

Athletic Training Rule

It is the goal of the (school name) athletic department, the coaching staff, and school administration that all (school name) student-athletes refrain from use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs at all times. The abuse of tobacco products, alcohol and illegal drugs is detrimental to the physical and mental well-being of student-athletes no matter when such abuse occurs. In addition, the use of tobacco products, alcohol, and illegal drugs interferes with academic and athletic performance and may result in injury to athletes as well as teammates. The Albemarle County School Board supports the following Athletic Training Rule and consequences concerning the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs:

The Athletic Training Rule is in effect for student-athletes during the athletic season at all times, on and off school grounds, 24 hours a day. The athletic season is defined to begin on the first day of try outs or practice and concludes with the last contest.

FIRST VIOLATION

Student-athletes found to be in possession or under the influence of, and/or using tobacco products, alcohol or illegal drugs during the athletic season will be suspended from the team and otherwise prohibited from participating in athletic activities including practices, contests, or attendance as a spectator for 30 calendar days or until the end of the season, whichever is longer.

In addition, a student-athlete who has violated the training rule must participate in such prevention and intervention activities as deemed appropriate by school officials, following an evaluation. Participation in prevention and intervention activities as ordered by school officials shall be required prior to reinstatement of the student as a team member.

SECOND VIOLATION

Any student-athlete who violates the Athletic Training Rule for a second time will be suspended from athletic participation in all sports for one calendar year from the date of the second infraction.

THIRD VIOLATION

Any student-athlete who violates the Athletic Training Rule for a third time will be banned from participation in all sports for the remainder of their time at the school and will forfeit all school sponsored awards for the team or teams.

SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS

If parents/athletes do not provide sufficient information or compliance to satisfy school authorities, further investigation will follow.

The Albemarle County School Board and Superintendent's Office authorize school officials to investigate reported violations of the Athletic Training Rule by student-athletes and to take appropriate disciplinary action consistent with this Rule.

The investigation may include the following steps:

- 1) interviewing of parents and students regarding suspected violations;
- 2) communication with the Albemarle County Police Department as legally appropriate;
- 3) the collection of evidence and statements from students and parents; or
- 4) the authority to require that students, with parental consent, reaffirm their pledge and compliance to the Athletic Training Rule.

Information provided by school officials, a student-athlete's parent or guardian, police report or other reliable sources, regarding a suspected violation of the Athletic Training Rule will be investigated by the coach, athletic director and/or principals. After reviewing the information, school officials will decide whether to deal with the incident as a violation of the Athletic Training Rule.

By virtue of receiving this handbook/training rule, and a signature on a statement acknowledging the receipt of the Student Handbook/training rule, a student-athlete and his or her parents or guardians are officially notified of the athletic training rule policy and the consequences of violation. By signing, a student-athlete acknowledges that he/she will not use tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs. In addition, a parent or guardian agrees that he/she will inform the coach, athletic director and/or principals if there is a violation of the Athletic Training Rule by his/her son/daughter during the athletic season.

At the beginning of each participating sports season (fall, winter, or spring) all student-athletes and their parent/guardians are required to sign the Albemarle County Training Rule Pledge to indicate their support of the program and their consent to these terms.