



# NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

## ATHLETICS CODE



Student-Athletes are ambassadors of Northwood High School, and therefore, the behavior of all student-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 follow the behavioral expectations set forth by the school's Athletics Department.

### Athlete Eligibility

Students-athletes 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). Freshmen 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 only 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. More information at: <https://iusd.org/policy/board-policies>
3. Not currently under suspension and/or expulsion consequences.
4. Before a student can participate in a sport, he/she must:
  - Complete the clearance process via [www.athleticclearance.com](http://www.athleticclearance.com)
  - Upload a copy of your student's physical and health insurance to their athletic clearance account
  - Receive clearance from the Athletics Department
5. Adhere to CIF bylaws and guidelines for eligibility and transfer rules.

### Care of Equipment

Students-athletes are expected to treat all athletic equipment with respect and use it safely and appropriately at all times. Student-athletes are responsible for the care of all uniforms and equipment issued to them. At the end of the season, all gear and equipment must be returned in good condition. If any equipment is not returned, the student-athlete will be responsible for the replacement costs. Please note that failure to return equipment or pay for lost items may result in a hold on grades, transcripts, and participation in other ASB-related activities until all athletic obligations are fulfilled.

### Attendance

Attendance at practice/games is required like all academic courses. If a student-athlete needs to leave campus before 4pm, they must follow all NHS attendance procedures, including: 1) the parent signs the student-athlete out in the **attendance office** or 2) the parent requests early dismissal BEFORE the student's departure time. If a parent requests early dismissal via phone, the student MUST get an early dismissal form from the **attendance office** before departing campus. *Contacting the coach alone will not excuse the absence.* A student will earn a cut/detention if proper attendance procedure is not followed.

### Removal from or Quitting a Team

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

1. Athletics follows the same add/drop deadlines as academic courses. A student-athlete has **three weeks** from the official start of each semester to determine whether he/she wishes to leave a team. They have two weeks from the official start of each semester to join a team, only if the coach is actively accepting players.
2. If a 9th/10th-grade student-athlete leaves a team, he/she will be placed into a P.E. class. This could result in schedule changes and/or dropping a course if the student is in more than 6 non-open enrollment courses.
3. Student-athletes who drop or are dropped from a team for any reason, including disciplinary (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 the Irvine Unified School District follow CIF policies and procedures, as well as guidelines for the 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:

1. Treat one another and opponents with respect;
2. Respect the judgment of officials, abide by the rules of the game, and promote positive behavior;
3. Seriously accept the responsibility and privilege of representing the school community, displaying positive public action at all times;
4. Promote sportsmanship and help to foster the development of good character in such a way that enhances academic, emotional, social, physical, and ethical development;
5. Remember that our school's core values are a priority. Multiple academic honesty violations will also be considered a violation of the athletic code.



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### 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 student-athletes often perform publicly, their behavior is subject to more than the usual scrutiny. In this way, all student-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 student-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 student-athlete, the percentage will be 10% of each season. (Athletics contests are counted according to the CIF Bluebook.)

- Student-student-athletes sitting out of athletic contests will still be expected to practice and attend contests with the team, except during a period of school suspension.
- The Athletics Council will determine 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 one full calendar year from the date of notification. The student-athlete will be allowed to review 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 Parents' 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 the conduct of spectators and student-athletes. I have discussed the expectations for both student-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)