –removal from athletic program for the remainder of the school year (minimum of 60 days)
3. Third Offense- Permanent removal from athletic program.

**FELONY PUNISHMENTS:**

1. First Offense – 90 days suspension from athletic program. Assigned to Alternative Education Program (as per school\_policy). Disciplinary running: 30 miles.
2. Second Offense – permanent removal from athletic program.

As per school policy, all students participating in any extracurricular activity must consent to random drug testing during the school year.

***\*If an athlete has been charged with a crime, but not proven guilty*** – the athlete will not be allowed to compete until the charges have been dropped. This gives the athlete a chance to concentrate on clearing his/her name. This policy is in agreement with the Texas High School Coaches Association’s Code of Ethics.

## ***VI. QUITTING A SPORT***

Commitment is one of the biggest values athletics teaches. Quitting anything is not a habit we want to enforce in the athletic department. Any athlete who starts, then quits a sport, after the first contest of any kind, with the exception of extenuating circumstances beyond the athletes control, will not be allowed to participate in any sport for a period of one calendar year, without permission from the athletic director. If a student wants to quit a sport after the first contest begins, he/she will have a 24 hour cooling off period in which to reconsider his/her decision and approach the coach for reinstatement to the team. The final decision on reinstatement will be made by the coach. Participants in multiple concurrent sports may be allowed to quit one of multiple sports at the athletic directors discretion.

## ***VII. DRESS***

All uniforms will be worn in the same manner. No one will be different – ex.: socks, wrist bands, etc. Equipment will be furnished and laundered for all athletes. At no time should an athlete take school issued gear home unless specifically given permission by the coach (game gear, etc.) The school dress code will be adhered to for all banquets, school events, etc.

## ***VIII. APPEARANCE***

All athletes represent not only themselves, but Jacksboro ISD both on the field of competition and off.

### **Boys:**

1. To attain a team appearance, hair should be neatly trimmed and not longer than the top of the shirt collar, shall not touch the eyebrows, and the ear hole must be seen.
2. No beards or mustaches of any kind will be allowed.
3. Sideburns must be neatly trimmed and not longer than the bottom of the ear lobe.
4. Hair color must be of a natural color.
5. Earrings/body piercing will not be worn in any athletic facility or athletic event. Tattoos must be covered at all times during athletic events. This includes as a spectator of any Jacksboro ISD athletic event.

### **Girls:**

1. Athletes hair should be out of your face, and if possible, pulled back, with bangs out of eyes so as not to hinder performance.
2. Body piercings, with the exception of earrings, will not be worn in any athletic facility or event. Tattoos must be covered at all times during athletic events. This includes as a spectator of any Jacksboro ISD athletic event.

## ***X. RESPECT for COACHES***

Coaches should receive “yes, sir” – “yes, ma’am” – “no, sir” and “no, ma’am” responses from players. Players in return will be treated with respect by their coaches. We believe this is a life skill which will benefit all athletes.

## ***XI. INSUBORDINATION***

Failure to follow rules, assignments, etc. will result in swift disciplinary action at the discretion of the coach.

## ***XII. PROFANITY***

We will not tolerate it. First offense will result in disciplinary action at coaches’ discretion.

### ***XIII. CONDUCT***

We want our athletes to add class to our program and school. We will not allow athletes to ‘shoot off their mouth’, ‘talk trash’, etc. to our opponents – this will not be tolerated. We will encourage athletes to praise our opponents and conduct themselves as gentlemen and ladies at all times.

Technical fouls, personal fouls, ejections, or any other unsportsmanlike conduct will not be accepted and will be handled at the coaches discretion.

Proper conduct will also be demanded in the school setting. *Parents- please set the example!!*

### ***XIV. STRENGTH and CONDITIONING***

Any athlete who wishes to participate in a ‘team’ sport must be enrolled in the athletic period unless extenuating circumstances are present. This period will be primarily used to the building of strength, agility, and conditioning.

‘Team’ sports are: Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Softball, and Baseball.

No student will be allowed to participate in the athletic period only and not play a sport.

### ***XV. TRAVEL***

All athletes must travel with the team. No student may be allowed to drive to the site of a contest. All athletes must return with the team unless a parent personally requests supervision of their son or daughter, and then a form must be filled out in advance and signed by the A.D. or girls coordinator prior to the event. Face to face contact with the parent must be made for the athlete to be released to their care. Athletes will not be allowed to leave with anyone but a parent or guardian unless it has been specifically requested earlier.

*Acknowledgement*

**ATHLETIC CODE**  
**ATHLETIC PARTICIPANTS**

I understand and consent to the responsibilities outlined in the Jacksboro Athletic Department's Code of Conduct. I also understand and agree that my child shall be held accountable for the behavior and consequences outlined within the Athletic Code. I understand that any student who violates these rules and procedures will be punished equally.

The following signatures indicate that student and parent/guardian have read the Jacksboro Independent School District's Athletic Code of Conduct and are familiar with its contents.  
After signing and dating please return to the appropriate coach.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student/Athlete

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Student / Athlete