

EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT (Refer to Online Board Policy 122)

Philosophy Statement

The co-curricular activities program of the NASD is designed to promote the growth and development of our students. Since these programs are an integral part of the school's educational philosophy, participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege contingent upon compliance with established rules. The regulations set forth in this code are designed to positively promote the growth, development, and team spirit orientation of our students. The success of our programs will, therefore, depend upon each participating student developing himself/herself to the fullest extent and accepting his/her responsibility to the activity, while exercising the ability to develop and fulfill all classroom responsibilities.

A coach/advisor may distribute a separate code, no less than that which is set forth here, which will govern student/athletes who participate in a particular sport/activity. The student and his/her parent/guardian will also acknowledge receipt of the coach/advisor's code and return the acknowledgement to the coach/advisor at the same time as the consent form. The same standard of behavior and discipline for the regular student will apply to the athletic/activity student participant. Therefore, the Northampton Co-Curricular Code of Conduct will supplement the Northampton High School Discipline Code as printed in the Student/Parent Handbook and the Northampton School District Code for Student Conduct, Rights and Responsibilities, Board Policy 235.

Definition of a Participant in a NAHS Co-Curricular Activity

Any student whose name appears on the athletic academic eligibility checklist or any club or school organization including intramural activities during the athletic season or period of activity in which they participate.

Period of Applicability

The regulations set forth in this code are in effect from the first legal practice date for fall co-curricular activities (or the first day of school for all other students) until the last day of the athletic season or period of activity. In the event that an individual or school-sponsored team/organization continues to participate beyond the last day of school, the student will be expected to adhere to all rules until the completion of the last year.

Co-Curricular Goals and Objectives

The ultimate goal of co-curricular offerings is to encourage each participant to become an effective citizen in a competitive, democratic society through the accomplishment of specific objectives:

- To provide opportunities for lasting friendships, not only within the Northampton community, but within other communities as well
- To give students an early understanding that participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege which has responsibilities
- To teach that a penalty follows the violation of a rule
- To provide students the opportunity to develop a desire to excel to the best of their ability
- To provide students the opportunity to practice good citizenship by developing emotional control, cooperation, and dependability

- To develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work; to place the organization and its objectives higher than any personal desires
- To enjoy co-curricular activities by acknowledging the personal rewards derived from co-curricular programs and to give sufficiently of oneself in order to preserve and improve all school programs
- To promote school spirit, loyalty, and morale by providing activities which the whole community can support
- To continue to improve oneself by establishing a goal and diligently practicing skills while adhering to desirable habits and characteristics necessary to develop the individual

Co-Curricular Activity Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities at NAHS, all students will be required to meet the following eligibility standards:

Appropriate School Behavior

- Appropriate student behavior as determined by the Co-Curricular Conduct Code, the Northampton Student/Parent Handbook and Northampton Area School District Policy Handbook.

Attendance in School

- To participate in any co-curricular activity a student must be in attendance at school by homeroom period.
- Exceptions to the above rule would be a doctor appointment (doctor's note required), a family or medical emergency or extenuating circumstances. These exceptions would require a note from the student's parent/guardian and would be reviewed by the administration and the coach/advisor. They would determine the eligibility of the student to participate.
- Students who are suspended from school or have multiple days of ISS may not participate until the suspension period has been completed. All students participating in PIAA sanctioned events are subject to PIAA regulations for eligibility.

Suspension/Resignation

- Should a participant athlete/student be suspended from an activity, he/she may not join another activity during that athletic season or semester co-curricular activity.
- Should a participant be cut or choose not to participate on one team, he/she may try-out for another team before that sport/activity season has ended.

Conduct of a Student Participant in Co-Curricular Activities

- Profanity is unacceptable at any time. The coach and/or advisor will address all offenses.
- Conduct unbecoming of a student participant, including ejection for misconduct during an activity or competition, will result in the following:
 - 1st offense – consequence at coach's and/or advisor's discretion or PIAA regulation, if applicable
 - 2nd offense – suspension from one activity or competition
 - 3rd offense – suspension from team/activity
- A co-curricular participant will abide by the NAHS Student Code of Conduct as printed in the Student/Parent Handbook. Any infraction by the participant will be handled by the administration and the coach or advisor:

- If a violation involves an exclusion, in school or out, the co-curricular participant will be suspended from co-curricular activities during the exclusionary period. He/she becomes eligible the next calendar day immediately following the last day of exclusion. If multiple days of exclusion occur, the athlete/student is not eligible until the exclusion is completed.
- If a co-curricular participant has detention, after serving the required time, he/she will report to the coach or advisor directly.
- If an athlete/student is late to practice because of academic reasons he/she must bring a note from his/her teacher stating the time of dismissal.

Tobacco

The following regulations have been developed by the NASD in order to discourage our students from using, possessing, or distributing tobacco and tobacco products:

- If the offense takes place on school property, administration will enforce the NAHS Student Code of Conduct as printed in the Student/Parent Handbook, which may include a citation.
- In addition, if the offense occurs on school property or at a school-sponsored/approved function, and the school administration has verified the offense, it will be addressed by administration, and the result will be:
 - 1st offense – a three-week suspension from the sport or activity, which continues into the next sport or activity; if the season or semester ends in less than three weeks.
 - 2nd offense – will result in removal from the sport or activity for the rest of the athletic season or remainder of the semester for all co-curricular activities. In either case, the removal should not be less than six weeks and will continue into the next sport or activity in which the student participates; but not necessarily into the next school year.

Anabolic Steroids

The Board prohibits the use of anabolic steroids by students involved in school-related athletics, except for a valid medical purpose. Bodybuilding and muscle enhancement of athletic ability are not valid medical purposes. Human Growth Hormone (HGH) shall not be included as an anabolic steroid. Students shall be made aware of the dangers of steroid use; that anabolic steroids are classified as controlled substances; and their use, unauthorized possession, purchase, or sale could subject students to suspension, expulsion and/or criminal prosecution. The following penalties are prescribed for any student athlete found in violation of the prohibited use of anabolic steroids:

- 1st offense – suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season
- 2nd offense – suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season and for the following season
- 3rd offense – permanent suspension from school athletics

No student should be eligible to resume participation in school athletics unless a medical determination has been submitted verifying that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

Alcohol and Other Drugs

The following regulations have been developed by the NASD in order to discourage our students from using, possessing or distributing drugs and alcohol products. No student will use, possess or distribute alcohol, drugs, and controlled or look-alike substances or possess drug-related paraphernalia on school property or during a school-sponsored/approved activity. In

addition, if the offense takes place on school property or during a school-sponsored/approved activity, the following will apply:

Use or possession of alcohol, drugs, and controlled or look-alike substances:

- Referral to legal authorities.
- A six (6) to ten (10) day OSS.
- Removal from the sport or activity for the rest of the athletic season or remainder of the semester for all co-curricular activities. In either case the removal will not be less than six (6) weeks and will continue into the next sport or activity in which the student participates, but not necessarily into the next school year.
- Referral to SAP.
- Referral for a drug and alcohol assessment at a licensed drug and alcohol program within 10 days and compliance with its recommendations.

Distribution of alcohol, drugs, controlled or look-alike substances or drug-related paraphernalia:

- Referral to legal authorities.
- A six (6) to ten (10) day OSS.
- Recommendation for a formal school board hearing for expulsion.
- Removal from the sport or activity for the rest of the athletic season or remainder of the semester for all co-curricular activities. In either case the removal should not be less than six weeks and will continue into the next sport or activity in which the student participates, but not necessarily into the next school year.
- Referral to SAP.
- Referral for a drug and alcohol assessment at a licensed drug and alcohol program within ten (10) days and compliance with its recommendations.

Note:

- If the participant does not follow the procedures and recommendations stated above, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any future NASD co-curricular programs until the student/athlete comes into compliance.
- Any student/athlete who has been charged as an adult or juvenile with a crime committed off school property which constitutes a misdemeanor or felony related to the use, possession or distribution of alcohol, drugs, controlled or look-alike substances, and drug paraphernalia will be suspended from participation by the Administration pending the outcome of the legal proceedings.

Upon conviction or a plea of guilty or a plea of no contest, the student/athlete will be:

- Dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season.
- Referred to SAP.
- Referred for assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol program within 10 days and compliance with its recommendations.

Upon acquittal or dismissal of the charges the student/athlete will be reinstated as a member of the team/activity in good standing.

Important:

Prior to any investigation or involvement in a drug and alcohol offense on school property or during a school-sponsored/approved activity, a student with a drug and alcohol problem may

voluntarily come forward to request assistance without consequence. He/she will be evaluated by a licensed drug and alcohol program and must follow the recommendations they set forth. However, once a student participant has been properly evaluated and appropriate recommendations are set forth, the student participant must cooperate with the recommendations to participate in co-curricular activities. If the participant does not follow the treatment, he/she will be dismissed from the current school activity and will not be permitted to participate in any future Northampton co-curricular activities until the participant comes into compliance.

Due Process

The following format of Due Process will be used in all co-curricular investigations to evaluate allegations of misconduct offenses as outlined in the NAHS Student Code of Conduct.

- All allegations will be investigated by the high school principal, assistant principals and appropriate coaches.
- If sufficient evidence is found to warrant a possible violation of the activities code, a student hearing will ensue. The hearing will be a meeting of all necessary administrative and educational staff, including athletic and/or activities coaches/advisors when necessary, along with the student and parents and/or guardians. It is at this meeting that the student and his/her parents or guardians have the right to share any information regarding the offense that may/may not affect the decision of the administrative team.
- Parents and students will be notified of the findings and given the opportunity to discuss the ramifications of the offense.
- Consequences will be reviewed and positive options discussed to modify the behavior.

Co-Curricular Code of Conduct Consent Form

A parent/guardian and the student participant must sign and return the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct Consent Form. The student will receive the form from the coach and/or advisor. The student must return the signed form before the opening day of the season or the semester. This will assure the coach and/or advisor that the parent/guardian and student will agree to uphold its standards. Athletics and co-curricular activities are a privilege, and this form must be signed prior to any student participating.