

## Athletic Department

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### OAKLEA MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE AND RULES

The athletic program at Oaklea Middle School is an important and integral part of the total school program and is open to participation to 7th and 8th graders at Oaklea. 5th and 6th graders can participate in wrestling, cross country, cheer and track.

In addition to the Junction City School District Student Conduct Code, athletic program participants are governed by the Oaklea Middle School Athletic Code and Rules.

Oaklea Middle School athletes and parents shall read with care the following information. Both athlete and parent need to sign on the bottom of the medical release form. This signed sheet indicates to the school that the student and his/her parents or guardian have received and read a copy of the Athletic Code and Rules.

Every eligible student who goes out for a sport will participate in athletic contests. The practice of cutting athletes will only be used when a student/coach ratio becomes a safety issue.

#### **PARTICIPATION RULES:**

To be eligible to participate in Oaklea sports, each student athlete must have a current physical on file. A medical release form (with insurance information), A medical history form, and have paid the district participation fee of \$80 (\$100 for Football).

Physicals are good for two years. Note: all incoming Junction City High School Freshman must have a physical the summer before they enter school.

#### **PRACTICES:**

Athletes must actively participate in a minimum of 8 practices in order to compete in their first athletic contest. Athletes must actively attend practices to participate in contests. To be eligible to participate in athletic contests, student athletes must attend practice on the day before a contest and all of his /her classes on the day of the contest. The only exceptions would be absences prearranged or excused by the coach. Athletes must communicate to the coach any foreseen absence, ASAP or it may be counted as unexcused.

Athletes must attend no less than a half day of school to attend practice that day.

Excused absences include the following: illness of the student athlete, illness or death in the family, family emergency, or a prearranged absence. A note may be required by the coach.

Absences excused by the school will also be considered excused absences from practices or contests. Other absences may be excused by the coach after reviewing a written excuse from the athlete's parent or guardian. Athletes can be held for after school detention without parental contact on days that practices are scheduled. Detentions after school which result in missing practice will be result in the three infraction policy set in general rules.

Out-of-school suspensions on the day or day before a contest will result in the student athlete missing that game.

### **EVENTS AND CONTESTS:**

Oaklea athletes will be transported to all athletic contests by bus. Students are required to go on the bus, unless prearranged with the coaching staff. Students can go home with their **parents** as long as the parent and coach meet face to face. Athletes may go home with a parent other than their own by a written permission slip signed by the administration.

### **GENERAL RULES:**

Head Coaches, working with the Athletic Director and Principal, may establish rules for their individual sports that cover features not detailed in the athletic code rule.

Athletes will be positive representatives of Oaklea Middle School and will conduct themselves in a considerate and sportsman-like manner.

Athletes will conduct themselves on all bus trips in accordance with bus company regulations.

The rules and regulations of this athletic code shall apply to any violation during the sports season no matter when or where committed.

Student athletes who disrupt practices or games due to poor behavior (disrespect to coaches or teammates, poor conduct, continued misbehavior, etc.) will be placed on a sequential discipline plan as outlined by each coach.

Examples:

- 1<sup>st</sup> infraction — Warning — Tiger reminder
- 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction — Do not play in next contest
- 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction — Off team

Serious infractions may result in benching, loss of playing time, suspension from games, and/or removal from the team (athletic director conference required) for the remainder of the season. Examples of serious infractions include: fighting, theft, blatant disrespect to coaches and/or officials, insubordination, unsafe actions, vandalism, misbehavior on bus trips, continued inappropriate behavior, etc.

All athletes are expected to attend the entire athletic contest (includes both A and B games when played). If an athlete wants to leave early from a game, arrangements must be made prior to the first game by the parent or guardian.

Athletes must always have permission from the coach in order to leave the gym or playing field during all practices or contests.

An athlete who has been injured and has seen a physician cannot return to participation until they have a written doctor's release, which must be presented to the coach.

Athletes will be held personally responsible for all athletic equipment issued to him/her and will return same in good condition and on time. The student athlete will be expected to pay for equipment lost or damaged. Athletes will not be allowed to participate in another sport until payment is made to the school for lost or damaged equipment.

### **TRAINING AND CONDUCT RULES:**

Athletes in violation of rules 1, 2, or 3 during a sports season will be removed for the remainder of the season and placed on athletic probation for the remainder of the school year. An athlete in violation of rule 4 will be removed from athletics for the school year.

1. Found to be using, possessing or distributing chemicals (e.g., alcohol, narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogenic, cannabis, or unauthorized prescriptions or socializing with those who are.
2. Found to be using or in the possession of tobacco.
3. Found to have stolen or maliciously destroyed any school or individual's private property.
4. Found to have been convicted of a felony.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

Socializing: Failure to remove yourself from a situation in a reasonable amount of time as to avoid violation of the athletic code e.g., if an athlete should enter a party and discover that drugs or alcohol are present - they should leave immediately. To stay and visit or participate in any fashion would be a violation.

Athletic Probation: Status ranking in which the next violation would result in removal from the team for the season.

Found: Positive proof of the student's involvement.

### **FIRST OFFENSE! SECOND OFFENSE! THIRD OFFENSE DISPLINARY RULE:**

The First Offense!Second Offense!Third Offense Rule begins when the athlete turns out for a sport and remains in effect until the end of the school year; e.g., athletes are not allowed to "start over" with a clean slate at the beginning of the next sports season.

1. FIRST OFFENSE — The athlete will be suspended from athletic competition for the next contest, but may continue to practice with the coach's approval.
2. SECOND OFFENSE — The athlete will be removed from the team for the remainder of the sport season.

3. THIRD OFFENSE — The athlete will be removed from all sports for the remainder of the school year.

**The following rules fall under the FIRST OFFENSE/SECOND OFFENSE/THIRD OFFENSE DISCIPLINARY RULE:**

1. Improper conduct violations requiring out-of-school suspension as established in the Rules and Regulations of the Student Conduct Code.
2. Violation of the transportation rule: Student athletes are required to ride to and from all events on school transportation. Parents may pick up their son or daughter after contests in person. If they wish to have their son or daughter ride home with another adult, they must prearrange with the coach in writing prior to departure for the trip.
3. Insubordination and disrespect: Student athletes who are found to have been insubordinate or disrespectful to any staff member or designated supervisor.

**APPEAL PROCESS:**

1. Any student athlete who has been suspended or removed from a team will be notified by the Assistant Principal or the Activities Director of his/her right to appeal within 24 hours of notification of suspension/removal.
2. The suspended athlete may request an appeal hearing by submitting a written request to the Activities Director within 24 hours specifically stating what the athlete would like to appeal.
3. The Activities Director will chair a four (4) person hearing board made up of the appealing student's Head Coach, and two (2) other Head Coaches. The Activities Director will chair the hearing, but will not have a vote. The other members will have one vote each with the majority vote ruling on the appeal.
4. The Activities Director will schedule the appeal hearing as soon as possible after receiving the written request for an appeal. The date for an appeal hearing will be scheduled within three calendar days of the receipt of the appeal. The hearing will be convened within seven calendar days.
5. Appeal Hearing Process:
  - A. The appealing student athlete shall be afforded his/her rights guaranteed by law, which includes the right to representation by any person of the student's choice.
  - B. If appropriate, the Administration will state the case against the student athlete and be allowed to use any evidence or witness deemed necessary for support.
  - C. The position of the appealing student athlete will be next presented to the Hearing Board and will be allowed to use any evidence or witness deemed necessary for support.
  - D. The Hearing Board may ask clarification questions.
  - E. The Hearing Board will retire to a private area and make a decision on the appeal.
  - F. The Hearing Board will prepare a written statement to be read at the hearing that will include the decision, the basis for the decision, and the numerical vote.
  - G. The appealing student or the administration may appeal the Hearing Board's decision to the next higher authority.