

CO-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT (Secondary)

The primary purpose of DASD's Co-Curricular Program is to promote the physical, mental, social, emotional and moral well being of the participant. As a district, we strive to make the programs in our schools a positive force in preparing youth for an enriching and vital role in America. The Co-Curricular Program is an important and integral part of the total school program and is open to all students. Through voluntary participation, a student gives time, energy, and loyalty to the program. He/she also accepts the rules, regulations and responsibilities that are unique to each of these programs. In order to contribute to the welfare of the group, the participant must willingly assume these obligations since this role demands that the individual make sacrifices not required of non-participants. **Prior to participating in any co-curricular activities, students must read this Co-Curricular Code of Conduct and acknowledge that they have read it and understood it by signing the form attached hereto.**

Participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege. By voluntarily participating in co-curricular activities, students are agreeing to be bound by the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct in addition to the conduct mandated by the Code. No student is entitled to participation. If a student violates the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct, the privilege of participation may be temporarily suspended or permanently revoked.

The following rules, regulations and responsibilities apply to all students participating in co-curricular activities:

1. Every student is required to do satisfactory school work in at least four (4) Carnegie Units of study or the equivalent. If a student is not academically eligible (i.e. not passing at least four (4) Carnegie Units of study or the equivalent) they may not participate in any way during the period of ineligibility. During this period the student athlete should focus on all academic issues.
2. Participants must travel to and from contests/activities away from Downingtown on transportation provided by the school district. An exception would be granted only if injury to a participant would require alternate transportation.
3. Use of or possession of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, drugs, narcotics, or hallucinating agents by student participants is prohibited.

TOBACCO –

First Offense: The individual will be suspended from the activity for five (5) school days and referred to the building Principal for action under the Code. At the end of this period, following counseling by the head coach/activity sponsor and the building Principal, a decision regarding further participation will be made.

Second Offense: The individual will be suspended for the remainder of the activity's season and referral of the student to the building Principal for disciplinary action under the Code.

ALCOHOL –

All offenses: Suspension for the remainder of the activity's season and referral of the student to the building Principal for disciplinary action under the Code. The individual shall be recommended to the Student Assistance Program for further assistance.

DRUGS, NARCOTICS, HALLUCINATING AGENTS –

All offenses: Suspension for the remainder of the activity's season and referral of the student to the building Principal for disciplinary action under the Code. The individual shall be recommended to the Student Assistance Program for further assistance.

4. Any investigation and/or disciplinary action taken under the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct shall be conducted in the following manner:
 - a. Alleged violations of the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct shall be reported to the co-curricular sponsor/athletic director and/or an assistant principal. Anonymous calls/letters will be documented and investigated at the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or building Administration. Such reports will be investigated in a timely manner by the co-curricular sponsor/athletic director and assistant principal. The student involved and the coach/activity sponsor of the activity shall be informed in writing of the alleged violation and the investigation. The investigation shall include, but not be limited to, interviews of the student involved and any witnesses.
 - b. When the investigation is complete, the co-curricular sponsor/athletic director and assistant principal will make a presentation of all information gathered to the building principal. The building principal shall provide the student and parent a summary of the information gathered, and give the student and his/her parents an opportunity to be heard and present information relevant to the alleged violation. Based on the information presented by the co-curricular sponsor/athletic director and/or assistant principal and the student and parent, the building principal will make a determination of whether a violation occurred. The determination of the principal shall be final.
 - c. The co-curricular sponsor/athletic director and assistant principal shall notify in writing the parents, the student and the co-curricular sponsor/coach of the action taken. The appropriate discipline will be imposed according to the degree of the infraction.
 - d. Until a final determination has been made by the building principal, the student may continue to participate as a member of the team/activity.
5. **The rules and regulations of the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct shall apply to any violation that occurs during “in-season” participation, regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school premises or in connection with any school function.**

- a. **“In-season” participation begins with the first day of practice or participation and ends with the last contest, meeting or practice, whichever occurs on the later date.**
 - b. **When a participant is “suspended” (ISS-In School Suspension and/or OSS-Out of School Suspension) for a specific number of days/weeks, the participant may not participate in the activity until the suspension is completed; provided, however, that in the case of student involved in interscholastic sports, the student must continue to report to practice, but may not dress, may not be in or around the bench area, may not travel or in any way take part in contests or scrimmages for the duration of the suspension.**
 - c. **Participation may resume on the next weekday after the suspension concludes.**
6. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the student participant, the team/activity or the school will not be tolerated. Any acts of unacceptable conduct, including but not limited to theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or criminal acts, tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the Co-Curricular Program and will not be tolerated. All unacceptable conduct shall be reported to the co-curricular sponsor/athletic director and/or the assistant principal who will then follow the investigative procedure set forth above. A determination of consequence will be made as set forth above. The consequence imposed will depend on the severity of the infraction as determined by the building principal. The building principal shall be guided by the disciplinary action listed in the Code for a similar infraction in determining the appropriate consequence to impose.

Additional P.I.A.A. and DASD Athletic Program Requirements

In addition to DASD’s Code of Student Conduct, Rights and Responsibilities and Co-Curricular Code of Conduct, the following regulations are in effect and apply to student athletes. The consequences imposed under these P.I.A.A. requirements are in addition to and supplement those consequences that may be imposed under the two Codes.

DASD, along with the majority of the public schools in Pennsylvania, is a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (“P.I.A.A.”). For those students participating in DASD-sponsored athletic teams, the P.I.A.A. requires the following:

1. Students are discouraged from participating on an outside sport team while a member of a DASD Team. Students must inform the DASD head coach of their involvement with outside sports when the “outside” season coincides with the DASD team’s season. Athletes shall be required to strictly adhere to the individual team rules and regulations of their particular DASD sports team.
2. Each student must have a physical examination before he/she will be permitted to participate in any interscholastic sport.
3. The parent must sign a permission form for the student to participate in any sport.

4. Each coach is responsible for knowing and informing team members and parents of school and P.I.A.A. regulations and to enforce those rules in an appropriate manner.
5. Parents of athletic team members are responsible for informing the principal, athletic director and/or the head coach of a pending or actual violation of these rules and regulations. Anonymous calls/letters will be documented and investigated at the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or building Administration.
6. A student-athlete is required to attend all practices unless excused by the coach. If an emergency arises making it necessary for a student to leave school and the coach is not available, the student must leave a message in the athletic office for the coach. If, for any reason, the student is to be excused from any particular practice, a written request from the parent is to be presented to the coach. Each coach has a specific practice time – a student who is late, without a teacher's excuse, will make up the time after practice. Participants will be excused for assistance in schoolwork. Any lateness caused by discipline must be made up after practice.
7. Any participant who has left the squad other than for an emergency, physical reason or grades shall not be permitted to return. Any participant in a school sport should realize the importance of attending each practice and game. When a participant leaves the team for any reason, except in an emergency, his/her position will permanently be filled. After the season has begun, no athlete may quit one sport and try out for another without mutual consent of both coaches.
8. A display of unsportsmanlike conduct toward an opponent or official or the use of profanity during a practice or contest will result in counseling by the head coach and/or the building principal with penalties or discipline to be determined according to the degree of the infraction.
9. Consistent with the concept that interscholastic athletics are a part of the educational system and consistent with the established goals of health, safety, and sportsmanship, the following guidelines for "New" Season and "Out-of-Season" regulations are set forth:
 - a. The basic responsibility of administrators and athletic coaches is to provide students who are participating in interscholastic athletics with a worthwhile educational experience.
 - b. All sports have a defined season and no sport shall operate to the detriment of any other sport.
 - c. The student shall have the opportunity to participate in as many interscholastic athletic experiences as is reasonably possible, and anything that serves to prevent this opportunity is contrary to the philosophy of the P.I.A.A. and DASD.
 - d. All P.I.A.A. member schools must comply with the defined season for each sport. Within each defined season, member schools may sponsor sports teams that compete against other member schools which follow all P.I.A.A. policies,

rules and regulations. Outside of the defined season for sports, member schools may be involved with sports activities such as training programs, recreational activities, “Open Gym”, and clinics and camps provided that the school does not sponsor teams, and provided that any participation by coaches and/or students be as private citizens and is voluntary as described below. Coaches and/or students acting as private citizens, and on a voluntary basis, may participate on teams that are not affiliated with their school or other member schools during time “Out-of-Season” as described below.

10. Any sports activity that occurs outside of the sport’s regularly scheduled season does not fall within the jurisdiction of P.I.A.A. except as set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph and as follows:
 - a. The coach and other personnel representing the school shall not require an athlete to participate in a sport or training program for a sport outside of the P.I.A.A.’s defined sport’s season. The participation of students in any sport activity that occurs outside of its defined season must be voluntary.
 - b. In order to maintain eligibility to represent a member school in football: a student shall not participate in organized contact football camps, clinics, drill practices, games, scrimmages or similar contact activities outside of the P.I.A.A. defined football season.
 - c. The school’s name, nickname, interscholastic athletic uniform, interscholastic athletic equipment, interscholastic athletic health/first-aid supplies may not be used by community organizations and groups. The school’s name, nickname, and interscholastic athletic uniforms may not be used by students; however, the principal may permit students to use the school’s interscholastic equipment and the school’s interscholastic health/first-aid supplies. Additional rules and regulations from the head coach must be approved by the principal and athletic director.
11. In any sports program, there will be a certain number of injuries, some serious, some minor. All students must immediately report all injuries to the coach and athletic trainers so that proper care may be given. All coaches must immediately report all injuries to the athletic trainers.
12. A student who has been injured and has had medical treatment cannot participate again until the date indicated by the student’s physician or by the school’s athletic trainer.

In some sports programs, mouth guards are mandatory; however, students in any sport may obtain a mouth guard from the athletic trainer.