

Lampasas ISD Athletic Policy: Code of Conduct & Expectations

1. A student is not required to take part in athletic activities, nor is participation required for graduation (See Walsh v. Louisiana High School Athletic Association, 616 F.2d 152 5th Circuit 1980). Participation is a privilege; therefore, when the high ideals and standards of the Lampasas Independent School District are violated, this privilege may be revoked (See Palmer v. Merluzzi, 868 F.2d 90 3rd Circuit 1989). Students of the Lampasas ISD should conduct themselves with pride and dignity and in accordance with policies set forth in the Lampasas ISD Student Handbook.
2. Participants in athletic activities should have a positive attitude toward their work, school, teammates, coaches and sponsors; and participants should address their teachers and administrators with respect. Participants should conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times.
3. Participants should be on time for classes, practices, trips and other scheduled events unless they have notified the sponsor or coach ahead of time. A student who misses a practice or meeting may face some sort of disciplinary action (loss of playing time, etc) at the discretion of the coach.
4. Our athletes are representing our school district and the community; therefore, good grooming standards will be met. Hair will be neat, clean and of reasonable length, off the collar. Male students should be clean shaven. Mustaches are permitted but must be neatly trimmed. It is a UIL rule violation to wear any type of jewelry during a UIL contest. Therefore, this ruling will be practiced at all times during all athletic activities including practices, games and leisure workouts within the facilities of the school district.
5. A participant must realize that at all times, he/she represents the school and our community and that the actions of a single student may appear as a reflection on the entire school. Participants in athletic activities will be held to a "higher standard" than those students who do not participate in activities (See Texas Education Code section 33.081). The high expectations that we hold for our participants extend beyond school hours and apply on and off campus (See Ryan G. b/n/f Don g. and Glen F. v Navasota Independent School District, Commissioner of Education, Docket No. 1134-R5-598, August 6, 1999).
6. The Lampasas ISD takes a firm stand against tobacco, drinking or the use of illegal drugs by participants in the athletic program. Students who partake in the aforementioned activities, or are found to be in possession of alcohol or narcotics will face disciplinary action, whether the infraction occurred on or off school property-or whether or not school was in session (See Bush V. Dassel-Cokato Bd. Of, Educ., 745 F. Supp. 562 D .Minn. 1990 or Jordan v. O'Fallon Township High School, 706 N.E. 2d 137 Ill. App. 1999).
7. Hazing of any type or form shall not be tolerated by the district. Hazing is defined as intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off campus directed against a student that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members include other students.
8. Students removed to an alternative education program (AEP) may not participate in extra-curricular activities (Texas Education code 37.006 (g) and Texas Education Code 37.008 (a)#3).
9. Our athletes will dress appropriately while representing our school district. Proper attire will be worn while traveling to other schools and tournaments.
10. Participants will travel to and from all activities as a group under the supervision of a coach or sponsor. No student will be permitted to deviate from the above policy unless the student and parent make arrangements with the coach, sponsor or school administrator, in advance of the trip. (This policy may be altered if a student is injured in a contest)
11. Our athletes will display good sportsmanship as they represent our school district. A participant should always accept the decisions of officials, coaches and sponsors, teachers, etc. Displays of anger, the use of profanity, taunting the opponent or their crowd, etc will not be accepted. We expect students who are merely observing a contest or come in contact with visiting players or fans, etc to display good sportsmanship-on or off-campus, whether school is in session or not.
12. Our athletes are responsible for the equipment issued to them. The student is responsible for returning all equipment promptly at the conclusion of each sport or program. The student will be expected to reimburse the school for lost equipment or equipment that was damaged due to negligence. Failure to reimburse the district in a timely manner may result in the suspension of the participant from activities until the money is paid.

Student - Athlete Discipline

1. The philosophy of the Lampasas I.S.D. Athletic Department believes that a dynamic program of student activities is vital to the educational development of the student. Participating in extracurricular athletic activities is a privilege, which comes with responsibility and accountability. This being the case, students who violate policies that relate to athletic activities should expect that they will be subject to disciplinary action. We want to instill discipline and accountability in all our student-athletes. We expect prompt communication to the coach/sponsor, from the athlete, upon violating any of the standards set forth in the athletic code of conduct.
2. Coaches have the right to discipline students who participate in Lampasas ISD athletics. Each student can be assured that he/she will be treated fairly in all matters of discipline regardless of his/her stature in the program, ability, race, sex or any of the many other reasons that people give for prejudices.
3. A participant will not be dismissed from a program without a discussion with the coach and a twenty-four-hour evaluation period.
4. Any student who is removed from a program for disciplinary reasons will be ineligible from all athletic activities for a specified period of time. Whenever a student is dismissed or suspended from a program, the coach will communicate with the parents or guardians about the action to be taken.
5. Assignment to DAEP will result in automatic suspension from extra-curricular activities. The duration of the suspension may extend beyond the time period for which the student was assigned to DAEP. (Texas Education Code 37.006 (g)).
6. In incidents involving alleged MIP, DUI, or other violation of the law, the school district will rely upon the judgment and discretion of local or state law enforcement agencies. As educators, employees of the Lampasas ISD hope to avoid having to serve as judge and jury. For this reason, the district will rely upon "hard" evidence of wrongdoing or first-hand knowledge of an infraction by a school district administrator or the coach / sponsor. Hearsay, rumor and/or accusations will not be admitted as evidence of an infraction.
7. Students who feel that they have been unfairly limited by these rules may have a parent appeal the matter to the AD, then the campus principal. If the parent is not satisfied with the principal's disposition of the matter, the parent may appeal to the superintendent in writing.

Disciplinary actions for an infraction of the Code of Conduct may be as follows:

First Offense - The punishment for the first offense of the Code of Conduct is as follows: The student becomes ineligible for 7 days from the time LISD determines there was a violation of the athletic policy. While ineligible, the student *will be expected* to practice with his/her team or group. The student may not travel to contests with the group. Ineligible students *may not* participate in scrimmages with their team. At the end of the seven days, the student *must* be passing each course in which he/she is enrolled before he/she regains eligibility.

Second Offense – Student will become ineligible beginning *on the date of the infraction* and will remain ineligible from participation in athletic activities for four calendar weeks. While ineligible, the student *may* practice with his/her team or group, upon the discretion of the coach. The student may not travel to contests with the group. Ineligible students *may not* participate in scrimmages with their team. At the completion of the suspension, the student must be passing all of his/her classes before he/she regains eligibility.

Third Offense – Dismissal from the athletic programs for the remainder of the semester or twelve calendar weeks (whichever is longer).

Fourth Offense – Results in dismissal from participation in athletic program activities for one calendar year from the date of the infraction or possibly for the remainder of the high school career.

~LISD retains the right to require professional counseling for some violations of the code of conduct before reinstatement to the program.

~LISD random drug testing infractions will follow LISD Board Policy consequences.

Note: In all cases, the punishment for an infraction may be left up to the discretion of the athletic director, superintendent or campus principal, and all LISD student code of conduct violations will take precedence.

Lampasas ISD Athletic Acknowledgement of Rules 2020-2021

I have read the Lampasas ISD Athletic Code of Conduct and agree to comply with the rules set forth by Lampasas ISD.

(Must be signed, dated and returned to the athletic director's office prior to participation)

Athlete's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Lampasas I.S.D. Quitting Policy

Quitting anything after you begin is not a good practice. With that being said, it is apparent in today's society that we as coaches at the very least must try and teach student athletes the importance of communicating if this does occur.

The following guidelines will be observed if it is going to happen.

1. An exit conference with the head coach of the sport they are leaving.
2. Parent contact prior to it being official.

A student athlete who decides to quit one sport and enter another will be ineligible for participation in another sport until the end of the season in the sport for which he/she has quit, unless the head coaches of both sports mutually agree to the student athlete's participation, with approval of the Athletic Director. A student athlete quitting a sport after the first contest will forfeit any award for that sport.

Athlete's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date