

NEW RIEGEL HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

GRADES 7-12

2011-2012

THE ADMINISTRATION OF INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

I. BOARD OF EDUCATION

- A. Makes policies.
- B. Approves all programs.
- C. Approves appointment of all personnel.

II. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

- A. Serves as recognized authority for local management and control.
- B. Determines the certification of students' interscholastic eligibility.
- C. Delegates authority and responsibility.
- D. Reports to the Superintendent.

III. DIRECTOR OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS, a.k.a. Athletic Director

- A. Supervises all coaches.
- B. Evaluates all head coaching performances.
- C. Acts as the liaison between community, Board, Superintendent, Principal, and coaches in all matters pertaining to the athletic program.
- D. Acts as the coordinator for all interscholastic activities.
- E. Schedules games, prepares contracts, and aids in the arranging of post-season games, meets or matches.
- F. Develops and presents the athletic budget for approval and communicates transfers of athletic monies.
- G. Supervises the purchasing of equipment and supplies.
- H. Reports to the Superintendent.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE

The most important goal of the interscholastic athletic program is to provide every participant the opportunity to grow mentally, morally, physically and emotionally. To insure that the program can provide these opportunities, a degree of self-discipline is required of each participant. Self-discipline involves compliance with rules and regulations concerning personal behavior. Rules and regulations promote order and safety, and assist participants in reaching their maximum performance potential.

The Board of Education, administration, athletic department and staff feel strongly that the high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program of athletics. We also believe that, due to their high visibility, athletic participants have a strong influence on members of the student body as well as in the community, and their behavior is seen as a direct reflection upon the athletic program and the standards of the school.

With this belief, the following code of conduct and policy is set forth as a minimum standard for the Athletic Department of the school, fitting within the rules and regulations of the New Riegel Board of Education and the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

It must also be remembered that participation in athletic activities is not a right but a privilege that will be regulated.

DURATION

The Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

- I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION
 - A. Adherence to all provisions as stated in the Student Handbook.
 - B. Attendance at an athletic code of conduct student meeting held prior to the first day of practice for cross country, golf and volleyball or held the first day of school for all other sports.
 - C. Adherence to any additional rules established by the coach(es) of athletics in which the athlete participates.
 - D. Athletes must complete O.H.S.A.A. Student participation and Physical Exam Card, an Assumption of Risk/Athletic Training Policy, Athletic Code of Conduct Signature Page, New Riegel Drug Testing Page and Emergency Authorization Form, which must be turned in to the coach/athletic director before the student can participate in any activity. Note: Because the Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect 24 hours a day 365 days a year, not signing the current Athletic Code of Conduct does not exempt an athlete from its consequences.

- E. Financial obligations resulting from equipment fees, replacement of lost or stolen equipment, and/or unpaid balances from sales projects, must be paid prior to participation in any present or future athletic activity.

II. ELIGIBILITY RULES

- A. Athletes must meet all eligibility requirements of the New Riegel Local Schools and any governing agency, such as the Ohio High School Athletic Association, including but not exclusive to, those requirements pertaining to scholarship, residence, age and attendance.
- B. OHSAA eligibility (7-12) is determined by the preceding nine-week grading period. All high school students involved in athletics must pass five one- credit courses, not counting physical education, each grading period and earn a 1.50 or better GPA during that period.
- C. New Riegel Board of Education Policy states: in order to be eligible for any co-curricular, interscholastic and non-scholastic extra-curricular activity, a student must have maintained at least a 1.5 grade-point average for the grading period prior to the grading period in which s/he wishes to participate.

An exception may be made by the principal if the student has been participating in an intervention program and has shown satisfactory progress toward achieving the minimum grade-point average.

If a student who becomes ineligible under these standards improves his/her grade point average during the current grading period enough to meet the eligibility standard, s/he may be reinstated at the beginning of the next grading period.

- D. A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed a minimum of five of all subjects carried the preceding grading period.
- E. **Athletes are required to be in school attendance by 10:00 a.m. and finish the remainder of the school day to be eligible to practice or participate on any given school day unless pre-excused by the athletic director or principal.**
- F. An athlete leaving a team for any reason and wanting to go out for another sport must do so within seven days after the official start of practice or prior to the first scheduled scrimmage/contest, whichever occurs first. Beyond this, the athlete would not be able to participate in another sport (including organized conditioning and/or weight room) until that sport season is complete, unless consent of the head coach and athletic director is given.
- G. If an athlete is denied participation from a sport because of a violation, he/she is not eligible to join an organized conditioning program, try out for or participate in another sport until that season of the sport is completed or until such time as the denial of participation is over.

- H. Any athlete suspended or expelled from school is also denied participation from athletic activities including practices, scrimmages and contests
- I. Any athlete ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contest in that sport, at all levels, until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection. If necessary, a carry-over penalty will be invoked.

An athlete who is ejected a second time shall be denied participation for the remainder of the season in that sport and additional penalties may be imposed by the O.H.S.A.A. commissioner.

- J. All athletes assume responsibility for regulating his/her personal life in such ways as will make him/her an efficient member of a team and worthy representative of his/her school. Any student-athlete may be denied from participating in athletic team practice or competitions for a period of time, designated by the administration, for an infraction of school rules and regulations or any other unacceptable conduct in or out of school.

III. CONDUCT RULES AND CONSEQUENCES

A student who violates any of the rules of conduct set forth below or of the Student Handbook may be denied participation in athletics as determined by school officials or in accordance with the penalty of a specific rule.

In the case of a student coming from another Ohio public school district; any violations from that school district will be carried out at New Riegel. This applies to any open-enrollment students or students who have recently moved into New Riegel School District.

Any individual representing the District and found in violation of this policy will be penalized accordingly:

A. Tobacco

The use, possession or purchase of tobacco in any form (cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff in any form etc...) is prohibited.

1. 1st Offense – Denial of participation for 20% of the contest in that sport season with carry-over penalty into the next season in which the athlete participates. Student may continue to practice.
2. 2nd Offense – Denial of participation for the remainder of that sport season and no local post-season awards
3. 3rd Offense – Any other offense during the same school year will result in denial of participation from athletics for one calendar year.

B. Alcohol, Mind-Altering Chemical and Build-Altering Chemicals

The use, possession or purchase of alcohol in any form, mind-altering chemicals and their related paraphernalia or Build -Altering chemicals is prohibited.

1. 1st Offense – Denial of participation for the remainder of the season and no local post-season awards.
 - a. In the case of alcohol violation, if the athlete agrees to go through an alcohol rehabilitation program approved by the school administration, and to follow the program recommendations, the denial of participation will be reduced to 40% of the contests in that sport’s season with carry-over penalty.

*Notification of an athlete’s intention to participate in an alcohol rehabilitation program shall be given in writing to the principal within 5 calendar days of receipt of the written notification of intention to deny participation.

Self-Referral Policy: If an athlete seeks assistance for dealing with an alcohol problem by self-referral to a coach or administrator and agrees to participate in an alcohol rehabilitation program approved by the school administration and agrees to follow the program recommendations, there shall be 20% denial of participation and the self-referral will be considered as a first violation. An athlete may give a once a year self referral, which may be done only twice in 4 years.

- b. In the case of drug violation (including mind-altering or build-altering chemicals), if the athlete agrees to go through a drug rehabilitation program approved by the school administration and to follow the program recommendations, the denial of participation will be reduced to 60%.

*Notification of an athlete’s intention to participate in a drug rehabilitation program shall be given in writing to the principal within 5 calendar days of receipt of the written notification of intention to deny participation.

Self-Referral Policy: If an athlete seeks assistance for dealing with a drug problem by self-referral to a coach or school administrator, and agrees to participate in a drug rehabilitation program approved by the school administration and agrees to follow the program recommendations, the denial will be 20% of the remaining season. An athlete may give a once a year self referral, which may be done only twice in 4 years.

2. 2nd Offense – Denial of participation for one calendar year and no local post-season awards.

Any combination of three (3) offenses or violations from sections A & B will result in a denial of participation for one calendar year with no reduction in the consequences or penalty.

C. Alcohol, Mind-Altering Chemicals and Build-Altering Chemicals

The sale, supplying or transmitting of alcohol in any form or any mind altering chemicals is prohibited.

1. 1st Offense – Denial of participation for one calendar year and no local post-season awards.
2. 2nd Offense – Denial of participation indefinitely/permanently

D. Criminal activity or violations of the law is prohibited

Recognizing the varying degrees of severity of violations (misdemeanors vs. felonies), consequences for involvement may result from a minor reprimand to the denial of participation for a calendar year, depending upon the nature of the offense.

E. All athletes are expected to behave in a manner, which reflects positively on the school and their team. **Unacceptable behavior** is prohibited. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to, such offenses as:

1. Repeated truancy from school or class
2. Act of immorality, theft, vandalism or physical abuse of persons or property.
3. Infractions of school rules, disrespect or chronic incorrigible behavior.
4. Abusive language, gestures or profanity.
5. Disrespectful behavior or unsportsmanlike conduct at school-sponsored events.

F. All athletes shall abide by all the following curfews while their respective sport is in session:

1. Any curfew set forth by communities in which the athlete resides.
2. Any curfew set forth by coaches.

Any exception to the curfew may be granted by the coach of the sport on receipt of a written request from the parent(s)/guardian when the athlete will be with the parent(s)/guardian.

IV. DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES

A. In the event of a violation of this Code of Conduct and/or the training policy established by the coach, the following procedure will take place:

1. The principal will inform the athlete (in writing) of what the violation is and what discipline might take place.
2. The principal then will conduct an informal hearing to allow the athlete to explain his/her actions.
3. If the principal denies the athlete the opportunity to participate, he/she shall send written notice to the athlete and his/her parents of the fact within two workdays of the informal hearing.

4. The athlete and his/her parents shall be informed that they may appeal the decision to the superintendent within 24 hours of written notification of denial of participation.
5. If appealed, the superintendent will meet with the athlete his/her parents and the coach to hear the issue. A representative of the athlete's/parent's choosing may attend this hearing with the athlete, his/her parents or a representative in his/her place. The superintendent will then decide to uphold, vacate or modify the decision. The superintendent will send written notice of his/her action on the appeal to the athlete and his/her parents. There shall be no further appeal.

V. DEFINITION

Athlete	Any student who intends to participate in or is currently participating in an OHSAA sport as a contestant
Build-Altering Chemicals	Includes, without limitation, anabolic steroids, growth hormones, testosterone or its analogs, human chorionic gonadotrophin (HCG) and other hormones.
Calendar year	Shall mean the period of twelve (12) consecutive months from the date of a determination pursuant to the principal's, AD's, coach's judgment.
Carry-Over	The consequences may extend into another sport season or a new school year.
Alcohol	Any intoxicating liquor, beer, wine, mixed beverage, or malt liquor beverage as defined in the Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.01. The term "alcoholic beverage" includes any liquid or substance, such as "near beer" which contains alcohol in any proportion or percentage.
Drug	A controlled substance used or possessed without proper medical prescription.
Counterfeit Controlled Chemicals	<p>Any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance manufactured, processed, packed or distributed by a person other than the person that manufactured, processed, packed or distributed it.</p> <p>Any substance that that is represented to be controlled substance but is not a controlled substance or is a different controlled substance.</p> <p>Any substance other than a controlled substance that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance because of its similarity in shape, size and color or its markings, labeling, packaging, distribution or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.</p>
Drug/Alcohol Rehabilitation	A recognized treatment program with a history of tangible positive results. (All costs for assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or counseling shall be the responsibility of the athlete and his/her family.) A list of providers may be obtained in the principal's office.
Mind-Altering	Includes without limitation, narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, counterfeit controlled substance, marijuana and prescription drugs, unless authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and kept in the original container shall state the athlete's name and the directions for proper use.

Participation	Participation is defined as competing in contests against other schools. It is recommended that any athlete who is under a denied participation may be allowed, with coach's permission, to practice with the team and attend team meetings. The athlete may not sit on a team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after a contest. All training rules and requirements of the sport must be followed by the participant during this time.
Possession	Physical control of alcohol, mind-altering chemicals, build-altering chemicals or tobacco or permitting other persons to possess the aforementioned substances in locations including, but not limited to automobile, home etc. for which the athlete has responsibility. Being in the presence, in the absence of a responsible adult to exercise meaningful supervision, of alcohol, mind-altering chemicals, build-altering chemicals or tobacco where the athlete was aware of or should have been aware of its presence.
Self-Referral	When an athlete seeks assistance for dealing with a problem (alcohol or drug) by self-referral to their coach/advisor and/or school administrator before a violation is detected.
Sport Season	The season begins with the first day of organized practice, as per the O.H.S.A.A handbook, and ends with the conclusion of the respective sport season.

**SIGNATURE PAGE
2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

PLEASE DETACH THIS PAGE AND RETURN TO YOUR COACH or ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Parent/Guardians must understand and agree to the conditions for involvement for their son or daughter in order for them to participate in athletics.

The parent (s) or guardian (s) shall read all of the enclosed material and acknowledge understanding of the athletic eligibility rules and policies. The parent (s) or guardian (s) shall sign and return the Responsibility Acknowledgement Agreement to the Athletic Department prior to participating in any practice or contests.

I have read the New Riegel School District Athletic Code of Conduct including the rules, regulations and policies. I fully understand its meaning and consequences and support its enforcement by persons responsible.

Assumption of Risk/Athletic Training Policy

Checking this box does not release the school from any negligence. However, with your checking of this box it verifies you are aware various injuries do occur while participating in athletics. "We do understand and assume that there is always the risk of a possible injury to our son/daughter in athletics." Our son/daughter will participate in the following sports for the 2011-2012 school year:

Please sign and return to your coach or athletic director. This form will be kept on file in the athletic administrator's office. Thank you for your cooperation and support. You may not participate in interscholastic athletics until this form is signed and returned to your coach.

_____ SIGNATURE OF ATHLETE

_____ SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

_____ SIGNATURE OF COACH

_____ SIGNATURE OF ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR

Received by the Athletic Department _____ (Date)