MCMINN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



STUDENT ATHLETE HANDBOOK

CODE OF ETHICS AND GENERAL ATHLETIC POLICY

Revised August 1, 2025



High School athletics are a vital component of the overall educational experience for many students. At its best, athletic competition provides students with special opportunities to learn about teamwork, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, fair play, and respect for others.

Students involved in our programs are expected to be positive leaders within the Central High School community. With the involvement in our programs also comes a commitment to the team, to quality academic focus, school attendance, and behavior.

The coaches at Central High School are committed to developing quality programs. It is the sole discretion of the coach to determine the conditions of participation such as playing time, competitive strategies, and the like. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As in any competitive program with high expectations, conflicts are inevitable. Conflicts should be resolved between the student and the coach. It is inappropriate for a parent/guardian to approach a coach prior to or immediately after a contest. Sincere communication plays a vital role between the parent and coach. If a good faith attempt to discuss a situation or resolve an issue results without reasonable satisfaction, the conflict will be referred to the athletic director and/or school principal.

It is our goal at Central High School to provide the best opportunities for student athlete success. We expect accountability to our mission statement from our coaches, involvement and support from our parents, and a commitment from our student athletes.

Best Wishes for Success and Go Charger and Chargerettes!

Brent Masingale
Athletic Director

Jacob Slack
Principal

CHS ATHLETIC POLICIES

1. **Behavior**: As a result of out-of-school suspension, athletes will forfeit the opportunity to participate in or attend any athletic contest for the duration of that suspension.

2. **Commitment to a Team**: Student athletes that quit a team before the end of the season cannot participate in any other sport until the previous sport has ended.

3. **Attendance**: All athletes, managers, scorekeepers, cheerleaders, and anyone else connected with an athletic team must attend school all day on the day of a game to participate in the game. The only exception to this rule is a doctor's appointment. A note from the doctor or dentist will be required for verification.

4. **Eligibility**: Athletes must be on grade level and earn five credits in the previous school year, including summer school, to participate in the current season.

5. **Social Media**: Any athlete's posting on a social media site that violates state or federal law, in violation of school policy, or is offensive towards coaches, teachers, or administrators will be subject to disciplinary action, suspension, or removal from the team.
   Examples:
   - Photos, videos, or comments showing the personal use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
   - Photos, videos, or comments that are of a sexual nature
   - Photos, videos, or comments that are derogatory, demeaning, discriminating, or threatening towards any other individual, entity, race, or gender

6. **Discrimination/Harassment/Bullying**: Any form of discrimination/harassment/bullying will result in disciplinary action and could result in removal from athletic participation. All athletes are encouraged to report any infractions to a teacher, coach, or administrator.

7. **Drug & Alcohol Policy**: Students shall not consume, possess, use, sell, distribute, or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles or busses, or at any school-sponsored activity, function, or event, whether on or off school grounds. In addition, students who are charged with any Drug or Alcohol related charges outside of school-related activities also violate the Drug & Alcohol Policy.

   1st Offense: Minimum of 20% suspension of games depending on severity of charges.
   2nd Offense: Suspension from all athletic participation for a minimum of one calendar year.
   3rd Offense: Suspension from all athletic participation for remainder of high school career.

8. **Sportsmanship**: Any time a player is ejected from a game, there will be a follow up meeting held with the player's parents, head coach, athletic director, and principal. All cases will be looked at on an individual basis.

   1st Offense: TSSAA mandated suspension
   2nd Offense: TSSAA mandated suspension and CHS will match that suspension
   3rd Offense: Student will be suspended from participating in all CHS Athletics Permanently (suspensions are cumulative in a student's entire career)