

# May Independent School District Extracurricular Code of Student Conduct

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## I. Extracurricular Activities

The term "extracurricular activities" means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the District. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district and sponsored by the district or a campus. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provisions of this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

## II. Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. May ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies students to the community or public in any setting as May ISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total May ISD student body at all times and places.

Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, May ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* extends beyond the *May ISD Student Code of Conduct* not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for

imposing discipline. This *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will be enforced with all students grades 7-12 participating in extracurricular activities:

- regardless of whether school is in session;
- regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school- related event;
- regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season; and
- regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the *May ISD Student Code of Conduct* will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the *May ISD Student Code of Conduct*.

### **III. Conduct Expectations**

**The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor:**

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however students may not quit one sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active.
- Within athletic programs, if a student quits a team or is removed from a team by the coach, that student will not be eligible to compete in the next offered sport. If a student is participating in two sports at the same time and quits one, the student will be removed from the other as well. If a student repeats this behavior up to a third time, the student will be removed from all of our athletic programs for the remainder of their high school years.
- Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. May ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Praise your opponents and play beyond your ability.
- Students should arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared.
- Students who cannot be present for a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event should call the coach, sponsor, team captain, or club president as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Each activity will decide when missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made-up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent more

than two times in a semester.

- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate, but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meeting or event are required to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.
- Students are required to show respect at all times to coaches and sponsors.
- Students should refrain from wearing hair styles or hair colors that draw attention to themselves. Male students participating in sports are required to be clean shaven.
- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the *May ISD Student Code of Conduct*. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor.
- When extenuating circumstances occur they can be reviewed by the athletic director and the coach involved.

#### **IV. Prohibited Conduct**

**May ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:**

- possessing, smoking, selling, or otherwise using tobacco products;
- engaging in serious misbehavior, as that term is defined in the May ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- attending any event at which underage drinking, smoking, or drug use is occurring (students will be allowed a slight concession for an amount of time long enough to determine that a violation is occurring and to leave the premises);
- riding in a vehicle containing alcohol unless a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult is present and aware of the presence of the alcohol;
- stealing;
- conduct that causes injury or harm to persons or property;
- using profanity, lewd or vulgar language, or obscene gestures;
- any conduct resulting *in* arrest and/or citations from law enforcement officers;

- inappropriate touching, sexual gestures, or exposing parts of the body that are ordinarily covered up in public;
- inappropriate behavior in public places.

Any illegal drug related offenses will be subject to the consequences put forth in the May ISD drug testing policy. In the process of our random drug testing, testing for nicotine will also occur. Any positive nicotine tests will incur the punishments of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

## V. Procedures

The coach and/ or sponsor will determine whether an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation has occurred.

Upon determination of an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation, the following individuals will be notified:

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- the student and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s); and/or
  - the appropriate school counselor to provide counseling, support, and guidance in dealing with issues associated with alcohol, drugs, mood-altering chemicals, and other prohibited activities.
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Nothing in this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* limits the authority of a coach or sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, including extra workouts, for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations but do not engage in prohibited conduct.

## VI. Disciplinary Action

Coaches and sponsors will review all the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular violation and impose appropriate disciplinary action. Coaches and sponsors will strive for consistency in meting out punishment for *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violations, but will also exercise sound professional discretion. Violation of any of the above-mentioned rules by a student participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- suspension from all extracurricular activities for the following time periods:

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - 14 days; minimum 2 contests for once a week activities and 4 contests for 2 times a week activities

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - 28 days; minimum 4 contests for once a week activities and 8 contests for 2 times a week activities

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - 1 year

4<sup>th</sup> Offense - Removed from extracurricular activities for the remainder of time in school.

- Removal from office in the case of a student office holder who commits an offense. The principal will not ordinarily interfere in a coach or sponsor's judgment regarding appropriate discipline but has the authority to increase or decrease the punishment based on his or her assessment of the situation.

## **VII. Insurance for Students in Extracurricular Activities**

May ISD will not carry insurance covering participation in practice or competition for any extracurricular activities.

## **VIII. Acknowledgement**

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed) is to sign an acknowledgement that the student has read and understands the *extracurricular Code of Conduct*. The student's parent or guardian must also sign an acknowledgement. The acknowledgement states that the signing party understands the consequences for engaging in prohibited conduct.

**Please Sign and Return**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the May ISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in May ISD extracurricular activities. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my extracurricular participation.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the May ISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and understand requirements for my child's voluntary participation in May ISD extracurricular activities. I understand the consequences that my child will face if \_\_ he or \_she fails to adhere to these rules and agree to such terms.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_