

**OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

**FOR**

**ATHLETES, PARENTS AND COACHES**

**Third Adoption Date: June 30, 2009**  
**Second Adoption Date: June 10, 2008**  
**Adoption Date: April 4, 2006**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

This handbook is being presented to you because your son or daughter desires to participate in interscholastic athletics at Olentangy Local Schools. You have also expressed your willingness to permit him or her to compete. Your family's interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences that assist students in personal growth and development.

The Olentangy Local School District is interested in the development of young men and women through athletics. We feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets students' needs for self-expression, mental alertness and physical growth. It is our hope to maintain a program that is sound in purpose and will further each student's educational maturity.

Likewise, we believe that you have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations as a parents or guardians of an athlete. We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies that are necessary for a well-organized program of athletics.

It is the role of the Athletic Department to make rules governing interscholastic competition. These rules need broad based community support to be fully effective. This is achieved only through communication between the Athletic Department and the parents or guardians of our athletes. It is our hope to accomplish this objective through this athletic handbook for students, parents and coaches.

Yours in scholarship, sportsmanship and success,

### **High School Athletic Directors**

<i>Jay Wolfe</i>	Olentangy High School
<i>Tom Gerhardt</i>	Olentangy Liberty High School
<i>Tony Milano</i>	Olentangy Orange High School

### **Middle School Athletic Directors**

<i>Cathy Beck</i>	Orange Middle School and Shanahan Middle School
<i>Derrick Gilliam</i>	Hyatts Middle School and Liberty Middle School

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**STATEMENT OF OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY**

The Olentangy Local School District's athletic program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in a democratic society.

The interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies, rules and regulations. The board discourages any and all pressures that might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. The athletic program must at all times be conducted in such a way as to justify it as an educational activity.

If an unusual or extreme circumstance warrants it, exception to athletic policies may be made at the discretion of the superintendent of schools. The superintendent may only make an exception within the applicable regulations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and the statutes of the State of Ohio.

**ATHLETIC GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

**GOAL:** The student shall become a more effective citizen in a democratic society.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) To learn teamwork – To work with others in a democratic society, an individual must develop self-discipline, respect for authority and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. Athletes must place the team and its objectives higher than personal desires.
- 2) To have fun – the main reason people participate in sports and games
- 3) To be successful – Our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. You can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Develop a desire to excel.
- 4) Sportsmanship – To accept success and defeat like a true sportsman, knowing you have done your best. We must learn to treat others as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation and dependability.
- 5) To improve – Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As an athlete, you must establish a goal and constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in the skills involved and in those characteristics set forth as being desirable.
- 6) Enjoy athletics – It is necessary to acknowledge all of the personal rewards we derive from athletics and to give sufficiently of ourselves in order to preserve and improve the program.
- 7) To develop desirable personal health habits – To be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits and to develop a desire to maintain this level of physical fitness after formal competition has been completed.

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**RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN OLENTANGY ATHLETE**

Being a member of an Olentangy athletic team is the fulfillment of an early ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built overnight. It takes the hard work of many people over the years. As a member of an interscholastic squad, you have inherited a wonderful tradition, a tradition you are challenged to uphold.

Our tradition has been to win with honor. We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our school and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. Over many years our squads have achieved numerous league and tournament championships. Many individuals have set records and won all-conference and all-state honors.

It will not be easy to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. When you wear your school colors, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but also are willing to assume the responsibilities that go along with them. However, your contributions should be personally satisfying to you.

- **Responsibilities to Yourself** - The more important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength and character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your school experiences. Your studies and your participation in other extra-curricular activities, as well as in sports, prepare you for life as an adult.
- **Responsibilities to Your School** - Another responsibility you assume as a team member is to your school. Olentangy Local Schools cannot maintain its position of having outstanding programs unless you do your best in the activities in which you participate. You should participate in athletics to the best of your ability; you are contributing to the reputation of your school.

You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the community know you and will judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make Olentangy proud of you and your community proud of your school by your faithful exemplification of these ideals.

- **Responsibilities to Others** - As a team member, you also bear a heavy responsibility to your home. You should always strive to make your family proud. You must measure up to all of the training rules. You should practice and play to the best of your ability every day.

The younger students in the Olentangy district are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Set good examples for these students.

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**SPORTSMANSHIP PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDELINES**

The Olentangy Local Schools Athletic Department believes that interscholastic competition involving member schools of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) should be governed by the basic principles of good sportsmanship. This document has been prepared to insure that all participants have a common understanding of those basic principles.

We believe that participation is as important as winning. We believe that students should be coached to play to the best of their ability and to understand that to play well is to play honorably. The promotion of sportsmanship is the obligation of all school personnel (principals, athletic directors and coaches) and is directed to the behavior of spectators, coaches and players. An additional component to consider is coaches' ethics. We believe the development of good sportsmanship through the practice of ethical behavior and moral reasoning is one of the acknowledged objectives of interscholastic athletics. We, therefore, expect school administrators, coaches, athletes, cheerleaders and spectators to know and embrace the following fundamentals of sportsmanship:

- 1) Respect should be demonstrated for athletic opponents and for their school at all times. Olentangy should treat visiting teams and their supporters as guests and accord them the consideration everyone deserves. Visiting schools should respect the property and dignity of their host school and its athletic teams.
- 2) Respect should be demonstrated for the officials at all times. As impartial arbiters who are trained to do their jobs to the best of their ability, officials should be given respect and an attitude of good sportsmanship regardless of the outcome of the contest.
- 3) Knowledge of and a proper respect for the current rules of the contest should guide the behavior of all participants. Rules are essential for a fair contest. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the rules.
- 4) All participants should strive to maintain self-control at all times. The desire to win cannot be accepted as a reason for irrational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained by all if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized.
- 5) All participants should learn to recognize and appreciate skill in performance regardless of school affiliation. Recognition of the good performance of an opponent is a demonstration of generosity and good will that is encouraged in all member schools. In order for good sportsmanship to prevail, it is essential that all participants understand their individual responsibilities and expected modes of behavior before, during and after contests.

**Players:** Because players are admired and respected, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of spectators. It is important that athletes embrace the following behaviors:

- 1) Treat opponents with the respect that is due them as guests and as fellow human beings.
- 2) Shake hands with opponents and wish them a good game when appropriate.

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- 3) Exercise self-control at all times, accepting the judgment of the officials as just that, the best judgment they could make given what they know and see. Never argue or make gestures indicating lack of respect for the officials' judgment.
- 4) Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion. Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- 5) Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community.
- 6) Players must follow team rules established by coaches as well as the ***Code of Conduct***.

Players are to refrain from the following inappropriate behaviors:

- 1) Taunting officials, opponents or spectators
- 2) Violation of bench rule:
  - a. If an athlete leaves the bench area and is involved in an altercation on the playing field/area, the athlete will be suspended for two contests. The suspension should include non-conference and tournament games and should carry over into the next sports season if it occurs at the end of a sports season. **If an athlete leaves the bench area and is involved in an altercation in the stands, the athlete will be suspended from contests for one calendar year.**
- 3) Use of profanity
- 4) Damage/destruction of school property
- 5) Theft of school or personal property

Disciplinary actions include:

- 1) Benching of participant
- 2) Removal from contest
- 3) Suspension for a portion of the season
- 4) Restitution
- 5) Conference/hearing with school official
- 6) Violations of the ***Code of Conduct*** may result in school discipline

**Cheerleaders:** Cheerleaders are representatives of the student body. By setting a good example, cheerleaders can influence and control the actions of the student spectators. They should embrace the following behaviors:

- 1) Establish standards of desirable behavior in keeping with the fundamentals of good sportsmanship for the cheerleaders and pep club.
- 2) Use positive cheers which encourage their own team without demeaning their opponents.
- 3) Use discretion in deciding when to cheer and which cheers to use. Give encouragement to injured players on both sides.
- 4) Never attempt to distract opposing players or in any way to interfere with their performance.
- 5) Serve as hosts for visiting cheerleaders.

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6) **Cheerleaders must follow team rules established by coaches as well as the *Code of Conduct*.**

Cheerleaders are to refrain from the following inappropriate behaviors:

- 1) Taunting officials, opponents or spectators
- 2) Use of profanity
- 3) Damage/destruction of school property
- 4) Theft of school or personal property

Disciplinary actions include:

- 1) Benching of participant
- 2) Removal from contest
- 3) Suspension of a portion of the season
- 4) Restitution
- 5) Conference/hearing with school official
- 6) Violations of the ***Code of Conduct*** may result in school discipline.

**Student Managers/Statisticians/Trainers:** These individuals are considered participants of the sporting event and should follow the same guidelines as players and cheerleaders for their sport.

**Spectators:** Spectators, by their behaviors and reactions, play an important role in their school's reputation for sportsmanship. Spectators should be reminded and should keep in mind that athletes are friendly rivals as members of opposing amateur teams. They are expected to be treated as such. Spectators should be reminded, too, that the contest should be between the teams engaged in the competition and not between their supporters. It is important that all spectators embrace the following:

- 1) Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship.
- 2) Respect, cooperate and respond enthusiastically to the cheerleaders, coaches and athletes of all teams.
- 3) Censure fellow spectators whose behavior is inappropriate.
- 4) Be positive toward players and coaches regardless of the outcome of the contest.
- 5) Respect the judgment and the professionalism of the officials and coaches.

Spectators are to refrain from inappropriate behaviors:

- 1) Verbal/physical abuse of officials and coaches.
- 2) Berating players, coaches or other spectators through chants, signs and/or cheers.
- 3) Interruption of contest by behaviors such as throwing objects on the playing area, entering the playing area and/or disruptive behavior.

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Disciplinary actions include:

- 1) Removal from contest
- 2) Conference/hearing with school officials
- 3) Removal from future athletic contests
- 4) Violations of the **Code of Conduct** may result in school discipline.
- 5) Entering the playing area may result in a suspension from all athletic contests for one calendar year from the event.

**Ejection of Players/Cheerleaders/Student Managers/Student Trainers from Athletic Contests**

By adoption of the OHSAA, any student ejected from an interscholastic contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or a flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two (2) regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student/athlete participates. A student under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after the contest(s).

A student who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time in the season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time/number of contests subject to the discretion of the commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student participates.

It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure that this regulation is enforced. When an ineligible player is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests and shall in no way limit the discretionary authority of the commissioner as specified in the OHSAA Tournament Regulations. In accordance with OHSAA Bylaw 8-3-1, the decisions of contest officials are final.

Olentangy Local Schools believe that each participant should be committed to upholding the ideals of good sportsmanship put forth in this document. It is in this spirit that the suggested disciplinary actions are proposed. Olentangy Local Schools also recognizes the importance of communication and cooperation between school officials when incidents of inappropriate behavior arise.

**Coaches:** The coaches bear the greatest responsibility for the development of sportsmanship as they have the greatest influence on the attitudes and behaviors of players, the student body and the community. Coaches must value sportsmanship and teach it through their words and through example. Therefore, coaches should embrace the following appropriate behavior:

- 1) Shall establish team rules beyond the **Code of Conduct**
- 2) Teach the value of conforming to the rules

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- 3) Instill team discipline and sportsmanship with appropriate consequences for team members who display inappropriate behavior
- 4) Instruct their players in the fundamentals of sportsmanship
- 5) Respect the officials' judgment and interpretation of the rules
- 6) Demonstrate publicly the ideals of good sportsmanship by such acts as shaking hands with officials before contests and with opposing coaches before and after contests

Coaches are to refrain from the following inappropriate behaviors:

- 1) Use of profanity
- 2) Ejection from contest
- 3) Berating officials or players
- 4) Inciting spectators/players to inappropriate behavior

**Ejection of Coaches from Athletic Contests**

By adoption of the OHSAA, any coach ejected from an interscholastic contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be suspended from coaching in contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two (2) regular season/tournament contests are played (one contest in football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the coach shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the same sport during the following season in the next school year.

A coach who has been suspended from coaching may attend the contest, but must be seated in the spectator area and may not give instructions to the players or to the individual who has been assigned to coach the team any time prior to or during the contest, including half-time or any intermission. A suspended coach shall not travel with the squad to an away contest.

A coach who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time shall be suspended indefinitely and required to attend a mandatory conference with the commissioner at the OHSAA headquarters. The principal of the school shall be required to attend this conference as well. Any penalty shall be determined in accordance with OHSAA Bylaw 12.

This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests and shall in no way limit the discretionary authority of the commissioner as specified in the OHSAA Tournament Regulations. In accordance with OHSAA Bylaw 8-3-1, the decisions of contest officials are final.

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**ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS**

**CITIZENSHIP POLICY**

All athletes shall abide by a ***Code of Conduct*** that will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of law tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the school and will not be tolerated.

**CONDUCT OF ATHLETE**

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

**In the classroom** - Strong academics reinforce strong athletics. As an athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies.

In addition to maintaining strong academics, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and faculty at all times.

**School discipline referral** - Any student referred to the office for a rules violation may be denied the privilege of participation in all athletic activities for a period determined by either the principal, athletic director or head coach.

**On the field** - In the area of athletic competition, a true athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics and understands that losing is part of the game. You should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

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**ATHLETIC DRUG, ALCOHOL and TOBACCO POLICY**

**Principles and Philosophies**

The policy is designed to help students and parents cope with drug, alcohol and tobacco use. Therefore, the policy is in place to provide guidelines for each student/family to receive assistance as needed.

- Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. Students are in a highly visible setting of leadership and/or competition/performance. Therefore, students will be held to a higher accountability of conduct and behavior than the student who chooses neither to participate nor to represent Olentangy Schools.
- The responsibility of an athlete to his/her fellow athletes is a year-round commitment and does not end with the season. Therefore, this policy is in effect for all four years of a student's high school career or all years of a student's middle school career and is enforced all twelve months of the year.

The expectations and consequences are in effect and ***will be enforced for twelve (12) months of the year*** and may carry over to the next season of participation. Consequences will be cumulative during middle school years and then high school years. (High school begins the day after completion of the middle school year.)

**Definitions**

- **Code of Conduct** – Anything in this handbook
- **High School Career** – The day after completion of middle school, through graduation
- **Assessment & Follow-Up Program** – A program operated by a certified chemical dependency counselor or at agency by the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services or a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency.
- **Possession** – Having control over an event (such as a party) or substance. This may not be inferred solely from mere access to the thing or substance
- **Trafficking** – Sell, offer to sell, distribute, possess with intent to distribute, cultivate, manufacture or otherwise engage in any part of the production of a controlled substance
- **Controlled Substance** – A drug, compound, mixture, preparation or substance included in Schedule I, II, III, IV or V established pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code
- **Mood-Altering Chemicals** – Includes, without limitation, narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, counterfeit drugs, marijuana, alcohol and any common substance such as “*Wite Out*”, glue, gasoline, etc. used for its mood-altering affect. Prescription drugs are included in this unless authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and kept in the original container. This container shall state the student’s name and the directions for proper use.
- **Paraphernalia** – Spoons or kits and any other items normally or actually used for the packaging, conveyance, dispensation or use of drugs will not be permitted on any school property or vehicle and will be subject to confiscation. Possession of drug paraphernalia will be treated the same as possession of a controlled substance.

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- **Counterfeit or Look-Alike Drug** – Any drug that bears or whose container or label bears a trademark, trade name or other identifying mark used without authorization of the owner or rights to such trademark, trade name or identifying mark
  - any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance/mood-altering chemical, manufactured, possessed, packed or distributed by a person other than the person that manufactured, processed, packed or distributed it;
  - any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance/mood-altering chemical, but is not a controlled substance/mood-altering chemical or is a different controlled substance/mood-altering chemical;
  - any substance other than a controlled substance/mood-altering chemical that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance/mood-altering chemical because of its similarity in shape, size and color or its markings, labeling, packaging, distribution or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.
- **Tobacco** – All types of tobacco products, including smokeless products

**POSSESSION/USE OF ALCOHOL, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES/MOOD-ALTERING  
CHEMICALS and TOBACCO:**

**A. First Offense**

- 1) Loss of any leadership position in athletic activities for the remainder of the school year. Future leadership positions are at the discretion of the head coach.
- 2) A letter shall be put in the athlete's file that advises the athlete of the violation and informs the athlete of the consequences of further violations. A copy of this letter will be mailed to the parent or guardian.
- 3) The athlete will be denied the privilege of participating on the team for twenty-five percent (25%) of the total contests in which the team engages for the entire season. (Twenty-five percent of a ten-game schedule is three games.) Participation denotes competing in events against outside competition at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, freshman and middle school levels), including dressing for contests. The athlete may practice with the team and shall attend (out of uniform) all contests for which he or she is suspended.
- 4) For infractions involving alcohol and controlled substances/mood-altering chemicals, the denial period may be reduced to ten percent (10%) of the scheduled contests if the athlete participates in an assessment and follow-up program. The student must set an appointment for assessment within five days of notification of the violation. The student/athlete must participate in the evaluation process to its completion and follow the counselor's recommendations. The student/athlete must waive his/her rights of confidentiality so that a written report can be prepared. The counselor must provide verification of this evaluation to the building principal or principal's designee. Any cost for the assessment and follow-up program will be the responsibility of the athlete. The principal may reinstate the athlete upon

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evidence of beginning an assessment and follow-up program. The substance abuse prevention coordinator will monitor the progress of the assessment program and report to the principal any failure to comply.

- 5) For infractions involving tobacco, the denial of privilege may be reduced to 10% of the scheduled contests if the athlete participates in a tobacco intervention/education program. The principal/designee may reinstate the athlete upon evidence of participation in a tobacco intervention/education program.
- 6) The denial of the privilege to compete will begin with the last contest in which the athlete has been eligible to compete or the date on which a violation of the substance abuse policy has been determined.

- B. **Second Offense** will result in denial of the privilege to participate in athletics for one calendar year from the date of suspension.
- C. **Third Offense** will result in denial of participation in athletics for the remainder of the student's middle school or high school career.

**NOTE: Students who in any way aid another student in violations involving possession/use of alcohol, controlled substances/mood-altering chemicals and tobacco will be disciplined as if he or she were the principal offender.**

**SELLING/ATTEMPTING TO SELL ALCOHOL - TRAFFICKING IN CONTROLLED  
SUBSTANCES/MOOD-ALTERING CHEMICALS**

- A. **First Offense**
- 1) A letter shall be put in the athlete's file that advises the athlete of the violation and informs the athlete of the consequences of further violations. A copy of this letter will be mailed to the parent or guardian.
  - 2) Dismissal from all athletics for one calendar year from the date of suspension.
  - 3) Information collected related to trafficking may be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.
- B. **Any Additional Offense** will result in denial of participation in athletics for the remainder of the student's high school career.
- C. Students who in any way aid another student in violations involving selling/attempting to sell alcohol, trafficking in controlled substances/mood-altering chemicals will be disciplined as if he or she were the principal offender.

**Disciplinary Procedures**

When school personnel learn that a student has violated or is suspected to have violated any rule, the athletic director, principal or principal's designee and prevention coordinator shall be notified immediately. The investigation shall be initiated within 72 hours of notification.

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The student may be temporarily removed from an athletic contest and/or practice by the principal or principal's designee, athletic director, prevention coordinator, coach or faculty manager responsible for supervision of that activity.

Violations shall be determined based on the totality of all reasonable available evidence. The building principal or principal's designee shall have the authority to hear testimony, receive sworn statements and evidence and take any other reasonable actions necessary to reach a decision.

The building principal or principal's designee will inform the student and parents of the disciplinary action.

The school designee will be informed and will assist the family in identifying suitable assessment sites.

The principal's decision may be appealed to the superintendent or superintendent's designee.

During an appeal, the student may practice but **may not participate** in any official activity pending the outcome of the hearing conducted by the superintendent or superintendent's designee. The decision of the superintendent or superintendent's designee is final.

**Due Process**

Each student who is in violation of the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policies will be afforded due process. The student will have the right of appeal of consequences to the building principal. This must be done in writing within 24 hours of the determination of consequences. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal period. A final appeal may be made to the superintendent of schools or superintendent's designee in writing within 24 hours of the consequences being determined. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal period.

**Voluntary Referral Opportunity**

Voluntary referral must occur prior to any report of violations. Involvement by law enforcement officials negates the option of voluntary referral. The student may use the option of voluntary referral once in his/her athletic or academic career at Olentangy Local Schools.

Students have the opportunity for a voluntary referral procedure to seek information, guidance, counseling and/or assessment in regard to the use or possession of tobacco, alcohol and other controlled or non-controlled substances. Voluntary referrals may be made by the student or his/her immediate family. Voluntary referrals will not carry violation consequences on the first offense only.

Any subsequent violations will be enforced accordingly. If the student requesting the voluntary referral opportunity does not complete the assessment recommendations by the established time schedule, the violation consequence will be put into effect immediately.

For an alcohol and/or controlled substances/mood-altering chemicals referral, the student must have, within five (5) days, an appointment for an assessment with a chemical dependency counselor and notify the prevention coordinator of the appointment. The student must participate in the assessment process (the cost of any and all assessment will be the responsibility of the student and/or parents) and

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follow the counselor's recommendations to completion. If treatment or counseling is recommended it must be with an Ohio-certified chemical dependency counselor. The student must waive his/her rights of confidentiality so that verification of this assessment and a written report can be given to the prevention coordinator. The student will also attend an out-of-school education program approved by the school prevention coordinator. Confirmation of the attendance must be made to the school designee. It is the responsibility of the student and his or her parents to keep the school designee apprised of the student's progress throughout this entire process.

For a tobacco referral, the student must within five (5) days provide verification of enrollment in an out-of-school tobacco education/cessation program approved by the prevention coordinator. Parents must sign a release of information to the school designee so that the student's progress in the program can be followed and written verification of completion given to the designee. The student must complete the program or receive the original discipline.

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**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

In order that local eligibility standards reflect a greater emphasis on classroom achievements and with participation in athletics viewed as a privilege, the following are the Olentangy Local School District policies for athletic eligibility for grades 7-12:

**Students Enrolled in Grades 9-12**

- 1) A student's eligibility will be determined according to his/her GPA (grade point average) for the immediately preceding nine week grading period. Semester and final exams are not to be calculated in the nine week GPA assessment because of the comprehensive nature of exams. A student's eligibility will be determined by examining each student's nine week grade independent of prior grading periods. Students must maintain a quarterly GPA of at least 1.5 (based on a 4.0 scale).
- 2) In the grading period immediately preceding, a student must receive a passing grade in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses or the equivalent, which count toward graduation.
- 3) Incoming freshmen must pass 75% of all courses taken during the final grading period of their eighth grade year to be eligible and have a GPA of 1.5 for the fourth quarter. A student may apply for a one-time GPA waiver to be used during his or her freshman year. The passage of five (5) one-credit courses must be met, per OHSAA regulations, in order to make application. Application to the athletic director may occur after the 4th quarter of the 8th grade through the 3rd quarter of the freshman year.
- 4) A grade of "incomplete" will be considered a failing grade until work is completed per O.H.S.A.A By-law 441, exception 3.
- 5) Summer School and other educational options may NOT be used to substitute for failure to meet the academic standards during the last grading period of the school year.

**Students Enrolled in Grades 7-8**

- 1) In order to participate in an interscholastic sport or to cheerlead, a student must be passing all but one course and/or have a minimum 1.5 GPA. Eligibility audits will be conducted in conjunction with progress reports mid-way through the quarter and at the end of each grading period. Individuals with more than one failing grade or a combined GPA of less than 1.5 (based on a 4.0 scale) at the mid-quarter check will be ineligible for one week. At the end of that one-week period, grades will be reevaluated. If the grades have improved, the student is no longer failing more than one class and has at least a 1.5 GPA, he or she will be declared eligible again. If the grades are still below minimum standards (failing more than one class or GPA below 1.5), he or she will remain ineligible for the next week.
- 2) Students who do not meet the minimum eligibility requirements at the end of a quarter will be ineligible to participate for the entire following quarter.
- 3) Individuals declared academically ineligible may not attend practices, games or travel with the team during the period of ineligibility.
- 4) Seventh grade students will be eligible the first quarter regardless of their previous academic performance.

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**Additional Academic Standards**

- 1) The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5th) school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. **Exception: Eligibility or ineligibility of athletes for the first grading period begins with the start of the fall sports season.**
- 2) The following conditions will be established for a student who is ineligible for a grading period:
  - a. A student will be permitted to try out for any sport or activity in which the number of participants is restricted by team selection. (ex., baseball/softball/tennis)
  - b. With approval from the coach/advisor and parent/guardian/custodian, a student can practice with a team or group.
  - c. The student cannot participate in any athletic contest, scrimmage or in exhibition situations during the period of ineligibility, nor will activity fees be refunded.
- 3) A student who would become ineligible for two consecutive grading periods would lose all practice condition privileges and would be released from any athletic squad.

**OTHER O.H.S.A.A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**Age Limitation – Ohio High School Athletic Association Rule**

If a student enrolled in high school attains the age of 19 before August 1, the student shall be ineligible to participate in high school interscholastic athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year.

A student shall become eligible for high school athletics when the student attains the fifteenth birthday before August 1, or when the student attains ninth grade standing. The student is eligible at the school where the student is expected to enroll at the ninth grade level.

In determining the age of a student, the date of birth as recorded in the school records shall be considered as final, except that when birth records, filed within six years after date of birth, are available in the State Bureau of Vital Statistics or a comparable government agency shall be used. If this information is not available and if the school records do not agree, the earliest date of birth shall be considered the valid date of birth.

Family Bibles, physician's statements, parents' affidavits, baptismal certificates, etc. will not be accepted in lieu of birth certificates. Amendments to birth certificates filed after six years from date of birth will not be considered.

**Residence Requirements**

There are many complicated rules governing residence. Generally an athlete's parents or legal guardian must live in the Olentangy local school district for the student to be eligible. There are exceptions to this; if there is any question as to residence requirements, the best procedure is to check with the athletic director or principal. All district and O.H.S.A.A. transfer by-laws (section 7) apply as well.

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**Attendance Policy**

1) **Absence from Practice:**

A. **Excused**

1. Advance notice from athlete in writing to the appropriate coach
2. Reason considered unavoidable and excusable by the coaches

**Consequence:**

Athlete may miss necessary mental and physical preparation for contest resulting in non-participation in that contest.

B. **Unexcused** - All absences not falling into the Excused category above

**Consequences:**

First Offense	Suspension for the next contest
Offense	Suspension for the remainder of season

2) **Absence from Contest (including Saturday):**

A. **Excused**

1. Advance notice to coaches
2. Emergency situation

**Consequences** are the discretion of the head coach and athletic director

B. **Unexcused**

**Consequences:**

First offense	Suspension from next two contests
Second offense	Suspended for rest of season

3) **Holidays/Vacations**

- A. **Excused** - If an athlete is going on a family vacation with parent or guardian\_or is attending a school-related activity during a school recess, **advance notice must be given to the coach by the first day of official team practice and the coach will then inform the athletic director.**

**Consequences**

If a contest is missed, the consequences are:

1-2 contests missed:	Suspended one contest
3-4 contests missed:	Suspended two contests
More than 4 contests missed:	Suspended rest of season
If practice is missed:	See 1A

- B. **Unexcused** - Not going with parent or guardian or with a school-related group is an unexcused absence. See 1B.

**Game Day Participation**

In order to participate in a school-day practice or contest, a high school or middle school student athlete must be in attendance four periods of the school day. A block scheduled class is equal to two regular class periods. Field trips, Alternate Learning Experiences, concurrent enrollment, medical/dental appointments and special family situations may be excused by an administrator.

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**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES**

**Parental Acknowledgment of Athletic Policies** – Each parent or guardian shall read all of the enclosed material and certify that they understand the Athletic Eligibility Rules and Policies of the Olentangy Local School District. This signed document will be filed in the athletic director’s office.

Prior to the first day of participation, all athletes must have the following items on file in the Athletic Office:

- 1) Updated Physical Form
- 2) Emergency Medical Form
- 3) Insurance Waiver Form
- 4) Permission to Treat Form
- 5) Athletic **Code of Conduct** / Informed Consent Agreement Form

**Salary of Coaches** – The Olentangy Local School District will maintain sole authority of O.H.S.A.A. Bylaw 6-2-1. The Board of Education or other similar governing body shall have exclusive jurisdiction on matters of salary, stipend or compensation of its coaches.

**Pay to Participate** – Olentangy Local Schools has adopted a policy that requires a \$50 fee for participation in extra-curricular activities. There is a \$20 fee for participation in co-curricular activities. There is a maximum fee of \$75 per family per building AND \$150 per family per year.

The student fees are to defray only a part of the expenses of our activity programs. Fees for activity participation are to be assessed for one full year. Each building is responsible for collecting these fees. Return forms and checks to the individual buildings. Please indicate the name of the student and the activity for which the fee is being paid in the “memo” area of the check.

For athletes, all fees are non-refundable after the first game and paying the fee does not guarantee the athlete’s playing time.

**Individual Coach's Rules** – Each coach is encouraged to set team rules in addition to the rules in the Athletic Handbook. Rules and penalties for tardiness, curfew violations, inappropriate practice/game dress and misconduct are examples of acceptable coach's guidelines. These rules should be given in writing to all athletes, parents and the athletic director at the beginning of each season.

**Dropping a Sport** – An athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a good reason. If this is the case, the following procedures must be followed:

- 1) Talk with your immediate school coach and then the head coach.
- 2) Return all equipment issued to you.

If a student drops a sport for any unauthorized reasons, the athlete may not participate or join a team for the next sporting season of the school calendar until the first day that season is allowed to start and athletic fees will not be refunded.

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**Conflicts In Extra-Curricular Activities** – An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extra-curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations.

The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra-curricular activities and, to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts.

Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise. .

**Two-Sport Participation** – Athletes may participate in more than one sport at Olentangy Local Schools in any one sport season (fall, winter or spring) **if both coaches concur and cooperatively** work out the details of practices, games, etc. with the athlete. The athlete who is attempting to “double up” must declare one of the sports as a “sport of first priority”. This means the athlete will attend all “events” (contests, practices, meetings, etc.) connected with that squad. The athlete may participate with the other squad during the time there are no obligations to the sport of first priority. It should be emphasized that the school can benefit from multi-sport participation and that disciplined athletes can be successful.

Notes:

- 1) Cheerleading is considered to be a sport at both middle and high school levels.
- 2) Middle school athletes will only be allowed to participate in one sport per season.

**Middle School Cheerleaders** –

- 1) Cheer for football or basketball. Eighth grade cheerleaders cheer for both seasons.
- 2) Cheerleaders may not participate in another sport during the season they are cheering.
- 3) Football cheerleaders will cheer for all games, home and away.
- 4) Basketball cheerleaders will cheer for all home games, both boys and girls.

**Risk of Participation** – All athletes and parents or guardians must realize the risk of serious injury, permanent disability or death which may be a result of athletic participation.

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**General Rules/Guidelines**

**Uniforms** – In several sports, the athlete will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform, which will become his or her property.

**Equipment** – The athlete is responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to him or her. All equipment not returned in good condition at the end of the season will be subject to a financial penalty.

- 1) All equipment issued to a player is to be worn only at practice or scheduled games or scrimmages involving that particular sport. Exceptions must be approved by the coach (i.e. jerseys).
- 2) The athlete must secure permission from the coach before any item is attached, added to, removed from or worn with a uniform that is issued to an athlete for a specific sport.
- 3) Each athlete is responsible for all equipment issued. Keep it clean and in the best possible condition. The Olentangy Local School District is not responsible for lost or stolen equipment. It is suggested that athletes use a lock on athletic lockers to avoid theft.
- 4) All athletic equipment is the property of the Board of Education and the Athletic Department. Therefore, school equipment may not be taken from the building for the use of any other organization or for personal use. Any exception must be approved by the coach or athletic director.
- 5) All equipment issued to an athlete must be returned at the end of the athletic season. Equipment that is not returned for any reason or that is damaged beyond normal wear and tear must be paid for at current replacement cost. Equipment is to be returned or lost equipment paid for within one week of the last contest of the sport. Any athlete who has not returned or paid for lost equipment within one week will be denied the right to participate in athletics until the equipment is returned or paid for. In addition, these costs will be added to the school fees owed to the school.
- 6) Under certain circumstances, equipment (i.e. uniforms) may be sold to team members at the end of the season. This sale will be controlled by the head coach and athletic director. The price will be set by the athletic director and will be the current replacement cost of the item. The money will be collected by the head coach prior to equipment being given to the athlete.

**Lockers** – Section 3313.20 of the Ohio Revised Code authorizes a board of education to adopt a policy which authorizes a principal to search any student's locker and the contents thereof upon reasonable suspicion that the contents contain evidence of a criminal or school rule violation. Lockers remain the property of Olentangy Local School District while on loan to students and are, therefore, subject to supervision and inspection by school authorities when and where necessary. It is the student's responsibility to use lockers for school purposes only and to use a lock to secure all belongings. Lockers are not to be used for articles which may be of such nature as to be harmful, dangerous, in violation of school or legal restrictions or disruptive to the school process. Such articles are subject to confiscation. Students are not permitted to mark or deface the outside of lockers. In such cases, the student breaking locker rules will be assessed a fine.

**Hazing** – This activity is prohibited. Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation toward any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk for causing mental or physical harm to any person. No student athlete shall plan,

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encourage or engage in any form of hazing in practices, competition or performances. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subject to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy. The student athlete may be denied participation in athletics for violation of this policy and may be subject to **Code of Conduct** violation.

**Transportation** – All athletes are expected to travel to and from contests in a district bus or van when the district provides transportation. In special situations a parent or guardian may transport his or her child with advance written permission approved by the Athletic Director. Athletes may not be transported by those NOT considered the parent or guardian.

**Insurance** – Students participating in an athletic program must be protected by an accident insurance policy in one of the following ways: school insurance or a school insurance waiver form signed by the parent or guardian stating that they have adequate insurance coverage.

**Banquet** – If any student athlete, at the conclusion of the season, is not a team member in good standing, the athlete will forfeit the privilege to attend the banquet and to receive all letters and/or awards.

**Residence Requirements**

There are many complicated rules governing residence. Generally, an athlete's parents or legal guardian must live in the Olentangy Local School District for the student to be eligible. There are exceptions to this; if there is any question as to residence requirements, the best procedure is to check with the athletic director or principal. A student playing while ineligible can result in the high school's forfeiture of contests and the student can be declared ineligible by the OHSAA for up to one year.

**Awards**

**Earning an Athletic Letter** – It is desired that the athletic letter be something the athlete must earn by athletic ability, but not be so unattainable that only the outstanding athlete can achieve it. It is also desired that the coach of each sport have a large amount of leeway in determining who receives the letter.

**Wearing of Awards** – It is the firm belief of the district Athletic Department that awards should be worn with dignity and class. Athletes are to display their awards in such a manner and are expected to behave in an appropriate manner when wearing them; the athlete represents the team and the school when wearing the award – actions that detract from a positive image will not be accepted. Middle school athletes are not eligible to earn school letters.

**Booster Scholar Athlete Awards** – All sophomore, junior and senior students are eligible for this award. Students qualify for the award if their cumulative GPA is at least 3.250 on a 4.0 scale. Because high school students do not earn credits until the end of their freshman year, they are not eligible for this award.

**Managers/Statisticians/Student Trainers** – Any student who manages or trains satisfactorily for the

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entire sports season is entitled to the appropriate awards for that sport.

**College Information**

**College Recruitment Policy** – In the event an athlete should be contacted personally by a college recruiter, he or she has an obligation to work through his or her coach and the Athletic Department. Inform your coach of such a contact as soon as possible. College recruitment information is available in the Athletic Department.

**Prospective Student Athletes – NCAA Clearinghouse Rules**

As a prospective student athlete at a Division I or II institution, you have certain responsibilities to attend to before you may participate. Information concerning who needs to register with the Clearinghouse and what documents should be submitted can be found in *The Guide for College-Bound Student Athletes*, located on the NCAA Clearinghouse Web site. This link can be accessed at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net). Click on “Prospective Student-Athletes” link. Athletes should be ready to report their SAT or ACT scores before establishing eligibility. This is a requirement for athletes who are planning on becoming student athletes in college. If there are any questions concerning this important part of becoming a student athlete in college, you should make arrangements to see the athletic director.

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**RANDOM URINE DRUG TESTING OF OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENTS PARTICIPATING  
IN INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS**

**Overview**

The procedure for initial and random drug testing of athletes is accomplished in conjunction with an independent drug testing vendor selected by the Board of Education. Following the initial team testing, the vendor is provided by the athletic director a list of eligible student athletes and in turn randomly selects up to 20% of these students for drug testing at regular intervals. The vendor will send qualified collectors to the school who will oversee the collection of all specimens as outlined in this document. The vendor will provide Medical Review Officer (MRO) services for interpretation and verification of results. Results are reported to the building principal by the MRO. Specimens are collected as split specimens. If the sample is positive, the student is offered options of participation in a drug assistance program with weekly drug testing for five weeks or denial of participation in athletics for the current season and the next athletic season.

**1) A statement of Need and Purpose**

Recognizing that observed and suspected use of alcohol and illicit drugs by Olentangy Local School District students is increasing, a program of deterrence will be instituted as a pro-active approach to a truly drug free school. Likewise, through participation in athletics, students using illegal drugs pose a threat to their own health and safety, as well as to that of other students. The purpose of this program is threefold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of all student; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs; and, (3) to encourage students who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs; and, (4) to prevent the impact drug and alcohol use has on the learning centers of the brain, allowing students to achieve their full academic potential. The program is non-punitive. It is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for students and assist them in getting help when needed.

**2) Supporting Data**

Random urine drug testing of a public school interscholastic athlete is legal as determined by the United States Supreme Court in the case of Vernonia School District 47J (Oregon) v. Wayne and Judy Acton and Pottawatomie v. Earls.

**3) Definitions**

**Vendor** - The medical office or company selected by the Board of Education to carry out the policy and procedure.

**Athletic Director** - The individual hired by the school or district to oversee all athletic programs of the school or district.

**Medical Review Officer (MRO)** - A licensed physician trained and certified in the process and interpretation of drug testing results.

**Illicit Substance** - A drug classified by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as being available only by prescription from a physician or classified as being controlled and having no therapeutic use.

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**Banned Substance** - A substance defined by school policy as being banned from use by students.

**Student Athlete** - A qualified student participating on a sanctioned athletic team as defined by the State Athletic Association. This may include cheerleaders as well.

**SAMHSA** - The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; a governmental agency that certifies toxicology laboratories that perform drug testing following strict guidelines and constant quality assurance programs.

**GC/MS** - Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectroscopy. A scientific process to identify specific chemical compounds. A molecular fingerprint is obtained that identifies a chemical compound with 100% accuracy.

**Quantitative Levels** - The measurement levels of a specific chemical in the urine, reported usually in nanograms per milliliter (ng/ml).

**Chain-of-Custody Form** - A preprinted form provided by the testing laboratory that records all contact with the provided specimen. The form is initiated by the collector and donor, and then follows with the specimen until the results are certified by the testing scientist and forwarded to the MRO for final certification.

**Adulterant/Adulteration** - Any attempt to alter the outcome of a urine drug test by adding a substance to the sample, attempting to switch the sample or otherwise interfere with the detection of illicit or banned substances in the urine.

**Athletic Year** – Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> of upcoming year and continuing for 365 days thereafter.

**4) Procedures for Students**

**a. Informed Consent for Testing**

At the beginning of each sport season, students and parent or guardian will complete and sign the Olentangy Local Schools ***Athletic Code of Conduct and Expectations Informed Consent Agreement*** (Exhibit A). No student may participate in practice or competition until this form is properly executed and on file with the athletic director.

**b. Urine Drug Testing Frequency**

At the beginning of each sport season, as determined by the OHSAA or sanctioning organization or when a student moves into the district and joins a sport, all athletes wishing to participate in that season's sports may be subject to urine testing for illicit or banned substances as specified in Paragraph 8 below. Following initial team testing, up to 20% of eligible student athletes will be randomly tested on up to a bi-weekly basis anytime during the athletic year. Following completion of that season, all students will remain in the testing program. This represents an in-season and out-of-season pool group identification. If a student does not intend on playing any other activities for the remainder of the athletic year, they may be removed from the program by a written letter to the designated official. Any student who refuses to submit to urine drug testing will not be allowed to practice or

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participate in athletics at Olentangy Local Schools.

c. **Sample Collection**

Samples will be collected as outlined under Vendor Requirements, Paragraph 6, below. Any eligible student athlete selected randomly for urine drug testing who is not in school on the day of testing will be tested at the next available testing time. Any student unable to produce an adequate specimen of urine during the collection period, after consuming up to 16 ounces of water and waiting up to 60 minutes, will be suspected of not cooperating with the testing program and will not be allowed to practice or compete in any scheduled competitions until the required testing is completed. Students not able to provide an adequate urine specimen at the next testing time will be viewed as refusing to test and subject to this policy's actions in that regard. Arrangements may be made for special collections at a vendor collection site with prior approval of the building principal or athletic director.

5) **Confidentiality of Results**

All drug test results are considered confidential information and will be handled accordingly. Those persons having results reported to them as set forth by this policy must sign a Confidentiality Statement (Exhibit B).

6) **Vendor Requirements**

At a minimum, the Vendor must be able to provide the following services:

A. **Random Selection of Student Athletes**

Once provided a list of eligible student athletes, the vendor must select the required number of students in a random and confidential manner. The random selection will be in accordance with the percentages of 80% of in-season and 20% of out-of-season participants. The vendor will arrange with the building principal a day and time to do the collection of specimens. The schedule will not follow any recognizable pattern. Names of the selected students will be given to the athletic director upon arrival at the school, who will arrange for these students to report to the collection area.

B. **Collection of Urine Specimens**

The vendor will oversee the collection of urine specimens as outlined in the Procedures for Random Urine Drug Testing of Olentangy Local School District Students Participating in Interscholastic Sports. *Chain of Custody* forms that meet the criteria of this policy and that of the testing laboratory will be provided by the vendor. Students will be given as much privacy as possible in the obtaining of the specimen.

C. **Testing of Urine Specimens**

The vendor will have all specimens tested for the specified illicit or banned substances by a qualified laboratory certified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) following the guidelines of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The testing laboratory should have greater than ten years experience in toxicology testing and chain-of-custody procedures. All specimens must be initially tested using a highly accurate immunoassay technique, with all presumptive positive results then confirmed by a Gas

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Chromatography/Mass Spectroscopy (GC/MS) confirmatory test (understanding that no current GC/MS test is available for LSD). The testing laboratory must be able to test for the following drug classes, substances or their metabolites in collected urine specimens:

Alcohol, Amphetamines, Anabolic Steroids, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cocaine Metabolites, LSD, Marijuana Metabolites, Methadone, Nicotine, Opiates, Phencyclidine, Propoxyphene and MDMA (Ecstasy).

The building principal may specify specific classes or substances to be tested.

**D. Medical Review Officer (MRO) Services**

The vendor will provide MRO services by a licensed physician who is certified by the Medical Review Officer Certification Council (MROCC) or the American Association of Medical Review Officers as having proven by examination to have had the appropriate medical training to interpret and evaluate drug test results and thus qualified for certification as a Medical Review Officer. Additionally, the MRO must demonstrate a willingness to abide by the *Procedure for Random Urine Drug Testing of Olentangy Local School District Students Participating in Interscholastic Sports* as to the evaluation of positive drug tests and reporting findings to the building principal in a timely and confidential manner. All results will be kept on file for a period of seven years.

**E. Reporting of Random Urine Test Results by Vendor**

The MRO will certify all urine drug screens as negative or positive and report positive findings by telephone in a confidential manner to the building principal. The building principal will notify the athletic director that a drug test returned positive, giving only the dates of the collection and reporting.

**F. Statistical Reporting and Confidentiality of Urine Drug Test Results**

The vendor, testing laboratory or MRO may not release any statistics on the rate of positive drug tests to any person, organization, news publication or media without expressed written consent of the Olentangy Local School District Board of Education. However, the vendor will provide the building principal with an annual report showing the number of tests performed, rate of positive and negative tests and what substances were found in the positive urine specimens.

**7) Procedures in the Event of a Positive Result**

A. Whenever a student athlete's test result indicates the presence of illegal drugs or banned substances or the MRO rules the specimen adulterated, the following will occur:

1. Within 24 hours, the building principal, will notify the parent or guardian first, then the student, athletic director and the prevention coordinator, of any positive results. A written notification from the building principal will be sent to the parent or guardian by certified mail. The building principal may keep all test results for a period up to one year.
2. The student will be notified and be required to submit weekly urine specimens, via the Vendor, for five weeks.
3. If the parent, guardian or student wishes to contest the results, the Vendor will arrange for

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the split portion of the specimen to be submitted to another laboratory approved by the Board of Education and/or designee for testing. This is done at parent or guardian or student expense. Such a request must be made to the building principal in writing within five working days from first notification of positive test results.

4. The MRO may use quantitative results to determine if positive results on repeat testing indicate recent use of illicit or banned substances or the natural decline of levels of the illicit or banned substance from the body. If the MRO feels the quantitative levels determined to be above the established cutoffs do not reflect current use but natural decay, then a negative result may be reported.

**B. First Positive Result**

For the first positive result, the student athlete will be given the option of:

1. Within five days having an appointment with a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for a chemical dependency assessment and then follow the recommendations of the counselor. (If treatment is recommended, it must be with a certified chemical dependency counselor). The school designee will assist the family in identifying suitable assessment sites. The student must also submit to weekly urine drug testing for five weeks. The parent or guardian is responsible for all expenses and it is the responsibility of the student and his or her parents to keep the prevention coordinator apprised of the student's progress throughout this entire process;

OR

2. Denial of participation in interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season. A student out-of-season will sit out the next two seasons.

**C. Second Positive Result**

For the second positive result within any two consecutive calendar years, the student athlete will be denied participation in athletics for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season in which the student participates. Note: A sport never participated in cannot be added to eliminate penalty.

**D. Third Positive Result**

For the third positive result within any two consecutive calendar years, the student athlete will be permanently denied the privilege of participation in athletics at Olentangy Local Schools in the building in which the student is participating. (Exception: See Page 10)

**8) Non-Punitive Nature of Policy**

No student athlete will be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs or banned substances. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any of the student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the Olentangy Local School District Board of Education will not solicit. In the

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event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent, legal guardian or custodian will be notified at least 72 hours before response is made by the Olentangy Local School Board of Education, to the extent permitted by such subpoena or legal process.

**9) Illicit or Banned Substances**

For the purpose of this policy, the following drug classes, substances or their metabolites that can be tested for are considered illicit or banned for Olentangy Local School District student athletes: Alcohol, Amphetamines, Anabolic Steroids, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cocaine Metabolites, LSD, Marijuana Metabolites, Methadone, Nicotine, Opiates, Phencyclidine, Propoxyphen and MDMA (Ecstasy).

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## Consent to Perform Urinalysis for Drug Testing

We hereby consent to allow the student named on the front of this form to undergo urinalysis testing for the presence of illicit drugs or banned substances in accordance with the ***Policy and Procedure for Random Urine Drug Testing of Olentangy Local School District Students Participating in Interscholastic Sports*** as approved by the Olentangy Local Schools Board of Education.

We understand that the collection process will be overseen by a qualified vendor.

We understand that any urine samples will be sent only to a certified medical laboratory for actual testing and that the samples will be coded to provide confidentiality.

We hereby give our consent to the medical vendor selected by the Olentangy Local School Board, their laboratory, doctors, employees or agents, together with any clinic, hospital or laboratory designated by the selected medical vendor to perform urinalysis testing for the detection of illicit drugs or banned substances.

We further give permission to the medical vendor selected by the Olentangy Local Schools Board of Education, its doctors, employees or agents, to release all results of these tests to the Medical Review Officer (MRO) working for the medical vendor. We understand these results will be forwarded to the building principal and will also be made available to us.

We understand that consent pursuant to this ***Informed Consent Agreement*** will be effective for all athletic sports in which this student athlete might participate during the current school year.

We hereby release the Olentangy Local School Board of Education and its employees from any legal responsibility or liability for the release of such information and records.

This will be deemed as consent pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. 1232g as amended and Ohio Revised Code 3319.321, for the release of the test results as authorized by this ***Informed Consent Agreement*** or as required by law.

**READ ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT  
AND EXPECTATIONS ON REVERSE SIDE AND SIGN**

**OLENTANGY SCHOOLS  
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS**

**INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

**AS A STUDENT:**

- I understand and agree that participation in athletic activities is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of the ***Athletic Code of Conduct and Expectations***, hereinafter ***Code of Conduct***.
- I have read the ***Code of Conduct*** (found on the District Web site or obtained from your Athletic Office) and thoroughly understand the consequences that I will face if I do not honor my commitment to the ***Code of Conduct***.
- I understand and realize that there is risk of injury in participating in athletic activities.
- I understand that when I participate in any athletic program, I will be subjected to initial and random urine drug testing and if I refuse, I will not be allowed to practice or participate in athletic activities. I have read the consent on the reverse of this form and agree to its terms.

I understand this is binding while a student at Olentangy Schools.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN:**

I have read the ***Code of Conduct*** (found on the District Web site or obtained from your Athletic Office) and understand the responsibilities of my son or daughter as a participant in athletic activities in the Olentangy Schools.

- I understand and realize that there is an assumed risk of injury involved for my son or daughter as a participant in athletic activities.
- I understand that my son/daughter/ward will be subjected to initial and random urine drug testing and if they refuse, they will not be allowed to practice or participate in athletic activities. If they are out-of-season, their next season will be affected by the terms of this policy. I have read the consent on the reverse of this form and agree to its terms
- I understand that if my son/daughter/ward is finished with activities for the remainder of the athletic year, I can remove them from the out-of-season pool group with a letter to the designated official.
- I understand this is binding while my son or daughter is a student at Olentangy.

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**This agreement must be signed and on file in the Athletic Office before a student may participate in athletic events for the Olentangy Schools.**