

DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETES CODE OF CONDUCT

PHILOSOPHY

The Danville Area School District offers numerous activities which are an extension of the classroom. The goal and purpose of these programs is to TEACH students the meaning and understanding of sportsmanship, commitment, fairness, sacrifice, teamwork, and hard work. Additional goals include knowing how to win and how to lose, increasing the knowledge of the activity, realizing potential, developing a healthy lifestyle and skill development. These activities are laboratories for learning. The Danville Area School District Board of Directors, administrators, teachers, coaches/advisors are committed to excellence and providing the best opportunities for students. The participants must keep in mind that they are often in the public eye and that their personal conduct must always be above reproach. They have an obligation to create a favorable image and to gain the respect of their peers and adult citizens in the community.

EXPECTATIONS

In addition to the Danville Area School District Student Discipline Code, the following rules have been established for interscholastic athletics.

1. Students will not practice or participate in any activity during a period of in-school/out-of-school suspension.
2. Students are the responsibility of the coaches/advisors until the team returns to the school. When returning to the school from a contest, students are expected to leave the premises as soon as possible. No student may be released by a coach prior to returning to the school without the written signature of a parent. Participants are strongly encouraged to travel with their team at all times. Coaches are striving to promote team unity and cohesion.
3. Equipment issued for practice and competition should be cared for properly. Loss or failure to turn in equipment will result in payment to replace such. Any awards due to the student will be held and grades will also be withheld until restitution is made.

4. It is the student's responsibility to keep all facilities (home and away) as neat as possible. This includes the student's personal locker and property.
5. The student must finish the season as a team member to qualify for any awards sponsored by the district or booster club. All such awards will be presented at the conclusion of the season.
6. Regular attendance at scheduled practices is expected behavior. The only excusable absence from practice, competitions, or scrimmages is an emergency situation. The following are considered emergency situations:
 - a. A death in the family
 - b. Vehicular accident
 - c. Illness and not in school
 - d. Any other situation that may arise that the coach would consider an emergency.

Unexcused absences from practice, games, or scrimmages are not acceptable. An unexcused absence is any missing of practice or games in which the coach did not grant approval while having prior knowledge of the absence. An emergency situation would be an exception to this rule. The first unexcused absence will result in suspension from practice and/or games(s) for 3 days. The second unexcused absence will result in immediate expulsion from the team.

7. Berating and criticizing officials is not acceptable behavior. The only designated persons to talk to officials are the team captain and coach.
8. Hazing is not acceptable behavior of student-athletes while participating in athletics for the DASD. Hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health, or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board of Directors. Harassment and/or bullying are defined as behaviors that are repeated against another student with the deliberate intent to bring emotional or physical harm to that student.

The Director of Athletics and DASD administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing, harassment and bullying and administer appropriate discipline to any individual who participates in these activities. Referrals to the local law enforcement may follow.

9. No athlete may quit one sport and join another (or school sponsored weight lifting) without mutual consent of both coaches and athletic director.

10. Vandalism and theft are criminal actions. Any athlete responsible for thefts or vandalism will be disciplined and may face criminal prosecution.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Danville Area School District will abide by PIAA eligibility requirements. Each athlete must be passing five credits for the marking period prior to the start to his/her sports season. In the case of the fall sports, this will be the last marking period of the previous year. After the season begins, eligibility will be checked on a weekly basis. If an athlete is not passing 5 credits for a week they would be ineligible for one week (Sunday through Saturday).
2. Each athlete must be in attendance at a school day of a scheduled practice or contest. If an athlete is absent from school on the day of a scheduled contest of practice, he/she cannot practice or compete unless he/she signs into school no later than 11:00 AM. If an athlete is absent the full day, he/she may not compete.

CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNATURE FORM

We have read the Athletic Department Code of Conduct. We understand the guidelines, rules and philosophy of the program. In understanding that our signatures does not signify agreement with all area, it does signify that we will do all we are capable of to help follow and enforce these stipulations. Therefore, we are attaching our signatures below:

Name of Participant _____

Sport _____

Signature of Participant _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____