

**BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES**

The goal of the athletic program is to provide training in sports as an integral part of the educational offerings for secondary students.

Each area of athletics is organized to provide students with experiences which fulfill physical and mental training; provide for leadership opportunities; develop cooperation, sportsmanship and fair play; and teach the skills related to each sport.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR ATHLETICS

Athletics means more than competition between individuals or teams. Athletic activities are regulated to meet educational objectives and provide for the development of the students through:

1. Training and appreciation for health and physical fitness.
2. Learning the “give and take” essentials of life
3. Appreciating the values of sportsmanship, cooperation, teamwork, and good citizenship.
4. Acquiring skills, knowledge, and attitudes which can result in lifelong recreational values.
5. Gaining self reliance and understanding the necessity for hard work and self discipline in preparation in life.

DEFINITION OF AN ATHLETE

An athlete is a student who engages in one or more sports during the school year. Each athlete is subject to the disciplinary action defined in this code.

ATHLETIC STANDARDS

Interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. The highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. This Code applies to all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in the Bellflower Unified School District.

I understand that in order to participate in high school athletics, I must act in accord with the following:

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness — be worthy of trust in all I do.

Integrity — live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; do what's right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty — live and compete honorably; don't lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Reliability — fulfill commitments; do what I say I will do; be on time to practices and games.

Loyalty — be loyal to my school and team; put the team above personal glory.

RESPECT

Respect — treat all people with respect at all times and require the same of other student-athletes.

Class — live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.

Disrespectful Conduct — don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual or immature nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.

Respect Officials — treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.

FAIRNESS

Be Fair — live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

RESPONSIBILITY

Importance of Education — be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Remember that many universities will not recruit student-athletes that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically or the character to represent their institution honorably.

Role-Modeling — Remember, participation in sports is a privilege, not a right and that I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct myself as a positive role model.

Self-Control — exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

Healthy Lifestyle — safeguard your health and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Integrity of the Game — protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble. Play the game according to the rules.

CARING

Concern for Others — demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to myself or others.

Teammates — help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

CITIZENSHIP

Play by the Rules — maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.

Spirit of Rules — honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

Conduct of an athlete which is contrary to the standards identified in the athletic code will be dealt with by the athletic department and/or the administration of the school.

Suspension or termination of the participation privilege is within the sole discretion of the school administration.

Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, steroids or other illegal drugs is unacceptable (Ed. Code 48915). On any offense, the athlete will be removed from the team and suspended from all athletic participation for eight weeks. If applicable, these eight weeks will be carried over to the next school year. On the second offense, the athlete will be removed from all athletic participation for one calendar year.

An athlete who believes he or she has been unjustly accused of an offense may contact the appropriate athletic director to request a hearing.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

A. Student Body Cards/Athletic Cards

All students who intend to become a member of a school athletic team should purchase an ASB/athletic card for the current year.

B. Physical Examinations

All candidates for an athletic team must have a physical examination prior to being issued team equipment. A physician's statement must be on file at the school.

C. Parent Permission

Permission to participate on an athletic team must be provided through the parent's signature on the eligibility card.

D. Insurance

All candidates for an athletic team must have accidental death insurance in the sum of \$1,500 and medical insurance in the sum of \$1,500. This insurance may be family insurance provided it meets these specifications.

E. All candidates for an athletic team must return parent-signed:

1. Insurance waiver
2. Emergency card
3. Potential injury card
4. Code of Conduct

F. Athletes must ride in the school arranged transportation to and from the athletic contests.

The coach may release an athlete directly to the parent at the end of the contest. Only team members and support personnel are to ride the bus.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) requires that an athlete must have passed four or more subjects and have a 2.0 GPA during the previous grading period to be academically eligible. All athletes should enroll in a minimum of five subjects. *In calculating a student's GPA, only one physical education/athletic course may be included.*

1. Athletes whose GPA is less than 2.0 at the end of a grading period shall be on academic probation for the following quarter.
2. An athlete on probation who fails to obtain a 2.0 GPA at the subsequent grading period will be academically ineligible until a 2.0 GPA is earned at a district grading period.
3. All CIF regulations apply, including and in addition to the above rules.

QUITTING A TEAM

Each athlete needs to be a team player and accept team responsibilities. If an athlete quits a sport, he/she may not participate in any other athletic activity until the regular season of the sport which was dropped is completed. This ruling may be petitioned to and reviewed by the athletic director.

EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Each athlete shall sign for all equipment and be financially responsible for the equipment until returning the equipment to the coach.

An athlete will not be allowed to participate in another sport until financial obligations are satisfied.

The following procedures need to be followed as they relate to equipment and uniforms:

1. Each coach will identify certain uniform and equipment items which will be professionally cleaned and repaired.
2. Practice gear and personal athletic apparel will be kept clean and in good condition.
3. Uniforms will be turned in at the end of the season in a clean condition.

ABSENCE

Any athlete who is truant will be considered ineligible for the day of the truancy. Excessive truanancies may result in the athlete's ineligibility for a period of time that is set by the coach or the administration.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

All athletes have an opportunity to earn awards. Each high school will provide guidelines for the wearing of letters, patches, and letterman jackets.

The athletic awards presented by the school remain the property of ASB until the graduation of the athlete.

QUALITICATIONS FOR ATHLETIC AWARDS

1. Qualification for an athletic award shall be determined by the coach.
2. Notification of the award must be on file with the athletic director.
3. Students must observe the Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Student Athletes to qualify for athletic awards.

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I have read and understand the requirements of this **Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Student Athletes**. I understand that I am expected to perform according to this code and I understand that there may be sanctions, penalties or disciplinary action by the school if I do not. In addition, I understand that I must adhere to all California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) By-Laws.

Athlete's Printed Name: _____

Student-Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____