

2008-2009 WELLPINIT ATHLETIC CODE

The interscholastic athletic programs offered by the Wellpinit School District is governed by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA). Student-athletes who choose to become members of our athletic teams are representatives of our student body and our community. Therefore, it is necessary and desirable that high standards be maintained. These include academic requirements, attendance eligibility, training rules, sportsmanship, and student-athlete conduct both in and outside of the athletic arena. The purpose of the athletic code is to commit student-athletes and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to the responsibilities of athletics while also building self esteem, encouraging unity and teamwork, and exhibiting positive 'role modeling' for others. This code applies to all boys and girls involved in WIAA sanctioned sports grades 6-12.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Prior to a student-athlete participating on any athletic team, or being issued any athletic equipment, the student-athlete is responsible for having on file with school officials, a record of the following:

1. A bi-annual physical examination with a physician's signature.
2. Signature of parent/guardian and student-athlete signifying that they have read, understood, and accept the Wellpinit Athletic Code.
3. Student-athletes must purchase their ASB cards from the business office.
4. Parents/guardians must sign a medical release form for each student athlete.
5. The student/athlete will not be allowed to play the next season without turning in all equipment, uniforms, etc. from the previous sport.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

*It is strongly recommended that student-athletes attend school all day, every day. If a student-athlete has an unexcused absence for any portion of a game/practice day, they are ineligible for participation that day.

*Repeated unexcused absences from practice at the coach's discretion may result in permanent suspension from the team. (After four unexcused absences from practice, the student-athlete begins losing counted practices. Ex. If you attend practice for 10 days and then are unexcused for 6 practices, you are left with 4 counted practices).

*Student-athletes who are serving an all day suspension, whether at home (OSS) or in school (ESS), are not eligible for participation in practice or contests on the day of their suspension. However, they ARE eligible for Saturday games if they served their suspension.

*All student-athletes must be in compliance with the Wellpinit School District attendance rules.

*Student-athletes who have accumulated more than 14 absences in a semester are no longer eligible for any WHS athletic programs during that semester.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

*Student-athletes must be enrolled in a full schedule of 6 classes in the Wellpinit School District. A student-athlete who fails one class must have a minimum 2.0 GPA.

*A student-athlete who is failing 2 or more classes is automatically ineligible until the next grade check.

*Student-athletes who are ineligible may continue to practice with their teams however, they are not allowed to suit up, nor are they allowed during school time, to be dismissed to travel with the team to contests. Remember: Fall and spring sports eligibility are based upon the previous semester grades.

ALLIANCE STUDENT ACADEMIC/ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Alliance students living within the school district boundaries may be eligible for athletics if they are enrolled in the equivalent of 6 full classes (3.5 credits), making adequate progress in all areas, and logging 25 hours of academic work each week for the duration of the sport season. Failure to meet the above listed requirements will result in a five week suspension. They must also have a 'previous' semester on record. For example, they must have completed 3.5 credits during the fall semester in order to be eligible for the spring semester sports season, if they do not have a previous semester, they are not eligible for athletics until they have successfully completed one.

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, INHALANTS, AND DRUG PARAPHRNALIA

Student-athletes must be free from the presence of, the association with, or the use of legend drugs (including anabolic steroids), alcohol, tobacco products, inhalants, and drug paraphernalia during the duration of the athletic season 24 hours a day on or off campus. Student-athletes must understand that the involvement in the use, possession, or association of any of the above-listed items, will result in suspension from all athletics during that school year. Remember, if you attend a party but you are not drinking or using any drugs, you will still be suspended just for being there.

USE OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

Legend Drugs, Controlled Substances, Alcohol and Tobacco:

Penalties for the possession, use or sale of legend drugs (prescription drugs RCW 69.41.020-050), controlled substances (RCW 69.50), Tobacco and Alcohol shall be as follows:

1st Violation: Removal from all athletic teams for the remainder of the school year, unless the student accesses the assistance program outlined in Part A.

- A. Enroll in an approved alcohol/drug/tobacco intervention program. In the case of offense of civil law, appropriate counseling sessions will be scheduled. The student-athlete may remain on the team as an actively participating member in practice, during the intervention and appeal process. In order to attend or compete in games, the student-athlete and their parent(s)/guardian(s) must appeal to the Athletic Board with a behavior contract from the intervening program, an explanation of conduct, and why they deserve a chance to compete again. The Athletic Board will consist of members from the School Board, the Superintendent, the Principal and the Athletic Director. The Athletic Board will then decide the length of the suspension; the student-athlete will be suspended from participating except in practices for a minimum of 2 weeks.

2nd Violation: The participant shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for (1) calendar year from the date that the 2nd violation occurred.

3rd Violation: A participant who violates a third time shall be permanently ineligible for any interscholastic competition.

Disciplinary action for violations by student-athletes is stated in the WIAA Handbook Section 18.22.2. A Student-athlete with any violations during an athletic season forfeits eligibility for any school awards or letters for that season of participation, unless the student accesses the assistance program outlined in Part A.

CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS:

A student-athlete convicted of a felony is not eligible for participation in any athletics.

TRANSPORTATION

Wellpinit School District will furnish transportation for student-athletes to and from contests. Refer to the WHS Student-Parent Handbook regarding transportation regulations (section 6).

QUITTING RULE

There are tremendous costs and time commitments that student-athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers put into a season. Quitting a team not only affects the student-athlete, but everyone involved in that sport. In order to discourage student-athletes from quitting a team the following procedures will be followed:

*Student-athletes will be allowed to quit a sport during the first 10 days of practice without repercussion.

*If a student-athlete quits after the 10 day grace period, they will forfeit their participation for the remainder of that sport's season and will be prohibited from participating in the next sports' season for the first 10 days.

*If the student-athlete must quit after the 10 day grace period due to extenuating circumstances, he/she with their parent(s)/guardian(s), must meet with the coach and the Athletic Director to discuss such circumstances.

CONDUCT OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

Once a student has turned out for a sport they are considered an athlete until they graduate.

Consequently, athletes who are "out of season" are expected to behave in a way which does not break the law, training regulations, or embarrass their school, team or community.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Wellpinit School District believes in sportsmanship and fair play between all competitors.

We respect all athletes, coaches, fans, and officials.

We believe in the worth of our opponents and we are gracious in victory and in defeat.

We will strive to represent our league, community, and school with pride and dignity.

We recognize that the conduct and training habits of student-athletes must be appropriate in order to ensure continued participation in interscholastic athletics.

We have read and agree to abide by the Wellpinit School District Athletic Code.

As of this date, I hereby authorize the release to the Wellpinit School District of any and all personal information regarding my arrest, adjudication, individual history, and/or legal records in which my name may appear.

PARENT/GUARDIAN

DATE

STUDENT/ATHLETE

DATE

Note: The Board will limit its responsibility over coaching and allows the AD, Principal and/or Superintendent to deal with coaching issues. If the Board does not feel the recommendation of the AD is in the best interest of our athletes then a comment may be made at the sharing evaluation and/or let the Board's democratic process of voting be the decision to renew or non-renew.

Approved – August 22, 2007, Approved July 23, 2008, further changes made September 10, 2008.