



# NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

## ATHLETICS CODE



**A**thletes are ambassadors of Northwood High School, and therefore the behavior of all athletes, in and out of competition, is of the utmost importance. As a privilege and not a right, interscholastic athletics is a voluntary program and students are not obligated to participate nor is participation required for graduation. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to conform to the behavioral expectations set forth by the school's Athletics Department.

### Athlete Eligibility

Students must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Have passed a minimum of 20 units during the previous grading period. Only five units can be in physical education (no probation possibility). Freshman are automatically academically eligible for the first quarter.
  - Policy adopted by the Board of Education provides that participants with less than a 2.0 average for the last marking period may choose to be placed on "Academic Probation" for the subsequent quarter. Students on Academic Probation will work with school staff to monitor progress and provide guidance and support. Eligibility will be reassessed at the end of each grading period. Students may use Academic Probation once during their high school career.
2. Have a total GPA of at least 2.0 for the previous grading period. Students enrolled in a course with a Pass/Fail grade, a "P" grade will be the equivalent of a "C" grade for GPA determination.  
For more information visit: <https://iusd.org/about/board-education/board-policies>
3. Not be (currently) under suspension and/or expulsion consequences.
4. Submit all required paperwork, including records of a current physical examination.
5. Before a student can participate in a sport, he/she must:
  - a. Receive clearance from the Athletics Department stating the student athlete has health insurance;
  - b. Complete the concussion information & parent consent form;
  - c. Complete the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information sheet;
  - d. Sign the athletics code;
  - e. Have a physical;
  - f. Complete the clearance process via [athleticclearance.com](http://athleticclearance.com).
6. Adhere to CIF bylaws and guidelines for eligibility and transfer rules.

### Care of Equipment

Respect all equipment and use it safely and appropriately. Athletes are responsible for all uniforms and/or equipment issued. No athlete will be allowed to play on any athletics team until all uniforms and equipment from a prior sport are returned and paid for. The athlete will not be allowed to participate in any award ceremony or receive a letter until all obligations have been met. Grades may also be held until an athlete clears any uniform or equipment obligations.

### Removal from or quitting a team

Any student removed from a team or who leaves the team for any reason will be subject to the following regulations:

1. An athlete has **three weeks** from the official start of practice for the season to determine whether he/she wishes to leave a team. If, after the third week, an athlete leaves a team for any reason, the athlete may not join another team. The athlete may join another team only at the conclusion of the season of the team he/she left.
2. If a 9th grade athlete leaves a team, he/she shall be placed into a P.E. class.
3. Athletes dropped from a team for disciplinary reasons (in or out of season) may not participate in another sport until the season of the sport from which he/she was dropped has concluded.

### Conduct of Athletes

Athletics within Irvine Unified School District follow CIF policies and procedures, as well as guidelines for conduct of participants. With this as a base, schools and coaches may communicate additional expectations and consequences. While "Pursuing Victory with Honor," we expect our student athletes to:

- Treat one another and opponents with respect;
- Respect the judgment of officials, abide by the rules of the game, and promote positive behavior;
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school community, displaying positive public action at all times;

Compassion

Integrity

Mutual Respect



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- Promote sportsmanship and help to foster the development of good character in such a way that enhances academic, emotional, social, physical and ethical development;
- Remember that academics is a priority and that character building is essential.

### Student Athlete Accountability

An important part of the educational aspect of high school athletics is the learning of behavior appropriate to the circumstances and setting. Because athletes often perform publicly, their behavior is subject to more than the usual scrutiny. In this way, all athletes will behave in a manner commensurate with being a representative of the Northwood High School community.

The Northwood High School Athletics Department will not tolerate any student behavior that reflects poorly on the athletics program. The Athletics Council will consist of 3 or more members of athletics, including but not limited to an Athletics Director, the Assistant Principal overseeing athletics, and/or an on-campus coach who will examine all violations of the Athletics Code. The council will review the case and apply sanctions. Any offense or conduct violation will be addressed on an individual basis.

### First Athletics Code Offense:

- First offenses for conduct issues will include removal of the athlete from participation in all athletics contests for not less than 10 school days, including Saturday competitions. If the student is out of his/her athletics season, the student will not participate from the beginning with the first game of the season and not less than 20% of consecutive games during the season. For a multi-sport athlete, the percentage will be 10% of each season. (Athletics contests are counted according to the CIF Bluebook.)
  - Student will be expected to practice with the team except during a period of school suspension.
  - The Athletics Council will make a determination on the effective start date of the sit out period.

### Second Athletics Code Offense:

- If a student athlete incurs a second offense of the Code of Conduct, he/she will be immediately removed from the athletics program for the period of one full calendar year from the date of notification. The student athlete will be given an opportunity for review of his/her suspension after 50% of the consequence has been served (or at a time deemed appropriate by the Athletics Council), pending evidence of a renewed commitment to the values of NHS and its Athletics Department.

### Subsequent Athletics Code Offenses:

- Any subsequent offense shall result not only in immediate removal from the team for the remainder of the season, but also, pending an Athletics Council review, the possible forfeiture of the student's remaining high school eligibility.

I have read the Guidelines for the Student Athlete and agree to honor them. I am aware of and have read the Parent's Handbook and the Athletes' Handbook located on the District website ([www.iusd.org](http://www.iusd.org)) under Parent Resources, especially as it pertains to conduct of spectators and athletes. I have discussed the expectations for both athletes and spectators with my family and I take full responsibility for my actions. In addition, according to Education Code section 51228.2; 5 CCR section 1700 this course has been designed to be taken more than once: Even though the Pupil may have previously completed the course and received a grade determined by the District to be sufficient to satisfy the District's minimum requirements for high school graduation and to satisfy the requirements for admission to the California public institutions of postsecondary education, the pupil is requesting this course because the course has been designed to be taken more than once because pupils are exposed to a new curriculum year to year and are therefore expected to derive educational value from taking the course again.

#### **Notice of Non-discrimination in Athletics**

IUSD does not discriminate in enrollment in or access to any athletics program available. Admission to these programs is based on age appropriateness, team roster space, aptitude and meeting academic and behavioral eligibility requirements. The lack of English skills shall not be a barrier to admission to or participation in the District's activities and programs. IUSD's facilities and equipment provided for students are comparable and equitable to both sexes without disparity or imbalance, consistent with his or her gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the pupil's record. For additional information see [www.iusd.org](http://www.iusd.org) (Board Policy 5145.5)

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