

**Section 300: Instruction
Youth Athletics/Co-Curricular Activities**

Code#370.00AR1

Youth Athletics/Co-Curricular Code of Conduct

The Tri-County Area School District Co-Curricular Code encompasses all Board approved Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities, which include the following:

Athletic Activities (if Available): Boys Baseball, Boys and Girls Basketball, Track, Cheerleading, Football, Soccer, Girls Softball, Volleyball, Wrestling, and any other athletic activity endorsed and sponsored by the District.

Co-Curricular Activities (if Available): School Play & Forensics.

*All students who will, or may, participate in any Athletic/Co-Curricular Activity at any time during the school year, must abide by all Co-Curricular eligibility code rules on a year-round basis. Participating in any of the above activities is a privilege, not a right, that includes certain limitations and responsibilities. It is important that both parents and students understand and abide by the following rules, which apply to Youth Athletic/Co-Curricular Activity participation.

1) Eligibility Rules:

- A) **Documentation:** Each Athlete must have a Parent Signed Athletic Participation Form on file in the Youth Athletic Director's Office prior to participating in any Athletic/Co-Curricular Activity.
- B) **Equipment:** All school-issued equipment must be returned at the end of the season/co-curricular activity. If missing equipment is not returned, there may be a replacement cost and the student may not be permitted to participate in the next athletic/co-curricular activity until the equipment is returned and/or the replacement cost is paid.
- C) **Academic Eligibility:** Academic eligibility will be referenced from the students' Quarter grades. If a student has an "F", that student may not participate in any athletic/co-curricular contest/activity/event until that failing grade is considered passing. The student may practice with the team/for the event, but may NOT compete in a contest/activity/event until they have ALL passing grades. The coach/advisor will determine eligibility by contacting the teacher or by having the student prove eligibility with formal communication directly from the teacher. (This could be in the form of e-mail, phone, letter, etc...) The student may only participate in an athletic/co-curricular contest/event when the student has passing grades. An "incomplete" will be considered a failing grade until work is completed, and proof of eligibility is given to the coach/advisor.

D) Summer Eligibility: Students participating in summer athletic/co-curricular contest/event/activity may not have a failing grade in Quarter 4/Semester 2. If a student is failing course work, they will be notified one week prior to the end of Quarter 4/Semester 2. The student will have one full week to prove eligibility. If students from other districts, or students who are homeschooled, wish to participate in the Tri-County athletic/co-curricular contest/event/activity, they must submit proof of eligibility prior to the start.

2) **Conduct:** All participants/athletes represent the school at athletic/co-curricular activities, therefore, appearance and conduct must meet high standards. Violations will be dealt with by the Coach/Advisor, Youth Athletic Director, or Principal in accordance with the school's discipline rules.

A) **Discipline:** The goal of discipline is to help develop a self-disciplined individual, with a positive attitude and socially acceptable standards of conduct. Corrective actions used will depend upon the nature of the behavior, frequency, past conduct, and the degree to which the student is willing to try to correct undesirable behavior.

The following offenses will result in consequences:

1. Physical Harm- a student causes intentional bodily harm to another.
2. Profanity, Threatening Language, Vulgar Language, or Obscene Gestures- Disrespectful behavior directed at an adult or student.
3. Willful Disobedience- refusal to follow school rules and the directions of an adult/coach/advisor.
4. Disruptive Behavior- Actions that interfere with the operations of the sport or co-curricular activity.

B) Discipline Plan: The coach/advisor will be the first line of discipline. Management procedures may include private redirection or conference with a student, time-outs, contact with parents/guardians, and/or a referral to the Youth Athletic Director or Elementary Principal if warranted.

Step 1. First Infractions: Time-Out of practice or a game/event

Step 2. Continued Infractions; loss of a full practice and part of a game/event, parent contact

Step 3. Loss of a game/event and referral to Youth Athletic Director or Elementary Principal.

Step 4. Loss of a full tournament day/activity.

Step 5. Removal from participation in the Sport/Activity.

*The Coaches/Advisors, Youth Athletic Director, and Elementary Principal retain the right to deal with any action not covered by the above system and may vary from the consequences outlined, at their sole discretion whenever the offense warrants such action.

C) Parent/Guardian Responsibilities: Parents are not to approach a coach to discuss game strategy or playing time 24 hours prior to or after an athletic contest. The first report of an incident such as this will require the parent, student participants, coaches, and athletic director to meet and discuss the issue. The Coaches, Youth Athletic Director and Elementary Principal retains the discretion as to how to handle repeated incidents.

D) Parent/Guardian Attendance at Events: At any Athletic/Co-Curricular Activity, either at Tri-County or any other site, attending individuals are expected to display sportsmanship and behavior appropriate for such a contest/event. An individual or group who willfully interferes with or interrupts the proper order or management of a school-sponsored event (e.g. an act of violence, boisterous conduct, obscene or abusive language/gestures, unsportsmanlike conduct toward coaches, players or officials, or disobeys this policy) may be warned and/or removed from the activity/event. A second violation will result in the offender being prohibited from attending the following two events in any given year. Any further violation in the same sport school year will result in the offender being prohibited from further attendance for the remainder of the school year. No refund of admission, if applicable, will be reimbursed.

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