

FILE: IDFAA

Cf: [IDBB](#), [IDFA](#), [JCDAC](#)

ATHLETICS DRUG TESTING

The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board recognizes that athletics is an extra-curricular activity and as such is not a required part of the educational process. Student participation is, therefore, voluntary and not mandated either by school policy or law. It is believed that the nature of athletics, together with the societal problems that a student-athlete encounters, requires that the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board adopt as a consequence to those problems, steps to help protect the integrity of high school athletics and to help assure that the athlete will be provided the maximum safety available. The following drug testing procedures have been enacted by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board for the following reasons:

1. To test for any substance which could allegedly provide an unfair advantage over those who do not use such substances, (i.e., substances believed to or which actually enhance athletic performance); and
2. To test for any substance which may impair one's athletic or activity performance or pose a threat to his/her safety or the safety of others, (i.e., any substance that may be mind altering, addictive or illegal).

The drug testing program described here has not been established as a punitive measure, or as an attempt of the School Board to regulate the off-campus, non-school related activities of its athletes. Furthermore, it is not the intent of the policy to invade the privacy rights of those affected by it. The Jefferson Davis Parish School Board strives only to maximize the opportunity to minimize injuries to the athlete and others who choose to participate in athletics, and to ensure fair competition.

AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT FOR DRUG TESTING

All athletes shall be subject to the specified drug testing procedures. Therefore, the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board declares that the administration of drug testing to an athlete is not and should not be construed as being premised upon suspicion that a particular athlete is under the influence of any drugs. The program shall be a mandatory condition for participation by a student in athletics. The drug testing guidelines established here shall be employed in conjunction with other school policies which prescribe penalties for the use, consumption and/or distribution of illegal or prohibited substances on school grounds or at school related functions.

PROCEDURES

The format for implementation of a drug testing policy shall be as follows:

1. A physical examination by a licensed physician.
2. A medical history of the athlete shall be kept by the athletic director, principal and/or team physician.
3. One or more urine analyses shall be taken in order to ascertain possible warning signs which by their nature would endanger the athlete's safety, and/or whether there is present any controlled substance, which, by its nature, will impede the motor skills required in athletic endeavors and thus endanger the athlete and/or others.
4. All urine analyses shall be used to ascertain the presence of substances such as:
 1. Glucose
 2. Protein
 3. Blood
 4. Narcotics such as codeine, morphine, meperidine, normeperidine, methadone, primary metabolite and pentazocine
 5. Depressants such as diazepam, nordiazepam, methaqualone, propoxyphene, norpropoxyphene and ethanol
 6. Barbiturates such as amobarbital, butabarbital, butalbital, pentobarbital, secobarbital and phenobarbital
 7. Miscellaneous substances such as phenothiazine (reported as a class only), quinine or quinidine, tripeleminamine (known as "T-S and blues" when present with pentazocine) and cannabinoids (if positive, tetrahydrocannabinol metabolite confirmation)
 8. Any other substance defined as "controlled dangerous substances" by law.

All testing shall be strictly enforced and participation in the testing program shall be mandatory based upon the fact that the parents/guardians of athletes have freely chosen to permit their children to participate in the athletic programs offered by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board. No athlete shall be tested unless the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the athlete sign the proper form giving permission to have tests performed. By signing and submitting the drug testing authorization and consent form, the parent(s) or guardian(s) and athlete acknowledge that they have consented to the administration of the tests and waive any claim of invasion of privacy and waive any objection to the necessary action in the furtherance of these safety procedures. It shall also be understood that by agreeing to any tests, the parent(s) or guardian(s) and athlete authorize the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board to have the tests listed herein administered as a necessary and mandatory aspect of its athletic program. Refusal to submit to these tests shall constitute immediate notice that the athlete shall not be permitted to participate in any athletic program offered by the school system.

For the protection of the school system in general and the athletes in particular, and to preserve the integrity and validity of the testing program, all urine tests shall be performed by a professional laboratory. The results of the tests shall be maintained in confidence in the office of the Superintendent/Drug Free Schools Coordinator/Principal. A positive test shall be evidence that substances are present in the athlete's system. The positive results of any drug testing shall be communicated to the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the affected student. In any case, any parent or guardian shall be permitted to engage in a confidential conference with the Superintendent, parish athletic director, and Drug Free Schools coordinator to discuss the results of any test. Should any parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to the dissemination of the results of any drug testing, the athlete affected thereby shall be informed. The parent(s) or guardian(s), and athlete shall release the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board, its members (both individually and in their official capacity) as well as any employee, teacher, principal or other school administrator or personnel from any liability in connection with the Drug Testing Program, the administration of the testing procedures and/or test results, any warranties addressing the accuracy of said tests and any and all medical or laboratory procedures employed by the referring laboratory.

It is expressly understood that the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board assumes no responsibility for the diagnosis or treatment of any disease that may become known as a result of the drug testing program.

All costs associated with the administration of the drug testing program shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board, except as noted. However, any evaluation or drug counseling which may be mandated as a result of positive tests shall not, under any circumstances, be the responsibility of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board.

The athlete and his parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be required to submit, along with the drug testing consent form, a list of medication the student is currently taking, and the name of the physician prescribing the medication. The list shall be used to assist with interpreting results of tests taken.

TEST RESULTS

The following procedures shall be followed upon receipt of a positive result from the drug testing described herein;

1. First positive: Both the individual athlete who has tested positive and his/her parent(s) and/or guardian(s) shall be immediately notified according to the procedures specified. Before he/she will be permitted to continue participation in the athletic program, the athlete shall submit to drug evaluation in an effort to determine the necessity of drug counseling or other treatment, which, if needed, shall be at his/her expense. The refusal to participate in the recommended treatment after evaluation, or even to the evaluation itself, shall constitute disqualification from participation in any athletic program.

2. Second positive: Both the individual athlete who has tested positive and his/her parent(s) and/or guardian(s) shall be immediately notified according to the procedures specified. The athlete shall be required to participate in continued counseling, at his/her expense, and shall be suspended from practice and/or play from that particular activity for the remainder of the activity's season. The athlete may be reinstated to participate in another sport during that school year at a time to be determined mutually by a qualified drug counselor, his/her athletic director and his/her principal. The refusal to participate in any recommended counseling program, or to abide by any other sanctions imposed by school personnel, shall be treated as a third positive test result.
3. Third positive: Both the individual athlete who has tested positive and his/her parent(s) and/or guardian(s) shall be immediately notified according to the procedures specified. The athlete shall immediately be dismissed from his/her team and shall be ineligible for participation in any of the school's athletic activities for the remainder of the school year.

All test results shall be received and reviewed by only the Superintendent of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board. The parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of any athlete who has tested positive shall be immediately notified by the Superintendent. Such notification shall be confirmed in writing. Further, the Superintendent shall also immediately notify the principal of the athlete's school who will then, without delay, notify the athletic director and athlete's coach. The latter shall then advise the athlete as soon as possible. Confidentiality of the test results shall be maintained at all times.

Under no circumstances shall any law enforcement personnel be notified in case of positive test results. All test results shall be for school related purposes only and addressed in accordance with the terms, provisions and conditions specified within this policy.

An athlete may request a verification test, the cost to be borne by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board, which shall be a test of the same specimen. However, should the athlete request a verification test from another laboratory or testing agency, the cost of the verification test shall be the responsibility of the athlete and shall be administered by a laboratory or testing agency approved by the principal or school in which the athlete is enrolled. Further, the verification test shall be of the same specimen previously tested. Moreover, the verification test shall be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions and provisions of the drug testing authorization and consent form.

The drug testing specified herein shall be administered at least once every school year to all students who have elected to participate in any athletic program. A student shall not be exempted from the testing on the basis of his/her having been previously tested in prior school years or the current school year that the test is offered except as otherwise stated herein.

As part of the testing program, the athlete shall not have a right to a hearing before the administration of any sanctions prescribed by the drug testing policy, since athletics is not an integral part of mandatory school curriculum.

The implementation of the specific testing procedures and similar matters shall be as specified by written policy of the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board. Copies of same shall be disseminated to all students.

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§[17:81](#), [40:961](#), [49:1111](#)

[Vernonia School District 47J v. Acton](#), 515 U.S. 646 (1995)

[Official Handbook](#), Louisiana High School Athletic Association

Jefferson Davis Parish School Board