

DRUG TESTING OF STUDENTS IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Board recognizes that the interscholastic athletic program is an integral part of the entire educational program. Through participation in interscholastic athletics, students have an opportunity for educational and character-building experiences.

The athlete assumes responsibility for regulating his/her personal life in ways that make him/her an efficient member of a team and a worthy representative of his/her school. Drug use/abuse by student athletes is a major detriment to these goals. The Board believes that by implementing a drug testing program it encourages students who want to participate in interscholastic athletics to remain drug-free.

Interscholastic athletes must participate in a drug-testing program. Prior to the initial drug testing of a student, the student and the parent(s) must sign a form consenting to the drug testing. The student is tested prior to the start of each sport season. In addition, random testing of 10% of the athletes on the team is conducted on a weekly basis throughout the season.

If an athlete tests positive for the presence of drugs, a second sample is tested. No further action is taken if the second test is negative. If the second test is positive, the athlete's parent(s) are notified and the school principal convenes a meeting with the student athlete and his/her parent(s). The student has two options as follows:

1. The athlete must participate for six weeks in an assistance program which includes a weekly urinalysis.
2. If the athlete refuses the first option, he/she is suspended from athletics for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season.

A second offense results in the automatic suspension of the athlete for the current season and the next athletic season. A third offense results in suspension for the remainder of the current season and the next two athletic seasons. There are no penalties involving regular school attendance, nor any referrals for criminal penalties.

Following this policy are procedures to conduct the drug test, to define the chain of custody of the test samples and to access test results.

Adopted: February 21, 2001

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.20

CROSS REFS.: IGD, Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities
IGDJ, Interscholastic Athletics
JFCH, Alcohol Use by Students
JFCI, Student Drug Abuse
JO, Student Records

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