

Subject: Code of Athletics

Approved 5/21/02
Revised 11/03/04
Revised 12/15/04
Amended 8/01/07
Amended 8/05/09
Amended 8/04/10
Amended 7/11/12
Amended 7/30/14
Amended 4/20/16

I. Purpose

The purpose of this guide is to inform students and parents of the Randolph Central School Athletic program of its goals and its requirements of participating athletes. It is important to understand that the Randolph Central School Student Behavior Code applies to any student who participates in extracurricular activities.

II. Philosophy

- A. Randolph Central School believes that interscholastic athletics are an important part of the students' school experience. We are interested in developing physical fitness, good health, sportsmanship, pride, athletic skills, and a feeling of responsibility to the coach, teammates, and to the school.
- B. As worthwhile as these qualities are, we recognize that athletics must not take precedence over a student's scholastic and citizenship responsibilities. We further recognize that it is a privilege to participate and represent Randolph Central School and that certain rules and requirements are necessary for orderly participation.

III. Requirements and Participation

- A. The athlete must satisfy the **age** and **eligibility standards** established by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and Randolph Central School.
- B. The athlete must have **passed a physical examination**, and submitted all necessary medical paper work prior to the start of the sports season. The school doctor can approve or disapprove a student's participation in a school sport.
- C. At the start of each sport season the head coach will distribute all necessary forms to the athlete. Each athlete and parent/guardian must read, sign, and turn in all necessary forms to the head coach, including "Interscholastic Playing Rules" (Appendix A). Failure to do so will prohibit participation in practice.
- D. Beginning with the first day of practice, all athletes will be governed by the rules set forth by this policy.
- E. The athlete must meet the **social and academic standards** set forth in Policy 7410 on Student Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities.

IV. School Attendance

- A. During a sports season, a student must be in school for at least 4 periods to practice that day. In addition, a student must be in school by the beginning of first period and in attendance all day to participate in a contest. In order to participate in a Saturday contest, a student must be in school 4 full periods on the preceding school day. If a student leaves school due to illness, the student will not be able to participate in practice or play in a game that day.
- B. Extenuating circumstances can be directed to the principal and/or athletic director.

V. Training Rules

- A. Uniforms and Equipment - school issued uniforms are the property of Randolph Central School.
1. The athletes are only to use these for practice sessions, athletic events, or during the school day for an athletic event. A student using uniforms and equipment for personal use will be suspended for one game.
 2. All items are to be turned in to the coach immediately after the last game or match of the season. Misused or missing items will be charged to the individual. The athlete will be placed on detention every night until the items or the value of the items are returned to the coach. In addition, a student's letter or pin will be withheld and he/she will be unable to participate in the next sports season until the items are returned.
 3. Athletes must turn in their uniform to their coach after each contest to be washed by the school. If this is not followed and the uniform is damaged, the athlete's family is responsible for the replacement cost of the uniform.
- B. Practice Sessions - You are considered **a member of the team after three practice days**. Once a member of that team, any athlete who quits the team and fails to notify the head coach of that sport, will be brought before the coach, athletic director, principal and discipline will be determined.
1. Players are required to attend all practices
 2. A player can only be excused by personally telling the coach prior to practice.
 3. Skipping practices – 1st offense – discretion of coach
2nd offense – suspension of one game
3rd offense – dismissal from team
- C. Transferring Teams in a Sport Season - transfer from one sport to another during the same season is subject to approval of both respective coaches involved, the Athletic Director and the Principal.

D. Training Hours - During the week and the night before a game, athletes must be home by 11:00 p.m. On Friday and Saturday when there is no game 1:00 a.m. will be curfew time. Student must participate in gym the day of the game.

Penalty Range: 1st offense - suspended 1 game
2nd offense - suspended 2 games
3rd offense - dismissal from team

NOTE: When suspended from a game, the player will be on the bench. However, a player will still be required to participate in practice. Failure to do either of these will be immediate dismissal.

E. Games - Players are **required to attend all games** unless prior written approval of principal or athletic director.

1. Skipping games: 1st offense – suspension for one game
2nd offense – dismissal from team

2. Travel to and From Games - Players must travel to and from games on the bus.

a. After games, students can be released only into the direct custody of their parents or guardian and the parent/guardian must sign them out. **Coach cannot release a student to anyone other than a parent or guardian without prior parental written notification and approval by Administration.**

Penalty range: Any player who leaves in an unapproved manner cannot participate in the next contest.

b. Going to games not on a team bus can only be done with the prior written approval of principal or athletic director.

Penalty range: Any player who arrives at a contest in an unapproved manner cannot participate in the contest.

c. Extenuating circumstances must have written approval by principal or athletic director.

VI. Student Behavior

Student behavior has a direct effect on and is a reflection of the student, the team, the school, his/her parents, and the community. Athletes represent the school in a special, visible way. Therefore, it is appropriate to hold high expectations for appropriate conduct in and out of school, on and off the playing field, as a host or guest of an opponent, and in activities in public.

Conduct that does not contribute to team cooperation and self-discipline and/or reflects unfavorably on the team or school may be reason for the coach or administration to suspend or dismiss an athlete from participation.

A. The following are unacceptable behaviors:

1. Use or possession of tobacco or tobacco substitute (which includes but is not limited to electric smoking devices, nicotine patches, nicotine gum).
2. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributed or exchanging alcoholic beverages, prescription medications, Performance enhancing drugs or illegal substances including look- a likes, or being under the influence of any of these.
3. Social and academic ineligibility, bus transportation misconduct or violation(s) of the student Code of Conduct.
4. Conduct which might be detrimental to the good image of Randolph Central School or termed as criminal, examples are, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, profanity, insubordination, hazing, harassment, bullying and fraternization.
5. We highly recommend our students avoid inappropriate use of social media sites such as Facebook, Myspace, YouTube or any other such sites. Any identifiable image, photo, video, or posted on –line conversation (Including Phone Messages) discovered which implicates a student-athlete to have been in violation of our Code of Athletics or Code of Conduct will be investigated.
6. Conduct that violates additional rules set by the coach of a specific sport.

B. Penalties:

If the athlete is found in violation of rules 1-3, he/she will be suspended from all athletic participation for the remainder of the sport's season. A second violation by the same student will result in the student's suspension from all athletic participation for the remainder of the current sport season and the next two (2) sport seasons. If the athlete is found in violation of rules 4-5, he/she will be suspended from participation for a length of time commensurate with the severity of the violation.

Anyone reporting a violation of rules 1-5 will submit a report in writing of the alleged violation within five (5) school days of the incident to the Athletic Director. The Athletic Council consists of School Principal, Athletic Director, head coach of team on which athlete plays and at least 2 other varsity coaches, and the player's guidance counselor.

Any athlete reported violating rule 4 or rule 5 will be granted a hearing with the Athletic Council along with his/her parents. A written report of the hearing, along with the Athletic Council's decision will be kept on file. The Council will inform the athlete and parent of the decision within a reasonable time.

Any athlete violating rules 1-3, who wants to appeal a decision, may request a hearing with the Athletic Council.

C. Any student who quits a team, or is suspended from participation because of rule infractions, will not receive a letter or awards for participation in that sport.

D. Referral to the appropriate law enforcement authorities will be at the discretion of the school administration for violation of any rules contained in the policy.

VII. Code of Ethics For Spectators

1. Attempts to understand and be informed of the playing rules
2. Appreciates a good play no matter who makes it
3. Shows compassion for an injured player; applauds positive performance; does not heckle, jeer or distract players; and avoids use of profane and obnoxious language and behavior
4. Respects the judgment and strategy of the coach, and does not criticize players or coaches for loss of game
5. Respects property of others
6. Respects officials and accepts their decisions without gesture or argument
7. **Concerns Do Not Get Resolved During Emotional Times. If a spectator wishes to address a coach about an issue, it cannot be done after a game. Any issue can be discussed the following day.**
8. Respects the authority of those who administer the competition

VIII. Head Injuries

1. All students who have had a head injury or concussion must remain out of all physical activity for at least 24 hours.
2. Any student who has a head injury must be evaluated and seen by a licensed physician prior to returning to physical activity.
3. By signing the athletic code of conduct, the parent/guardian and student agree to the following:
 - a. All parents/guardians and students will report any concussion symptoms, head injury, or syncopal episodes (fainting) that occur during school activity or outside of school.
 - b. Students and parents/guardians have read the state approved concussion pamphlet provided by Randolph Central School before the start of the season. For more information on head injuries, you can visit Center for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports/index.html>.

We understand that participation in sports involves the risk of injury, including injuries that may result in permanent disability or death. We also understand that the school has a very limited insurance policy for student injuries. We realize that the policy may provide few or no benefits, depending on the situation. We will not hold the school liable for any medical claims not covered by insurance. NOTE: Your claim must be sent to your insurance company first. If your insurance does not pay medical expenses in full, then you need to contact the school nurse for forms to be filled out by you and your physician.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for submitting all forms, bills and insurance statements to Pupil Benefits Plan, Inc. within the specified times. Remember that coverage is minimal.

Appendix A

INTERSCHOLASTIC PLAYING RULES

We have read and understand the Randolph Central School Board playing rules for interscholastic sports and we agree to abide by them. We understand that participation in interscholastic sports is a Privilege and not a Right.

Signature of Student Athlete

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Address

Home Phone

Work Phone

Person to contact in case of an injury if parents cannot be reached:

Name

Address

Phone

Doctor's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

If there is an emergency and I cannot be contacted, I authorize the coach and any other designated school official to call an ambulance or transport my child to the doctor or hospital and to authorize treatment.

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

NOTE: The head coach will keep the original signed copy of this form on file for one year after the season ends, expect for cases where an injury has been claimed. In these cases the original will be kept until at least one year after the medical treatment is completed.