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I. Mission Statement of Whitnall High School's Extra-curricular Program

Extra-curricular participation is an integral part of the total educational program in the Whitnall School District. The Whitnall School District's commitment to, and involvement in, a competitive extra-curricular program dictates a value system for the individual student, student body, others associated with the program and all who attend the events as spectators.

It is the goal of the Whitnall School District to offer an extra-curricular program that provides each student with the opportunity to develop proper skills, good sportsmanship, good health habits, teamwork, self-reliance, respect and maturity, and to cope with and profit from both winning and losing. The entire program strives to provide students, faculty and the community a source of identification and pride in their schools.

Participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege, and therefore, every student must be willing to abide by the expectations set forth. Participants are constantly before the public, and their conduct not only influences future participants but also increases scrutiny of their behavior.

All students must conform and adhere to the rules of eligibility and conduct twelve months per year as per WIAA regulations. The success of this Code requires exercise of good faith by students, parents and school district personnel, as well as basic respect for the worth of each individual and the individual's ability to contribute to society. To be a participant in the extra-curricular program within the Whitnall School District, one must be willing to follow the rules set down by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and the Whitnall School Board.

A. Athletics

1. Interscholastic Sports

Boys

Fall

Cross Country
Football
Soccer

Winter

Basketball
Hockey [Co-op]
Swimming
Wrestling

Spring

Golf
Tennis
Track

Summer

Baseball

Girls

Fall

Cross Country
Swimming
Tennis
Volleyball

Winter

Basketball
Gymnastics [Co-op]

Spring

Soccer
Softball
Track

B. Activities & Clubs

AFS	Model U.N.
Cheerleaders	Mu Alpha Theta
Chess Club	National Honor Society
Class Officers	Peace Group
DECA	Peer Helpers
Drama Club	Pom Pon Squad
Drama Productions	Science Seminar
Drug Free Club	Stage Crew
Falcon Pride	Student Senate
Forensics	Video Activity Club
Marching Band	Winter Color Guard
Mock Trial Club	Winter Drumline

Whitnall High School is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association [WIAA]. The WHS Athletic/Activities Code follows the minimum requirements of the WIAA. WHS reserves the right to incorporate more stringent eligibility requirements. Any additional or more stringent requirements have been approved or adopted as policy by the Whitnall School Board.

II. Rules of Eligibility

A. General Expectations

All students are expected to follow WIAA regulations, the governing body of a specific organization [i.e. National Honor Society], Whitnall High School Athletic/Activities Code and the participation guidelines and/or expectations for participation established by the advisor/coach.

B. Academic Requirements

To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics or activities, the participant must be a full time student and must have attained a minimum grade point average [GPA] of a 2.00 ["C" average] in all class work which will be reviewed at the end of each grading period. If students do not meet the above criteria, they will be declared ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities for the next nine week grading period. A list of students whose GPA is below a 2.00 shall be compiled upon receipt of grades, submitted to the principal for validation and forwarded to the Athletic/Activities Director.

Students who have been declared academically ineligible from fourth quarter may regain their eligibility for the first quarter of the following school year by successfully completing summer school to make-up a failed class, provided the student attains a GPA of 2.00.

Academic ineligibility for non-competitive activities may be waived for good reason on the recommendation of the activity advisor and with the approval of the principal or his/her designee.

C. Preseason Orientation

All students must attend an orientation meeting before reporting for any sport or activity. At least one parent/guardian must attend the orientation with their son/daughter. This meeting is very important because the student registers for the sport, hears valuable information about the athletic/activities code [including policies and procedures] and receives team rules and regulations directly from the coach. The student and parent are responsible for all information presented at the orientation meeting.

D. Age Requirements

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she reaches his/her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.

E. Semesters In School

A student is ineligible if he/she has attended more than eight semesters or twelve trimesters while enrolled in grades 9-12.

F. Residence & Eligibility

A student is ineligible to participate on an interscholastic team if he/she does not reside in the Whitnall School District, unless his/her residence has been approved by the WIAA, or if the student is attending Whitnall Schools through Chapter 220, is an approved full-time student through open enrollment, is an approved tuition student, is an approved full time student in the foreign exchange program, and/or an approved full-time student per Whitnall School Board Policy.

G. Transfers

In accordance with WIAA rules, if an eligible or suspended student transfers to the Whitnall School District, the ineligibility or suspension must remain in effect. If an ineligible student transfers from the Whitnall School District to another school district, the ineligibility or suspension must remain in effect at the school to which the student transfers.

H. Amateur / All-Star Status

A student must maintain amateur status, and must not participate on any team but their high school team during the same season [in that particular sport], with the exception of the WIAA “gifted participant” rule. A student shall become ineligible for all further participation in the school’s interscholastic program if he/she accepts reimbursement, in any form including, but not limited to; salary, cash, merchandise of any kind or amount and/or share of game proceeds for achievement in athletics.

A student also becomes ineligible in a sport for a maximum of one year from the date of the last offense for participating in an all-star game or similar activity. Activities during the summertime within the confines of the established league or

program, such as an interdivisional contest or team picked to represent a given league in additional competition, are exempt from this rule.

I. Physical Exams & Parental Permission

All athletes must have a WIAA physical examination/parental permission card on file in the Athletic/Activities Office prior to participating in an interscholastic sport. A student is required by the WIAA to have a physical performed by a licensed physician every two years. It is to be signed by the physician, dated, and then signed by the parents. In the year between physicals a WIAA parental permission card is to be signed by the parents and returned to the Athletic/Activities Office. These cards are available in both the Athletic/Activities Office and the High School Office.

J. Participation

During a sports season, an athlete competing in one sport may not drop that sport and begin another without mutual consent of the coaches involved. Similarly, if a student athlete leaves a sport to participate in another school activity (i.e., the spring musical) there must be mutual consent between the coach and the activity advisor.

K. Activity Conflict Guidelines

Coaches and/or activity advisors should carefully check their student rosters to anticipate possible performance conflicts. It may be that a student will have to choose one activity over another rather than be a “part-time performer” in two or more activities. In all cases the advisors should attempt to work out the problems so the student is not “caught in the middle.”

When a student has a conflict because two or more activities are scheduled at the same time, the following policy will apply:

1. A performance (i.e. game, meet, contest, play, etc.) has priority over a practice or a rehearsal. If a student's practice (rehearsal or even dress rehearsal) in one activity is scheduled at the same time as a student's performance in another activity, the performance has priority, and that student is excused from the other activity without penalty.
2. If a practice occurs at the same time in two activities, the practice time is divided equally between the two activities. NOTE: This does not allow a student to compete in two sports during one season. It only addresses two or more activities from different areas-athletics, music, drama, forensics, etc.
3. If a performance in one activity conflicts with a performance in another activity, the student is permitted a choice without penalty. If this causes a problem and the coaches/advisors cannot agree, the high school principal or his/her designee will act as arbitrator.

***EXCEPTION:** Participation in a conference playoff or championship meet, district, or state tournament activity (including regional and sectional levels) takes priority. If a student should choose not to participate in the conference, district, or state tournament level activity, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any activity on that date(s).

L. Obligations

All financial and equipment obligations from previous athletic or activities participation must be settled prior to participation in any subsequent sport/activity. No student may practice or participate in an event unless their school fees are paid in full or arrangements have been made with the Associate Superintendent for Business Services or designee. Final authorization to participate must be sent by the Associate Superintendent for Business Services to the Athletic/Activities Director.

M. Attendance

A student shall not practice or participate in any extra-curricular activity, athletic event, school musical, club meeting, plays, dances, etc., on a school day if he/she is not in attendance (attendance in Physical Education means participation) for all classes the day of the activity. Even though parents request and approve the absence, the school retains the right to either excuse or not excuse these absences. (Exceptions: Prior approval from an administrator for funerals, doctors, dental appointments and college visits for seniors... that cannot be scheduled on a school day before 7:15 a.m. or after 2:15 p.m.).

If a student has an unexcused absence on Friday he/she may not participate in a Saturday event if no contest is held on Friday. A student who has an excused absence may participate on Saturday.

If a student misses a class (unexcused) on the day of an extra-curricular event, the student will not be permitted to participate in or attend the event that day.

III. Violations & Penalties

A. Violations

Any participant alleged to have violated any rule governing extracurricular activities shall be notified of the alleged violation by the coach/advisor, high school administrator or the athletic/activity director. The participant shall have a full opportunity to respond to the allegation.

The penalty sequence cited under each violation will be enforced for all athletics and activities violations. In the rare instances that the penalties do not fit the activity schedule, administration, with a good faith effort, will apply alternative sanctions following a progressive sequence [i.e. 30 days, 45 days, etc...].

1. Smoking/Alcohol/ Controlled Substances

Use, possession, or display of tobacco products is prohibited. Any action which is conspiratory (i.e., aiding another student to violate this policy or to avoid detection) will be considered a violation.

Students are prohibited from using, possessing, selling, distributing or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal controlled substances. In addition, any action which is conspiratory (i.e., aiding another student to violate this policy or to avoid detection) will be considered a violation.

Penalties: Students participating on athletic teams or in an activity will be suspended from participating in the prescribed number of contests as follows:

First Offense: 25% suspension from athletics/activities.

Second Offense: 50% suspension from athletics/activities.

Third Offense: Suspension from athletics/activities for an entire calendar year with reinstatement for athletics/activities dependent upon student bringing proof of an assessment and/or treatment for violation.

Fourth Offense: Suspension from athletics/activities for the remainder of the student’s high school career.

“Contest” Defined: A contest is defined as one regularly scheduled event (game, meet, competition, etc.) within Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) or other organizations’ sanctioned definitions as appropriate. For sports, the first level of state competition will be counted as one contest unless the team qualifies to the next level of competition. In that case, the additional contests will be counted against the suspended member. Multi-team meets or invitations will be counted as one contest.

2. Attendance at a student-hosted gathering where smoking/alcohol/controlled substances are found or consumed or if a gathering is brought to a house uninvited.

A student in attendance at a gathering shall not be in violation of a smoking/alcohol/controlled substance violation if the student can demonstrate by convincing information that he/she was not aware beer, alcohol, or controlled substances were present or that, after becoming aware that beer, alcohol, or controlled substances were present, the student disassociated himself/herself from and left the gathering, or was prevented from doing so because of insufficient time or opportunity.

A student in a situation where smoking, alcohol, or controlled substances makes its way to that student's house shall not be in violation of section I if the student can demonstrate that offending students were asked to leave, a responsible adult was called to help remove them, and/or police were called.

Penalties: The sanction for violation #2 for the first offense is a 30 hour community service and can only be used once. Future violations will be considered a second offense. School Administrators will develop a Community Service Committee made up of a counselor, high school administrator, District Office administrator and faculty member of the student's choice and parent(s) or guardian to set the conditions of the student's community service work. The committee will meet to approve the community service work, set the timelines and any other educational conditions. All work must be documented in writing on forms developed by the school administrators.

3. Hosting a Party

A person or persons deemed responsible for hosting a party where smoking/alcohol/controlled substances are found or consumed.

Penalties: If it is proven through investigation that the student has hosted a party all consequences will be doubled. If this is the first offense he/she will be suspended for 50% from athletics/activities. If this is the student's second offense, he/she will move to the third offense.

4. Other Circumstances

Engaging in any acts of willful, persistent, disruptive behavior, or any act in violation of, or subject to, penalty under Wisconsin State Statutes, Whitnall School District Policies, and/or any local ordinances.

Penalties: Students participating on athletic teams or in an activity will be suspended from participating in the prescribed number of contests as follows:

First Offense: 25% suspension from athletics/activities.

Second Offense: 50% suspension from athletics/activities.

Third Offense: Suspension from athletics and/or activities for an entire calendar year with reinstatement for activities/athletics dependent upon student bringing proof of an assessment and/or treatment for violation.

Fourth Offense: Suspension from athletics/activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.

"Contest" Defined: A contest is defined as one regularly scheduled event (game, meet, competition, etc.) within Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) or other organizations' sanctioned definitions as appropriate. For sports, the first level of state competition will be counted as one contest unless the team qualifies to the next level of competition. In that case, the additional contests will be counted against the suspended member. Multi-team meets or invitations will be counted as one contest.

Important Note to the Participant Regarding Suspensions & Participation:

During the period of suspension, participants must attend all practice sessions. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the team. A student must successfully finish a sports season for the suspension to be valid. If a student is not in a sports season at the time of the violation, or if the remainder of the season is not adequate to complete the suspension, the suspension will extend to the next sport the student successfully competes. Activity code violations are cumulative over a four (4) year period.

Note: In the event that a student has been suspended from participation for an extended period, but will become eligible during an upcoming season or schedule of activities, that student will be allowed to participate in tryouts for that activity.

Note: If any violation occurs during the postseason tournament, by WIAA rules, the participant is ineligible for the entire tournament series.

All suspensions will be the same no matter if the violation occurs while the student is out for a sport and/or activity, or if it occurs during the off-season. If a student interrupts their education for any reason, the suspension (if not completed) will resume when the student returns to Whitnall High School.

If a student is suspended for alcohol or controlled substance use, he/she will be required to attend a minimum of one session with a guidance counselor.

B. Appeals

1. Academic Variances

- a. An ineligible student may make an appeal for a variance or exception to the academic portion of this policy. The application must be submitted to the athletic/activities director. Only one variance will be granted per year, and only two variances will be granted for a student's career. Variances may not be granted for consecutive quarters.

If a student is on a variance, the student's class work will be monitored on a weekly basis. Monitoring of student achievement occurs in conjunction with the guidance department to determine eligibility for competition for that given week. Two incomplete or unsatisfactory weekly reports of class work will make a student ineligible for participation for the remainder of the season. Each week the student must demonstrate satisfactory progress in each class.

- b. Because school is not in session in summer, a variance does not apply. Based on the "WIAA Senior High Handbook, the ineligibility period for baseball shall be a minimum of three weeks (21 consecutive calendar days).

Applications are available in both Athletic/Activities Office and the High School Office. All applications must be approved by the Principal before an athlete is eligible to participate or compete.

2. Parent Notification of Code Violations

Parents will be notified that a violation report has been received and that an investigation is being made. After investigating a violation report, the Athletic/Activities Director or assistant principal will send the parent(s) a letter indicating the result of the investigation. After a suspension is issued, a student and/or his/her parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the Principal. Appeals must be received within 14 days from the first day of notice to the parents.

IV. GENERAL ITEMS

A. Locks

All students are encouraged to lock all items in a locker at all times. The Whitnall Athletic Department does not supply locks. The Whitnall School District is not responsible for lost or stolen property. All locks must be removed from locker rooms within two days following each season. Materials left in lockers after the season will be discarded.

B. Theft/Misuse of Equipment

All participants receiving equipment will be responsible for the equipment issued. No equipment is to be worn by a participant except at an official practice session or scheduled contest (unless authorized by the coach). Lost or stolen equipment is the responsibility of the participant who has checked out the equipment. Any participant in possession of stolen property from visiting schools will be disciplined by the Athletic/Activities Department.

C. Expectations

Coaches and advisors have individual expectations in regard to participant behavior, commitment to team, practice rules, locker room behavior, game conduct, transportation conduct, equipment care, language, dress, training, etc. Each coach/advisor will make his/her team or group aware of all expectations in regard to that particular sport or activity. Participants should be aware that each coach/advisor has unique expectations, rules, and methods of coaching. If a participant is unclear of what is expected, he/she should consult the coach/advisor to clarify the expectations.

D. Transportation

All participants are expected to travel to and from away contests with the squad/team/club/group. If a need arises for a participant to seek other means of transportation, the participant's parent must contact the coach/advisor or the Athletic/Activities Director in writing for permission to transport the student prior to the departure for the event. When parents, coaches, or students transport the student, they do so at their own risk. Transportation by means other than team buses or school vans is to be a rare occurrence.

E. Fees

No participant may practice for an event or participate in any event unless their school fees are paid in full or arrangements have been made with the District Business Office or designee and authorization to participate has been sent by the Associate Superintendent of Business Services or designee to the Athletic/Activities Director.

V. ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS & GUIDELINES

A. Ten Principles of "Good Sportsmanship"

1. Treat visiting students as guests.
2. Don't heckle the players at any time.
3. Respect and accept the decisions of the coaches and officials as final.
4. Cooperate with cheerleaders and other leaders.
5. Respect all property rights and refrain from throwing anything into the playing area and crowd.
6. Stay off the playing area at all times.
7. Do not "boo" or use noisemakers.
8. Remain until the activity is completed.
9. Keep reasonably quiet during a free throw and other tense situations.
10. Applaud excellent performances by our opponents as well as our own team.

B. Rules for Appropriate Adult and Student Behavior at Athletic Events

1. School and adult officials are to be respected and have authority to enforce all rules.
2. Profane language and offensive behavior will not be tolerated.
3. Respect property.
4. Respect, cooperate, and respond appropriately to cheerleaders. Any cheers that ridicule, insult, or use profanity are prohibited.
5. Cheer on your own team players; do not respond negatively to opposing players or fans.
6. All types of noisemakers are prohibited.
7. The possession, use, under the influence, distribution, and/or sale of drugs, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol is prohibited.
8. Signs, cards, banners, are prohibited unless approved by the athletic/activities director.
9. Any actions that endanger the safety of participants, spectators, or officials are prohibited.
10. Use of tobacco products on premises owned or rented by or under the control of the Whitnall School Board shall be considered disorderly conduct and prohibited. Persons smoking on school premises will be issued a citation by the Greenfield Police Department.