

Zeigler-Royalton Community Unit School District #188 Summary of District Athletic Policy

Participation in extra curricular activities such as athletics is a privilege enjoyed by the students of Zeigler-Royalton Community Unit School District #188. As an athlete, the student is a representative of the school district and the community, and is expected to represent him or herself in a manner becoming both the school and community.

Athletics offer experiences for the proper development of attitude, sense of community, and level of maturity. These experiences encourage desirable habits of discipline, provide an atmosphere for proper ethical and moral attitudes, and help develop self-sacrifice and dedication toward common goals.

To accomplish these goals, the athletic department and school administration have developed these standards which we feel will promote the desired outcomes. Parents and students are asked to read and discuss these rules. Coaches shall present this document to all athletic participants and provide explanation where needed.

A signed copy of this document accompanied with a current utility bill indicating the name and street address as the current residence of the parent or legal guardian of the athlete must be turned in by the athlete to his or her coach prior to the start of the current season. Additional verification/documentation may be required and must be provided upon request prior to the student's participation in the sport/activity. A copy will be given to the athlete and a copy will be kept on file in the office.

ATHLETIC RULES OF CONDUCT

These rules of conduct become effective on the first day of practice for an individual sport, and are enforced upon confirmation of a violation by school officials or law enforcement officials, and/or the judicial system. Certain violations may result in an administrative hearing being conducted. Following the hearing, the administration reserves the right to increase the penalty for misconduct above and beyond the penalties outlined in this section. Student who engage in behavior which is deemed "gross misconduct" may be suspended or denied the privilege of participating in the sport for a period of up to two years. These rules of conduct shall include cheerleading.

A. It is a violation of the rules of conduct for a participating student to:

1. Use or possess tobacco products (smoking, snuff, chewing tobacco, etc.).
2. Use or possess any form of alcohol.
3. Use or possess any type of illegal drug.
4. Engage in any criminal activity.

B. Penalties for violations of any of the rules:

1. For the **FIRST VIOLATION**, the penalty will be suspension from the sport for one week beginning with the first game after the violation has been confirmed. The student will not be allowed to dress or participate in any athletic contest, but must attend and participate in any practices held during the suspension period.
2. For the **SECOND VIOLATION** within the school year, the student will be suspended from further participation in the sport he/she is playing at the time. It could be a different sport than the first offense, and could be a violation of a different rule of conduct.
3. For the **THIRD VIOLATION** within the same school year, the student will be barred from further participation in athletics for the remainder of the school year.

ATHLETES AND GRADES

All student athletes must be passing required standards set forth by the Zeigler-Royalton School District. Athletes who fail to meet the standards will not be allowed to compete. Academic progress will be checked on a weekly basis. Athletes will practice during the time of ineligibility.

ATHLETES AND DETENTION

Participation in athletics does not excuse an athlete from serving a detention. Each athlete will serve the detention on the assigned date. Detention is given preference over game competition or practice.

ATHLETES AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Student athletes are expected to attend school. Attendance is required for a student to attend practice or play a game. Athletes may be allowed to practice or play a game by the building principal after attending school a half day.

GAME TRANSPORTATION

Away Games: Athletes must ride school transportation to all away games. Exceptions can only be made by the Building Principal or Athletic Director after receiving a written request by the parent involved. Violation results in an athlete suspension for that game.

From Away Games: Athletes may return home from an away game with their parents, grandparents, or legal guardian only. A signed request provided by the student must be presented to the coach **PRIOR** to leaving the game. Exceptions can only be made by the Building Principal or Athletic Director after receiving a written request by the parent involved. Violation results in a one game suspension.

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

Athletic equipment will be checked out and back in by the team coach. The athlete is responsible for the care of the equipment while in his/her use. The equipment should be immediately returned to the coach upon completion of the season or if the athlete is no longer a member of the team. Equipment for another sport will not be issued to an athlete until all equipment has been returned or replacement cost is paid to the school.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT/DISRESPECT

IJHSAA regulations require an athlete having been removed from an athletic contest for unsportsmanlike conduct to be suspended from the following contest at the same level of competition. This school will enforce this rule according to IJHSAA requirements. Students showing disrespect or unsportsmanlike conduct may be subject to an administrative hearing to determine if punishment beyond the athletic policy or team rules may be necessary. The administration reserves the right to suspend or deny the privilege of participating in the sport. In cases of "gross misconduct," the student may lose participation privileges for a period up to two years.

TEAM RULES

Each coach will present in writing a list of team rules in addition to the school athletic policy. Athletic policy cannot be changed by the individual coach. Team rules will include items such as missing practice.

REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE

Athletes must meet the following requirements before the first practice:

1. Have a current year physical on file in the office.
2. Complete an insurance waiver.
3. Successfully complete required academic coursework