



ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR CODE HANDBOOK

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

CUMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL **PHILOSOPHY FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ATHLETICS AND CO-CURRICULAR** **ACTIVITIES**

An individual's participation in interscholastic and co-curricular activities is voluntary and is a result of one's abilities and interest. Cumberland High School considers one's participation a privilege and part of the overall school experience. As these are voluntary programs, the individual who enrolls in these opportunities is obliged to abide by the rules and regulations spelled out in the Cumberland High School Athletic and Co-curricular Handbook and the rules and regulations of the Cumberland Board of Education and the WIAA. Part of the learning process is realizing rules are always present, choices will always have to be made, and there are consequences for violating rules.

Finally, participants must realize that athletics and co-curricular activities are secondary to academics and will be available only if the student meets the academic requirements of the code.

TITLE IX COMPLIANCE

It is the policy of the Cumberland School District not to discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to the Cumberland High School Principal at 1000 Eighth Avenue, Cumberland, Wisconsin (Telephone No. 715-822-5121).

ACTIVITIES GOVERNED BY THIS CODE

- (a) Fall (football, women's volleyball, women's and men's cross country, soccer, women's golf).
- (b) Winter (men's basketball, women's basketball, wrestling, gymnastics, hockey).
- (c) Spring (baseball, men's golf, men's track and field, women's track and field, softball).
- (d) Cheerleaders/Dance Team.
- (e) Drama-Play/Musical
- (f) Forensics
- (g) Band Activities
- (h) Choir Activities
- (i) Beofor
- (j) Class Officers
- (k) FCCLA
- (l) FFA
- (m) NHS
- (n) Drag Racing Team
- (o) SOS
- (p) Student Council
- (q) Whirligigs

Courts

- (r) Homecoming
- (s) Prom

Although the School Play falls under the co-curricular code, the punishment of violations will be handled on a case to case basis due to the uniqueness of the program.

All students involved in athletics or another co-curricular activity must read, sign and be willing to abide by this Code to participate in the activities listed above.

Any inadvertent non-signing of the Code does not exclude you from the policies of the Code when participating in any of the aforementioned activities.

Expectations

It is required that all participants:

1. Display high standards of social behavior.
2. Display, at all times, the qualities of sportsmanship befitting the school and Cumberland community.
3. Display proper respect for those in authority, including administration, teachers, coaches, officials and other school personnel.
4. Display a spirit of cooperation.
5. Dress appropriately when attending a contest away from home.
6. Use socially acceptable language and self-control.
7. Abide by all rules and responsibilities at all times (24 hours a day/365 days per year)

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETES AND CO-CURRICULAR PARTICIPANTS

1. All athletic and co-curricular group members must adhere to the policies, ideals, principles, and standards of the Cumberland High School Student/Parent Handbook and this code. Students and parent/guardian must complete required paperwork before being allowed to participate in any activity with their respective organization or sport. Anyone violating these provisions are subject to the penalties outlined above.
2. The athlete must observe WIAA eligibility rules.
3. All athletic and co-curricular group members must be responsible for all school equipment issued to him/her. They must pay for all equipment not returned at the end of their group season. He/she will pay the cost of replacing the item prior to participation in the next year activity or to participate in the graduation ceremony.
4. Participants will be expected to be at home at a reasonable hour on school nights and weekends. Participants' parents should determine the hours; however, the coach/advisor reserves the right to designate hours under certain circumstances.
5. All athletic and co-curricular group participants should travel to and from out-of-town contests with their group on transportation provided by the school. Exception: An Administrator's discretion made following a written note, email, text, or fax from guardians or parent(s) prior to the event, or an advisors', coaches' discretion after being personally contacted by

parents/guardians at an event or contest, accompanied with a written note of permission to ride home with them.

6. **In order to participate in an activity (practice or competition), each group member must be in school the whole day of the said activity.** A whole day means attendance during all eight hours of the school day. Students may be excused from this obligation only under extenuating circumstances or emergencies cleared by the athletic director or principal, ideally before the absence occurs. Students will be allowed to keep medical or dental appointments or funeral visitations on contest or event days. If a student misses any of the day due to illness they can not participate in practices, contests, or events later in the day.

If an absence occurs and is not excused, the group member will stay in school and not travel with the team for a road event.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

In order to represent Cumberland High School in any athletic or co-curricular activity, a student must meet all eligibility requirements of the W.I.A.A. and Cumberland High School.

1. If participating as an athlete, a student may not practice or participate in an athletic activity until the school has written evidence on file in its office attesting to a current Alternate Year Card or Physical Card as determined by a licensed physician no less than every other school year, with April 1 the earliest date of examination year card completed.

NOTE: It is recommended that a student also have dental fitness attested by a licensed dentist.

2. Academics First- All students are ineligible for athletic competition or a co-curricular activities if (upon release of grades) he or she received a failing grade at any 4 ½ week grading period of a semester. Should a check reveal a student to not be meeting eligibility criteria at any 4 ½ week grading check, they immediately become ineligible until they are passing--unless eligibility is approved by review of the principal and / or Athletic Director.

If this failure is in a semester class or at the end of the school year, a one game suspension is applied per each failing grade and the principal will also require the failing student to complete an individual academic plan of improvement for themselves, acceptable to the principal and guidance counselor, before the student may resume their groups' activity. In the event of an incomplete, the student will not participate until a grade is awarded for the class.

3. If a student receives a failing grade at the end of a semester, he/she is suspended from one competition for each F received, and again, the principal will require an individual academic plan of improvement (as stated in number 2 above) before the student may resume their groups activity.
4. An athlete cannot compete more than four years in any sport in grades 9-12 and two years in grades 7-8.
5. An athlete cannot become 19 years of age before August 1 of the current school year. No student may become 16 years of age before August 1 if playing on a 9th grade team.
6. All athletes must be an amateur in all WIAA recognized sports in order to participate in any sport. Examples of violating amateur standing are (a) accepting any amount of money or merchandise, (b) signing any contract for athletic services, (c) permitting your name, picture or personal appearance to be used for promoting anything, (d) playing under another name, (e) accepting an award of value such as a jacket, watch, billfold, etc., at any time during the school year or during

- the summer, (f) playing on a city/all-star team while you are a member of your school team, and (g) playing in a game or a meet sponsored by anyone other than your school during the school year if there are awards given or admission collected.
7. Students who have been accepted on an interscholastic squad may be cut by the Coaching Staff (with approval of the Principal and/or Athletic Director) due to excessive numbers.
 8. **Athletics and Co-Curricular participants-** Any athlete, co-curricular group leader, or class officer, who records a violation of this Code **cannot be a captain/group leader/or officer or a member of the Homecoming Court or Prom Court for one year.** That year is made up of three seasons of activity (fall, winter, and spring). If the violation takes place during a period of activity, they will be removed from their position and resume eligibility at the beginning of that seasons' activities the following year.

A second violation will make them ineligible for the remainder of their CHS athletic/co-curricular career.

9. Athletes cannot participate in a summer athletic program, which could be interpreted as out-of-season practice in a sport, as established by the WIAA handbook.

The athlete shall receive the minimum penalty for acts of unacceptable conduct as outlined above occurring in W.I.A.A. sponsored tournaments. That minimum penalty shall be immediate disqualification of a student for the entire tournament series in that sport.

ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR CODE VIOLATIONS

Categories

1. Consuming or Possession
2. Guilt by Association
3. Willful Misconduct

1. Consuming or possession

- a. Possession or using any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that are intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, or ingested by any other means. Examples include, but are not limited to cigarettes; cigars; dry snuff; moist snuff/ chewing tobacco; snus; and other non-FDA approved nicotine products. Electronic cigarettes or other devices that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use of inhalation of which simulates smoking are also prohibited.
- b. Possession or use of alcoholic beverages.
- c. Unauthorized possession or use of narcotics, controlled substances, or WIAA banned substances.

Possession is the state of having, owning, or controlling something.

2. Guilt by Association

Is a situation where a student 'knowingly participates'—whether or not they consume—in any 'party' or other occasion where violation of state law or local ordinance regarding possessions, purchase, sale, or consumption, of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs occurs.

Honesty Clause-To avoid a penalty of guilt by association, if an athlete/co-curricular member finds themselves at a party or occasion where alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, are being illegally dispensed, they must leave the party immediately without use and report their attendance to the principal or athletic director before the end of the next school day. “Leaving” means leaving the party IMMEDIATELY.

If the violation occurs over the summer or on a weekend, the student-athlete/co-curricular participant **has 24 hours to report to the principal or the athletic director**, (leaving a detailed voice mail or e-mail is considered a report). Following these procedures exonerates the innocent athlete/co-curricular member, assuming that the athlete is not frequently at these parties, or that there is information to indicate use. However, **a student-athlete failing to report attendance will be judged to have been in possession or guilty by presence.**

Mr. Narges direct line number 715-822-5102 (Will record time of call)

Mr. Fuller 715-822-5121 Ext. 434 (Will record time of call)

3. Willful Misconduct

Is any civil or criminal infraction, form of harassment, violence or threats towards others, insubordination, or act that is classified as an embarrassment to the District and/or community.

Any willful misconduct while involved in an actual athletic contest is an exceptional situation and may be treated differently. The enforcement period is from the time the athlete boards the team bus at CHS until he/she departs from the team bus at CHS.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTION

1. **Guilt by Association**- If a student is guilty by association and **fails to report** within the 24-hour guidelines, a one-game suspension will be applied *and count as a cumulative offense under this code*. If a second guilt by association occurs, it will constitute an enforceable second offense. An athletes penalty, besides the one-game suspension, will also make him ineligible to be a captain, a member of Homecoming or Prom Court, or a member of the All-Conference team during that sports season in which the infraction occurred. A co-curricular participant’s penalty, besides suspension for one group activity, will also make them ineligible to be a group leader or member of the Homecoming or Prom Court for two months from the date of the violation.
2. **First Offense**- Suspension from 20% of scheduled game dates or co-curricular activities, or suspension from 10% of scheduled game dates or activities if self-referral within 24 hours of the violation, and the violator meets with Student Assistance Program (SAP) Counselor for three sessions if substance abuse related.

SAP Guidelines – Athletes/co-curricular participants will follow the guidelines below when found in violation for

Substance use issues:

- Students will be given three choices for an SAP counselor by the SAP coordinator.
- The coordinator makes contact with the SAP counselor that the student has chosen.
- The coordinator then gives the student the counselor’s name and it is the student’s

responsibility to set up the three sessions in a timely manner.

- The student is not eligible until the three sessions are complete (four if it is a second offense) and the SAP counselor gives the SAP coordinator a completion form to be kept in the student's file in the main office.

2. **Second Offense-** Suspension from 50% of scheduled activity dates, and the student meets SAP counselor (Four sessions) if substance abuse related.
3. **Third Offense-** Suspension for twelve (12) months from athletic or co-curricular activities.
4. **Fourth Offense-** Maximum penalty will result in the suspension from all athletic and co-curricular involvement for the student's career at CHS
or-Other serious violations, like Felonies

Party Ringleaders - There shall be a greater consequence for a student if it is determined that he/she was involved in the organization, facilitation, promotion, or hosting of any gathering or social event where alcohol or drugs are available, or use has occurred. This penalty may include suspension for up to a full calendar year from all athletic/co-curricular activities, based on the information received during the investigation.

Miscellaneous Enforcement Procedures

1. Code violations are cumulative, but if a two-year time period has elapsed since the last calendar date of the first offense, the student shall be given a clean slate. This does not apply to a second violation.
2. To complete a penalty for a violation, the student must complete the entire season or length of the activity in which the penalty is being served. If they do not complete the activity season, the penalty will carry over to the next activity they participate in.
3. Students who have violated academic or co-curricular code requirements may still attend (Coach/Advisor discretion) and participate in group practices and non-competitive events while suspended. Suspended students will not however, be allowed to miss any instructional time which involves leaving school early.

If there is no loss of school time, they may attend a group competition from which they are suspended, but may not dress in any group uniform during these events.

CODE VIOLATION APPEAL PROTOCOL

If a student and his/her guardian are dissatisfied with the findings, they may appeal the decision to a council consisting of the following people: The Athletic Director, High School Principal, and three teacher/coaches of non-involved activities. If requested, the Council will meet within five days of the request, and all decisions will be final. The contact for the appeal is the High School Principal.

REPORTING A VIOLATION

1. The Principal and/or Athletic Director may question students who have been reported in possible violation of this Code. **If found in violation the parents and advisor/coach will be**

- notified by mail of the violation.** The letter will state the beginning and ending dates of the suspension and the number of events involved. If there is a dispute concerning the violation and suspensions, the student should contact the principal to set up an appointment and determine if the Appeals Council should meet.
2. During the investigation of any student athlete violation, the student must be truthful and forthcoming with information, or the Principal/Athletic Director has within their power to impose a greater level of consequence if it is determined that the student has lied, been deceptive or untruthful prior to, or after the determination of guilt and/or consequences.

Great weight must be placed on the privilege of representing our school and community, and any student that fails to be truthful, and/or cooperative would jeopardize the perceived character of our programs.

In the event that a student is not honest about their involvement in a potential code violation during questioning, an additional 10% suspension will be added to the penalty.

3. Suspensions will begin immediately once the student admits to the offense.
4. A record will be kept of all violations and code enforcements

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INSURANCE

1. It is the parent's responsibility to provide medical insurance for their son or daughter who is involved in interscholastic athletics at Cumberland High School.
2. The athletes are provided with the opportunity to enroll in Student Accident Insurance. It is not mandatory for every athlete to take this insurance.
3. Athletes are required to submit an insurance slip to the Athletic Director's office before an athlete may start practice.
4. This "insurance slip" must be on file in the Athletic Director's office before an athlete may start practice.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT /SUNDAY REGULATION

Wednesday evenings and Sundays are designated as family time in Cumberland. There shall be no practices, co-curricular activities, formal or informal, after 6:00 PM on Wednesday nights, unless it is a W.I.A.A. sanctioned event or tournament. Sunday practices by athletic teams or co-curricular groups may occur in some cases, but the individual advisor/coach must receive permission from the High School Principal.

STUDENT MEALS

1. The school does not reimburse students for meals during competitions unless such contests require a student to be away from home for multiple contests.
2. When involved in tournament competition, a student may be provided with a meal when his participation requires him to be absent from a meal at home.

ATHLETE'S ATTENDANCE AT W.I.A.A. TOURNAMENT CONTESTS

The Cumberland School District does not sponsor an athlete's attendance at W.I.A.A. tournaments if the individual or his/her team is not participating in that level of competition.

LAUNDRY

Athletes are expected to furnish their own towels and keep all gear and clothes laundered

LETTER AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Varsity letter awards are determined by the Coach/Advisor through pre-determined criteria, which is filed with the Athletic Director. If a copy is needed, contact the Head Coach of the sport, and/or the Athletic Director.

To qualify for a varsity letter, the co-curricular participant/athlete may not be suspended during that particular season for any alcohol, tobacco, drug, vandalism, criminal offense, or other serious offense considered unbecoming of an athlete. Athletes are also ineligible for All-Conference recognition as is the policy of the HON athletic Conference.

For each letter earned following the first time lettering, a pin is awarded for each individual sport.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM RULES

Coaches/Advisors may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Principal/Athletic Director for their respective groups. These additional rules must be stipulated in writing to all team/group members and parents, and be explained fully at the start of the season. Penalties for violation of team rules will also be in writing and shall be administered by the coach/advisor.

USE OF FACILITIES

Facility use is for in-season sports only. The summer use of district facilities will be coordinated by the athletic director. We encourage everyone to make good use of our Fitness Center in your off season.

A hard copy of this code may be picked up in the High school office