

**CHIPPEWA HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION:**

Chippewa Hills Athletics works cooperatively with the academic curriculum to contribute in the development of self-governing adults. The athletic programs through their structure, integrity, and success will inclusively offer opportunities to all students and members of our communities to benefit from the values of "Warrior Athletics".

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY:

One of the finest lessons learned in athletics is self-discipline. An athlete who elects to participate in athletics at Chippewa Hills is voluntarily making the choice to develop good physical conditioning, meet minimum academic expectations and exercise good judgment. Chippewa Hill's student athletes and all those who support them will consistently uphold excellence in the classroom, the community and in athletic competition.

I. MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

In all matters of interscholastic athletics, Chippewa Hills is governed by the rules set forth by the Michigan High School Athletic Association of which the district is a member. To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, an athlete must comply with these rules. The athletic director and coach of the athletes will emphasize these at the beginning of the season of each individual sport. To familiarize parents with procedures, the athletic director will arrange meetings with coaches and parents annually. It is the responsibility, however, of each athlete to become familiar with all rules governing competitions at Chippewa Hills.

II. ATTENDANCE & ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. Attendance:

1. A student athlete will not be permitted to practice or play in a game, contest, or event, if absent any part of the school day. Absences due to prearranged medical/dental appointments, court orders, funerals, and/or school related absences are exceptions and are excused with valid documentation. The Athletic Director may grant exceptions to this policy in advance or in emergency situations.
2. A student athlete who demonstrates poor attendance patterns will be monitored and those that cause concern will be addressed on an individual basis.
3. A student athlete cannot drop out of one sport and begin practicing in another sport within the same season unless there is an agreement reached to do so by both coaches involved.

B. Eligibility

Michigan High School Athletic Association - The Michigan High School Athletic Association (M.H.S.A.A.) stipulates that a student athlete must have a passing grade in four (4) out of five (5) academic subjects the previous trimester in order for a student athlete to be eligible to participate in athletics.

Chippewa Hills School District - The Chippewa Hills Athletic Director is responsible to monitor the academic progress of each student athlete to determine his/her current eligibility while in season. The following requirements determine a student athletes' eligibility:

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL: Due to the shortened length of the Intermediate School sports seasons and the age level of students, the following will be used for ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY: Academic eligibility shall be checked on the last day of the week. A student conference will be held at the time eligibility is checked. To remain eligible, students must be passing all of his/her classes. If a student is found to be ineligible, they will receive a one-week grace period to improve their grades and become eligible. The burden shall be on the student to prove their eligibility. *Only 1 grace period is allowed per season.* Once an athlete uses his/her grace period, they will remain ineligible and unable to participate until they can meet the minimum eligibility requirements. If a student becomes ineligible, they cannot participate the following Monday through Saturday.

HIGH SCHOOL: Academic eligibility shall be checked on the last day of week 3 through the end of each trimester. To remain eligible to participate in athletic activities, student athletes must either be passing all of their classes or maintaining a 2.0 grade point average failing no more than one (1) class. If a student athlete is found to be ineligible, they will receive a one-week grace period to improve their grades and become eligible. *Only 2 non-consecutive grace periods are allowed per season.* Eligibility runs from Monday through Saturday. This means that any ineligible student athlete not improving their academic standing during the grace period will be unable to participate in contests/activities/interscholar athletics beginning the following Monday through Saturday. If a student is ineligible, they may not leave school early for any contests or team events.

III. WARRIOR EXPECTATIONS

Athletic Communication Chain – Appropriate, honest and consistent communication by all parties is a building block for success. To this effect all parties are reminded of two key ingredients to assist the process outlined below – **Appropriate Time & Appropriate Place.**

Step 1: Participant/Coach

Step 2: Participant & Parent-Guardian/Coach

Step 3: Participant & Parent-Guardian/Coach/Athletic Director

Chippewa Hills coaches are instructed to not entertain discussion on program concerns before, during, or after practices and/or contests. This time is dedicated to preparation, team time, and cool down time. If approached in a public setting during these times, coaches will express a willingness to meet and either set a meeting date and time or provide contact information so a meeting can be arranged.

IV. APPLICATION OF THE CHIPPEWA HILLS' STUDENT ATHLETE ACADEMIC AND CITIZENSHIP AGREEMENT

Student Athletes are required to abide by the Chippewa Hills' Academic and Citizenship Agreement at all times and at all places. When a

student voluntarily participates in interscholastic athletics, he/she agrees to abide by the agreement throughout his/her school career. A student may neither attend try-outs nor practice with a team until he/she has submitted, along with a physical form, a signed acknowledgement form which includes a parent/guardian signature agreeing to abide by the Student Athlete Academic and Citizenship Agreement, and payment of the annual Athletic Fee. This agreement applies equally for male and female athletes, candidates, members, and managers of all athletic teams. The agreement will be enforced for all athletes from the first day of signing until the termination of the student's athletic experience at Chippewa Hills with the stipulation that records of junior high infractions will not impact any future application of the agreement but that all due penalties will be served. Though the agreement will be continuously in force throughout the athlete's career, each athlete will recommit to its guidelines annually. An athlete who violates the agreement will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the consequences provisions of the Academic and Citizenship Agreement.

V. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The following behaviors constitute a violation of the Student Athlete Academic and Citizenship Agreement and subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the "Consequences" section of the agreement:

- A. Use, possession, concealment, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of those substances listed in items 1-6 below. For purposes of this section of the agreement, the term "distribution" includes the "hosting" of a party at which any of the substances listed in items 1-6 are used:
 1. Tobacco or tobacco products in any form;
 2. Alcohol or alcoholic beverages in any form;
 3. Illegal drugs, including but not limited to those substances defined as "controlled substances" pursuant to federal and/or state statute;
 4. Steroids, human growth hormones or other controlled performance-enhancing drugs;
 5. Substances purported to be illegal, abusive, or performance enhancing, i.e., "look alike" drugs;
 6. Misuse of prescription drugs.
- B. An established violation of federal, state or local law/ordinance, including felony or misdemeanor acts other than minor traffic offenses, may result in the application of the consequences listed below.
- C. Cumulative or gross misconduct, as described in the Student Handbook, will result in a penalty as provided in VI.A.1. below.
- D. Requesting Help

Note: It shall not be a violation of the agreement for an athlete to use or possess a prescription or patent drug when taken pursuant to a legal prescription issued by a licensed practitioner for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board Policy. An athlete shall notify his or her coach if he or she is taking prescription medicine.

Prior to the commission of an infraction, athletes who are genuinely concerned about personal substance abuse problems are strongly encouraged to seek the confidential support of coaches and staff. A school-approved substance abuse assessment program might at that time be recommended. If, however, a violation of the code occurs, then all stipulated consequences apply and will be enforced.

VI. CONSEQUENCES

- A. **Conduct Offenses:** The Student Handbook and other regulations will, in most instances, determine the consequences in non-substance cases.
 1. Violations of the Academic and Citizenship Agreement will be addressed by the Athletic Director.
 2. Any student suspended from school for disciplinary reasons, as per the Student Handbook, is automatically restricted from participation in or attendance at any school sponsored athletic activity for the duration of the out-of-school suspension.
 3. A team may have specific rules written by the coach, approved by the athletic director, and established by the coach at the first meeting of the season. Violations of team rules will be addressed by the coach.
 4. In the event that school policies, procedures, and or this agreement do not cover situations that arise, the administration reserves the right to establish such rules, conditions, and consequences to respond effectively to unanticipated or unique circumstances and to inform all affected individuals and/or groups.
- B. **Substance Abuse Offenses:** Violation of conducts standard V.A.#1 above. The use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs is prohibited. Research provides evidence that students involved with controlled substances have increased truancy, poor academic performances, a loss of personal motivation, and a general lack of concern for citizenship and ethics. Students involved with controlled substances will be dealt with in a responsive manner. Parent involvement will be sought immediately. Disciplinary action may include mandatory assessment and/or criminal prosecution and may lead to long-term suspension or expulsion.
- C. **Consequences for Both VI.A. and V.B.:**
 1. **First Offense:** Participation in 25% (rounded to the nearest whole number) of the scheduled number of contests in the current season will be forfeited. The current season is defined as that season in progress at the date of the offense. The denial of participation will extend in to the athlete's next season, if necessary, to fulfill the suspension assigned. The number of contests will be prorated on a percentage basis. During the suspension, the athlete will participate in all practices and be dressed in street clothes at all contests.
 2. **Second Offense:** Participation in 50% (rounded to the nearest whole number) of the scheduled number of contests in the current season will be forfeited. The current season is defined as that season in progress at the date of the offense. The denial of participation will extend in to the athlete's next season, if necessary, to fulfill the suspension assigned. The number of contests will be prorated on a percentage basis. During the suspension, the athlete will participate in all practices and be dressed in street clothes at all

contests.

3. **Third Offense:** Termination of participation in the Chippewa Hills School athletic program for the remainder of the student's Junior High and/or High school career and forfeiture of all school athletic awards for that sport in the current season.

VII. APPLICATION OF PENALTIES

- A. Penalties will not be considered to have been served unless the athlete fully completes the season. Quitting the team is not considered "serving the penalty".
- B. If a subsequent offense is committed while a previous penalty is being served, the penalty for the subsequent offense will not begin until the penalty for the first offense has been served.
- C. The offenses will be cumulative during a student's junior high or high school career, rather than on a yearly basis.

VIII. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

The disciplinary process for violations of this agreement will be administered as outlined below. Before any suspension takes effect, the student and the student's parents shall be verbally informed by the Athletic Director of the alleged violation and the athlete will have an opportunity to respond to the allegation(s). The Athletic Director will verify that the athlete has violated the agreement and will consult with the assistant principal or principal. Written notice of the violation will then be dated and presented to the student and his/her parents or guardians. This notice will state the violation and the consequences. All suspension periods shall begin from the date of the written notice concerning the broken agreement. The athlete will be excluded from participation in contests pending the conclusion of all appeals.

IX. APPEALS PROCESS

- A. An athlete, and his/her parents or guardians may appeal the decision of the Athletic Director. The request should be in writing and submitted to the building principal within five school days of receiving written notice of the breach and its consequences from the Athletic Director.
- B. The principal will review the issue and make a determination as soon as possible but in not more than five school days from the receipt of the appeal. Written notice of the principal's decisions shall be forwarded immediately by mail to the athlete, parent/guardian, athletic director and superintendent. Every effort should be made to communicate the decision verbally and in a timely matter, however the written communication verifies the decision.
- C. A parent/guardian may request the superintendent to review the principal's decision. The request should be in writing and submitted to the superintendent within five school days of their receipt of the principal's decision. The superintendent will review the issue and make a determination within five school days. Written notice of the superintendent's determination shall be forwarded by mail to the parent/guardian, principal and athletic director.
- D. A parent/guardian may appeal the superintendent's decision through a written and signed statement to the president of the board of education within five school days of their receipt of the superintendent's decision. The board of education shall meet with the concerned parties at the next regularly-schedule board meeting. A copy of the board's decision of the appeal shall be forwarded by mail to each concerned party within five school days of the meeting. The decision of the board of education is final.

X. REVISION

School personnel, working with the parents and the community, will make every effort to ensure the consistent and equitable application of the Chippewa Hills School District Student Athlete Academic & Citizenship Agreement. Pursuant to this goal, an "ad hoc" committee comprised of student/athletes, parents, coaches, teachers, and administrators will review the agreement on a yearly basis in the spring. The Chippewa Hills Board of Education must approve all revisions.

Revised / Board Approved June 11, 2012