

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY DISCIPLINE CODE

Opening: The purpose of this discipline code is to establish a uniform set of general standards, regulations and procedures governing student conduct and eligibility in extracurricular activities at South Central High School. Student conduct before, during and after extracurricular activities has a direct reflection upon the South Central Local School District and should exemplify the high standards of our school. Eligibility in extracurricular activities is a privilege and those students desiring to participate are to meet both academic standards and meet appropriate behavioral standards.

All students shall abide by a code of conduct, which will earn them the honor and respect which participation and competition in the interscholastic programs offered at South Central affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the student, team, program, school, or community will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of the law, or acts which tarnish the reputation of those associated with the school will not be tolerated. *The code shall be in effect twelve (12) months a year.*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Administrators, coaches and the athletic director at South Central High School believe that scholastic endeavors are the most important part of the educational program. Standards established in this policy are for students participating in extracurricular activities. These standards include, but are not limited to, all athletic teams, academic teams and any performing group. Performing groups include stage band, pep band, participants in plays, musicals and any other similar groups as determined by the principal. Students participating in extracurricular programs shall be required to meet certain academic standards in order to be eligible to participate in contest, programs or performances. The standards are:

1. According to OHSAA rules, any student enrolled in grades 9-12 is required to receive passing grades in a minimum of five, one credit courses or the equivalent, which count towards graduation, during the preceding grading period to maintain eligibility for the next grading period. Likewise, students must maintain a minimum grade point average of 1.5 per grading period. Students in grade eight must have passed seventy-five percent (75%) of those subjects carried in the preceding grading period and have maintained a minimum GPA for the same grading period to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities as a freshman at South Central High School.
2. The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5) school day of the grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. However, eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season.
3. A student who is ineligible is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team until such time that their grades allow them to compete.
4. If a student enrolled in Junior High turns 15 before August 1, the student must participate at the high school level. If a student enrolled in high school becomes 20 the student will then become ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics.

DEFINITIONS

1. 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. The term “alcoholic beverage” does not include a substance used for medical purposes in accordance with directions for use provided in a prescription or by the manufacturer and in accordance with school district policy and rules related to the use of prescription and non-prescription drugs, provided the substance is a) authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and kept in the original container, which shall state the student’s name and directions for use or b) an over-the-counter medicine.
2. ATHLETIC SEASON: In-season start dates will begin as published by the Ohio High School Athletic Association or sanctioning organization and continue until the completion of awards program for that sport for the SOUTH CENTRAL Schools. There are three athletic seasons: Fall, Winter, Spring.
3. CALENDAR YEAR: A calendar year begins the first day of the offense and ends 365 days after the first day. On leap-years the last day of a calendar year will be 366 days after the first day the offense begins.
4. COMMUNITY SERVICE: This includes, but is not limited to, working in the school, helping the activity coordinator/coach/athletic director, assisting student council, key club, etc.
5. CONTRACT YEAR: The first day of school or the first practice of a fall sport until the last day of school or the completion of a spring sport.
6. EXTRACURRICULAR SEASON: In-season start dates will begin with the first scheduled rehearsal/practice and continue until the final performance/contest.
7. HAZING: Performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team or organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.
8. ILLEGAL/ILLICIT DRUGS: Any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, give, exchange, use, distribute, or purchase under State or Federal Law. This definition also includes all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used in any way other than for medical purposes in accordance with the directions for use provided for in the prescription or by the manufacturer.
9. SCHOOL YEAR: A school year begins the first day classes are held and end on the last day classes are held.
10. STUDENT DRIVER SEASON: Student driver season will begin with the first day student has registered his/her vehicle with the school and end on the last student school day. Students who do not register with the school will not be permitted to drive to school.
11. STUDENT PARTICIPANT: Any person participating in the South Central School, grades 7-12, athletic program and/or contests under the control and jurisdiction of the South Central Schools and/or the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA), and board approved competitive

non-graded extracurricular activity, and/or any student driver. Also included is any person participating in any South Central School extracurricular activity.

EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

South Central High School students involved in extracurricular activities must follow the Student Code of Conduct found in the student handbook. In addition they must also abide by the following Extracurricular Code of Conduct rules.

1. No use of tobacco, alcohol, or use of, or involvement with, illegal or counterfeit drugs or possession of drug paraphernalia. South Central students shall not attend or remain in attendance at functions in which peer group/underage alcohol or illegal drug use takes place. Nor shall a South Central student ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or illegal or counterfeit drugs are being consumed. Students who remain in attendance and do not make an attempt to leave from a function/situation immediately in which peer group underage alcohol or illegal drug use take place will be considered in violation of this rule.
2. No involvement with any theft, vandalism, or assault.
3. No excessive use of profanity.
4. Student will demonstrate good citizenship at all times.
5. No South Central student shall plan, encourage or engage in any hazing.
6. Follow curfew hours set by the head coach or supervisor.
7. All personal jewelry will be removed during athletic participation.
8. Students must attend school in order to participate in any extracurricular activity. Students must be in school for 4 periods to practice and the entire day to participate in a game. Students who are in a work-study program must be in school prior to 8:45 a.m. Students are expected to be in school the day after an activity unless they have a medical excuse from a doctor.
9. When a student goes home ill during the school day, they may not participate in extracurricular activities for the remainder of that day unless they have a medical excuse from a doctor.
10. Dress and appearance for athletes will be determined by the head coach or supervisor.
11. Athletes may not wear any garment or equipment belonging to the athletic department for any reason other than practice, competition, or a pep rally.
12. The athlete/participant or his/her parents will be financially responsible for damage to, or destruction of, school property occurring as a result of his/her carelessness or misbehavior.
13. Participants must follow the South Central School Bus Regulations found in the Student Handbook. Students who take transportation to an extracurricular event must also return via school transportation. Request for students to leave from an event with a parent will only be granted in extenuating circumstances, as determined by the principal and athletic director. Students will not be permitted to ride home with a parent just for convenience.

14. Any student who does not attend the banquet or does not make prior arrangement with his/her coach or the athletic director will not be eligible for their awards. If an extenuating circumstance arises it is at the athletic director's discretion.
15. Athletes who quit or are removed from a varsity sport are not eligible to receive a varsity letter or any end-of-the season awards.

In the event that a South Central student comes under investigation for a possible violation of the expectations outlined in this code, it is expected that the student will:

- Be truthful
- Be forthcoming with information
- Not be deceptive
- Be cooperative

Coaches/advisors/directors are responsible for the administration of the programs to which they are assigned. In this capacity they also have the option to make judgements and decisions on items and procedures not specifically designated in these guidelines which they believe necessary to insure the continued high ideals of the extracurricular activities, clubs, and athletic programs of South Central High School.

VIOLATION OF THE EXTRA CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT RULES

Violations of Extracurricular Code of Conduct rule 1 (drugs/alcohol/tobacco) will be dealt with in the following manner:

FIRST OFFENSE ILLICIT DRUGS/ALCOHOL: The first time a student violates the illicit drugs/alcohol policy the student will be given the option of A or B below.

A) The student will have to make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for chemical dependency assessment and then follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent/guardian/custodian is responsible for all expenses and for providing the Athletic Department/other with documentation that the student participant completed all recommendations of the counselor. The student participant will be denied participation for a minimum of 20% of the season (or its equivalent of the practices/events for the calendared event) for competitive non-graded extracurricular activities). The parent/guardian/custodian and student will meet with the Athletic Director/Other, the coach/advisor, and a building administrator to determine reinstatement. The student may be required, at parent/guardian/custodian expense, to submit to weekly testing for the remainder of the current season. If a student is academically ineligible, they will not be able to complete their suspension until they have reinstated their eligibility.

The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not dress). If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the next activity

in which the student participates. The student must complete the activity in which he/she is involved for it to count towards the suspension.

B) Denial of participation in interscholastic athletics and/or extracurricular activities for the remainder of the current season and for that year.

SECOND OFFENSE ILLICIT DRUGS/ALCOHOL: The student is denied participation for one calendar year from the date of notification of the violation. The student forfeits his/her leadership role in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as any special awards for that activity. This includes the student's letters and/or numerals.

THIRD OFFENSE ILLICIT DRUGS/ALCOHOL: The student is permanently denied participation in any extracurricular activities for the remainder of his/her schooling at SOUTH CENTRAL Local Schools. The student forfeits his/her leadership role in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as any special awards for that activity. This includes the student's letters and/or numerals.

Violations are accumulative throughout the student participants' school career. (Grades 7-12)

FIRST OFFENSE TOBACCO/NICOTINE: No participation until the following occurs:

1. In house counseling from High School Principal. Motivational Talk!
2. Must read an educational pamphlet/powerpoint presentation on the dangers of nicotine. Fill out worksheet and pass a test with a score of 75% or higher.
3. Parents or guardian shall pay for a negative test for the substance abused. The test must be scheduled at a school-approved facility which will be provided by the principal or athletic director.

All three criteria for the first offense of nicotine only must be completed before participation in current extracurricular activity can resume or before the next season begins.

If a student is academically ineligible, they will not be able to complete their suspension until they have reinstated their eligibility.

The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not dress). If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the next activity in which the student participates. The student must complete the activity in which he/she is involved for it to count towards the suspension.

SECOND OFFENSE TOBACCO/NICOTINE: Automatic loss of 20% of current season and practices, or equivalent of 20% of practices/events for the calendar event. The following must occur before continuing the remaining of the season:

1. Counseling off campus with parents or guardian and a tobacco education program.

2. Parents or guardian pay for a retest of the negative test for the substance abused.

Both criteria for the second offense of nicotine only must be completed before participation in current extracurricular activity can resume or before the next season begins. If the violation percentage cannot be served completely during the remaining season, denial of participation will continue and be completed in the next season in which the student participates.

If a student is academically ineligible, they will not be able to complete their suspension until they have reinstated their eligibility.

The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not dress). If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the next activity in which the student participates. The student must complete the activity in which he/she is involved for it to count towards the suspension. The student forfeits his/her leadership role in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as any special awards for that activity. This includes the student's letters and/or numerals.

THIRD OFFENSE TOBACCO/NICOTINE: Loss of participation for remainder of the school year in any extracurricular privilege.

The following must occur before beginning practice or participation in any extracurricular activity the following contract year.

1. Counseling off campus with parents or guardian and a tobacco education program.
2. Parents or guardian pay for a negative test for the substance abused.

The student forfeits his/her leadership role in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as any special awards for that activity. This includes the student's letters and/or numerals.

SELF REFERRALS: Cannot be used by student as a method to avoid consequences once a Code of Conduct rule is violated and the student has been identified as having violated one of the Code of Conduct rules. If a South Central student admits use, South Central expects the student to access help as indicated in Step 1 when either Illicit Drugs/Alcohol or Nicotine are abused.

In the interest of accuracy and fairness, all possible violations that occur off school grounds, at non-school sponsored activities, will be investigated only if police department records are available as the basis for determining a violation of the extracurricular code of conduct. To address rumored allegations and to prevent vengeful assertions of code violations, accusers may be required to stipulate their accusations in person and in writing.

Allegations of violations will be handled as follows:

1. The athletic director (or principal if the athletic director is the coach of accused participant) will interview the student as to the reason(s) for suspected code of conduct violation(s) in an effort to confirm or refute the allegation.

2. After the initial interview, parental notification will be made by the athletic director regarding the alleged violation, the outcome of the initial interview, and next steps.
3. The building principal will be notified of the allegation and the status of the investigation will be kept aware of the progress of the investigation.
4. In the event the initial interview does not bring resolution to the investigation, the athletic director (or principal if the athletic director is the coach of accused participant) will further investigate through interviews with those who may be aware of the violations first-hand, those who may have limited knowledge of the violation(s), and/or those who may be involved with such violation(s).
5. If there is reasonable evidence of a suspected alcohol or drug violation, a student may be asked to take a timely alcohol or drug test to confirm his or her recent alcohol or drug status. Furthermore, the student may be required to submit to more frequent testing during the season.
6. Failure to provide the results of such a test or to submit to the test will be considered, as far as remedies and consequences are concerned, confirmation of a violation.
7. The approved and appropriate remedies and consequences for the type of violation will then be applied and enforced.

Violations of Extracurricular Code of Conduct rules 2 (theft/vandalism/assault) will be dealt with in the following manner:

FIRST OFFENSE, THEFT, VANDALISM OR ASSAULT: If the student violates the theft, vandalism, or assault policy the student must complete (*) hours of community service to be arranged by the athletic director in conjunction with the police department. In addition a panel consisting of the principal, athletic director, and two out of season coaches, will determine if further punishment is required.

If the hours of community service cannot be completed during the remaining season, denial of participation will continue and be completed in the next season in which the student participates.

If a student is academically ineligible, they will not be able to complete their suspension until they have reinstated their eligibility.

The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not dress). If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the next activity in which the student participates. The student must complete the activity in which he/she is involved for it to count towards the suspension.

SECOND OFFENSE, THEFT, VANDALISM OR ASSAULT: If the student violates the theft, vandalism, or assault policy the student must complete (*) hours of community service to be arranged by the athletic director in conjunction with the police department. In addition a panel consisting of the principal, athletic director, and two out of season coaches, will determine if further punishment is required.

If the hours of community service cannot be completed during the remaining season, denial of participation will continue and be completed in the next season in which the student participates.

If a student is academically ineligible, they will not be able to complete their suspension until they have reinstated their eligibility.

The student is strongly advised to continue to practice with the team and sit with the team (the student will not dress). If the student is unable to complete the suspension it will carry over to the next activity in which the student participates. The student must complete the activity in which he/she is involved for it to count towards the suspension.

The student forfeits his/her leadership role in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as any special awards for that activity. This includes the student's letters and/or numerals.

**Determined by School Administration*

THIRD OFFENSE, THEFT, VANDALISM OR ASSAULT: If the student violates the theft, vandalism, or assault policy it will result in a twelve (12) month suspension from all activities beginning from the date of the violation. (There is no reduction for the third offense). The student forfeits his/her leadership role in any activity of participation for one calendar year as well as any special awards for that activity. This includes the student's letters and/or numerals.

If a violation percentage cannot be served completely during the remaining season, denial of participation will continue and be completed in the next season in which the student participates. Denial of Participation will not be deemed completed by the participant serving the violation if the student becomes academically ineligible. In this instance the student must regain academic eligibility before the remainder of the suspension is served. Denial of all privileges includes all facets of team membership.

If a student loses all privileges of participation in a sport or extracurricular activity, and the student is currently not involved in a sport or extracurricular activity, the next sport or activity in which the student participates must be one in which the student has a sincere interest or past history of participation. The student cannot simply choose to go out for a sport or elect another extracurricular activity in order to satisfy the loss of privileges rule. Student will be required to complete the entire season or time span for the extracurricular activity. First time participation will be subject to strict scrutiny.

CONDUCT UNBECOMING A SOUTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT/ATHLETE-MISDEMEANOR OR A FELONY: A misdemeanor charge/conviction brought by a law enforcement agency against a South Central High School student participant may result in denial of participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the administration in accordance with the disciplinary code.

A felony charge brought on by a law enforcement agency against a South Central High School student participant shall result in the denial of all extracurricular activities for the balance of the current season/session or for forty-five (45) school days – whichever is greater. The forty-five (45) schools days

of exclusion shall carry over into the next season/session. If the charge/conviction is brought over the summer, this rule applies to the ensuing school year (season/session) and begins with the first day of practice or school, whichever comes first.

An appeals committee comprised of the superintendent, principal, athletic director and one (1) teacher will review the circumstances surrounding the charge/conviction and determine the future eligibility of the student based upon the best interest of the student and the school district.

A probationary period shall be imposed upon a student charged with/convicted of a felony in which the participant may be permitted, upon the recommendation of the appeals committee, to practice, but not participate in competition, with the team or activity during the ensuing season/session. Upon successful completion of the probationary period (as determined by the appeals committee), the participant may be determined to be eligible to resume complete participation with the team/activity.

ALL OTHER CODE VIOLATIONS: Students will be subject to disciplinary actions by the advisor, coach, athletic director or principal for violations of any of the other Extracurricular Code of Conduct Rules or those rules determined by the advisor, coach, or athletic director. In the instance that any of the above stated infractions occurs on school property, the student will also be subject to discipline under the South Central Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook.

DUE PROCESS AND APPEAL PROCESS: South Central students will be provided due process. The student is entitled to be informed of the charges against him/her and an informal meeting where he/she has an opportunity to be heard before the athletic director/principal. The athletic director/principal shall render a written decision within two school days of the meeting. The student and his/her parent(s) may appeal the athletic director's/principal's decision to suspend to the superintendent, in writing, within two school days of the decision to suspend. The superintendent shall render his/her decision within four school days of the consideration of the appeal. A suspension may be deferred pending the outcome of an appeal at the discretion of the athletic director or the high school principal. The superintendent's decision will be final.