MANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Code of Conduct for Athletes



PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Athletics is part of the overall educational program at Manton Consolidated Schools. We believe that participation in athletics provides our students with a wide variety of rewarding experiences and the opportunity to develop many worthwhile traits. Participation in athletics develops a student's self-respect, self-discipline, character, leadership and decision-making skills as well as many other personal-social skills. Participation in athletics also develops a knowledge base and appreciation of physical fitness, which will promote continued physical activity as a lifetime goal. Participation provides student-athletes with experiences which enable them to learn to work and cooperate with one another to accomplish a common goal, to create a respect for competition and to develop a sense of good sportsmanship. We believe it is an honor and a privilege to represent Manton Consolidated Schools, our Alumni, fellow students, staff, and citizens of Manton as a student athlete.

ATHLETIC POLICIES

The following athletic policies will apply to all athletes. Violation of these policies will result in disciplinary action by the Athletic Director/Principal. Such action may include suspension or dismissal from participating in Manton Consolidated Schools' Athletic Program.

1. Each eligible and qualified student will be provided the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics. The Athletic Director and Coach will determine appropriate team size.

2. Each athlete must have a current physical on file, dated after April 15th for the following school year.

3. Team members must be in school all day, in all scheduled classes, in order to take part in contests or practices on that day. Exceptions to this may be granted only by the Athletic Director or Principal (or another administrator in their absence).

4. A student will be prohibited from participating in athletics for a violation of school rules that results in a suspension from school for the duration of the suspension.

5. The following guidelines will be used when student athletes receive discipline referrals. **Referrals for tardies do not apply to the below guidelines*

A. <u>First Detention/Transition Room Assignment</u> – The athlete will be given a verbal warning by the Athletic Director/Principal.

B. <u>Second Detention/Transition Room Assignment</u> - The athlete and his/her parent/guardian will meet with the Athletic Director/Principal and the athlete will be given a second verbal warning. A phone conference may occur if all agree.

C. <u>Third Detention/Transition Room Assignment</u> - The athlete will practice but not participate in the next contest played in his/her sport from the date of the detention assignment.

D. <u>Any Further Detention/Transition Room Assignment</u> - The athlete will practice but will not participate in the next contest (one contest per each further referral).

6. Any athlete ejected or disqualified from a contest because of behavior or misconduct will be suspended for the next contest per MHSAA policy. The coach can determine further suspension if they deem appropriate.

7. All athletes must travel and return from "away" contests with the team except with the approval of the Coach, the Athletic Director/Principal and parent or guardian.

8. Athletes are financially responsible for the care and condition of the equipment and uniforms issued to them. Reasonable wear and tear accepted.

9. Athletes must return all equipment and uniforms at the end of the season. Until equipment or uniforms have been returned or paid for, the athlete will not receive a uniform or equipment for his/her next season of participation and grades/diplomas may be held as well.

10. A student athlete must report all injuries to his/her coach. A student who has been withheld from practice or competition by a doctor may not participate until permission to resume activity is received in writing from a doctor.

11. The coach of each team will evaluate the ability of each athlete and the condition of the athlete to determine the amount of contest playing time of each athlete.

12. The no-phones policy in the Middle School extends to Middle School Athletics. If student-athletes have a phone on them, it should be powered down and put away in their backpack and only utilized when given permission to contact a parent as needed (i.e. on the way home from away games to tell a parent their location for pick-up purposes).

The above policy starts and ends with each individual sporting season (Fall, Winter, and Spring).

SUMMARY OF ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE (MHSAA)

Policies regarding a student's ability to participate in Athletics can be found at Michigan High School Athletic Association or contact the Athletic Director/Principal.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility- Will be determined as follows:

Eligibility will be monitored when practice begins for each season. An athlete declared ineligible will remain ineligible until off the eligibility list starting at 8:00a.m. the following Monday.

1. The middle school office will run eligibility checks through PowerSchool on Friday morning. Any student-athlete that has one or more failing class will be contacted by their coach and/or Athletic Director. Verbal Warning. An athlete declared ineligible on Friday will be given a one week probation during which they may continue to practice and play in contests.

2. An athlete declared ineligible for a second time during season will not participate in any contest until off the eligibility list starting at 8:00 a.m. the following Monday. (At least 7 days). He/she may continue to practice with the team.

3. An athlete declared ineligible for a third time during a season will not be able to practice or participate in games until the following Monday at 8:00 a.m. A student may attend and watch practice, but must put forth effort to bring the F grade up. If a student stays for practice, they are to remain with the team and at practice.

4. An athlete declared ineligible for a fourth time during any given season can be dropped from the team.

5. Coaches may enforce more strict standards/sanctions as they see fit.

The above policy starts and ends with each individual sporting season (Fall, Winter, and Spring).

TRAINING RULES

1. Training rules are in effect on a year-round basis. These rules apply to all grades 6-12.

2. Any student-athlete who is illegally using or possessing alcoholic beverages, using or possessing any tobacco product (including vapes, vapor liquid, e-cigarettes, paraphernalia, etc) or illegally using drugs, or who engages in behavior which condones the illegal use of these substances, will be suspended immediately upon verification of the violation by the athletic director or other administrator in his/her absence and immediate (phone call) notification to the parent/guardian.

3. Any student–athlete who is convicted of any criminal act, such as but not limited to assault, vandalism, or theft, will be suspended immediately upon verification of the conviction by the athletic director or administrator in his/her absence and immediate (phone call) notification to the parent/guardian.

4. Any use of performance enhancing drugs, (steroids, etc.) is strictly prohibited. Any person that knowingly possesses an androgenic anabolic steroid violates Michigan law and is punishable by imprisonment and fine.

5. Possession or use of any National Collegiate Athletic Association banned drug is not permitted and shall subject the student-athlete to the same penalties that have been established for possession/use of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and illegal drugs.

6. Hazing is prohibited among the teams at Manton Schools. Hazing is defined in the law as an intentional, knowing, or reckless act by a person who acted alone or with others that was directed against an individual and that person knew or should have known would endanger the physical health or safety of the individual, and was done for the

purpose of affiliation with, participation in, or maintaining membership in any organization. Any person that knowingly participates in the hazing of another student is punishable by imprisonment and fine, and also subject to the same penalties that have been established for other training rule violations.

7. All suspensions will be administered as follows:

A. For a first-time violation of the training rules, the athlete will be given two options. Option 1 prohibits the athlete from participating in one-half of the scheduled contest dates of that sport season. Option 2 prohibits the athlete from participating in one-quarter of the scheduled contest dates of that sport season if the athlete agrees to attend and participate in counseling and agrees to complete 14 hours of school service during their suspended game time. Under Option 2, if an athlete fails to maintain his/her obligation, he/she will automatically be placed under Option 1 suspension.

B. Scheduled contests that are canceled and not rescheduled do not count as part of the suspension. Scrimmages do not count as a scheduled date of competition.

C. If less than one-half of the contest dates remain in the sport season, the athlete will make up the balance of the suspension in the next season of any sport the athlete participates in.

D. The athlete must successfully complete the season or seasons in which the suspension occurred in good standing for the suspension to be completed.

E. During the entire suspension, the athlete must attend and participate in all practices. The athletes will not dress in team uniform at any contests during the suspension, but must travel and attend as a team member to stay in good standing.

F. A second violation of the training rules during an athlete's junior high participation (6th-8th grades) or high school participation (9th–12th grades) will result in exclusion from any athletic program for one calendar year from the date of verification of the second violation.

G. All subsequent violations beyond the second offense will result in a one (1) year suspension.

H. All suspensions will be served consecutively.

DUE PROCESS

All students involved in any disciplinary action are allowed to appeal the facts of the situation and the hearing that led to the disciplinary action.

An appeal must be made within the hierarchy of the athletic department and Manton Consolidated Schools. This would be:

Head Coach
Athletic Director
Principal
Superintendent
Board of Education

An appeal must be made to the supervisory person immediately removed from the individual making the decision unfavorable to the athlete (i.e., a coach's decision would first be appealed to the Athletic Director, etc.)