

**BORGER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**ATHLETIC CODE OF ETHICS**

**I. CONDUCT**

Participation in athletics means more than competition between two individuals or two teams representing different schools. It teaches fair play and sportsmanship, understanding and appreciation of teamwork, and the fact that quitting means failure, while hard work means success.

Athletes must always remember they are representatives of their school and community. The athletes must make a constant effort to project a positive, respectful image. Athletes should always be considerate of those around them and never allow themselves to get into embarrassing situations that may disgrace himself or herself or the athletic program.

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that this behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

1. All student/athletes will adhere to the UIL "No Pass, No Play" policy.
2. Be on time whenever time is involved.
3. Demonstrate appropriate classroom conduct toward teachers and other students.
4. Be sincere and loyal at all times to his/her team, school, and coach.
5. Be responsible for all athletic equipment entrusted to his/her use and return it to the school in the best possible condition.
6. Put his/her teams' success ahead of individual glory.
7. Create, maintain, and promote the elements of good sportsmanship.
8. Abide by training rules:
  - No possession or use of alcoholic beverages of any kind.
  - No possession or use of illegal drugs.
9. Do **not** break the law (example: theft, vandalism, etc.).
10. No use of tobacco products
11. Abide by grooming standards:
  - a) Hair must be neat, clean, and well groomed.
  - b) Boys will be clean-shaven.
12. Athletes are not allowed to wear earrings or jewelry of any kind during athletic workouts or at athletic events.
13. Set an example in school, in class, at home, in the community, and in the area of competition so that others will respect him/her, and so that he/she will add something positive to the athletic program.
14. An athlete must notify his/her coach in advance when it is necessary to miss practice. Valid reasons will be accepted. Truancies are inexcusable.
15. School attendance on game day is required unless approved by coach and principal.
16. Any athlete who works out for a sport for 10 workouts and then quits, or is dropped from the squad for disciplinary reasons, will remain in the athletic period in an offseason program for the remainder of that sport's season. Schedule changes will only be allowed in the first two weeks of each semester.

**II. Penalties for Violations of Training Rules and Other Regulations (Reference #8 & #9 Athletic Code)**

**First offenders** of rules are subject to disciplinary action, a minimum suspension of three contests (to include tournaments, double headers, dual matches as a single competition), not to exceed one year, or expulsion from team. The head coach has the authority to determine the extent of the punishment. This disciplinary action recommended may be in addition to any other disciplinary action taken as a result of policies that are applicable for all students. Parents will be consulted by the coach or Athletic Director if any action is necessary. Counseling may be recommended. Should expulsion be needed on first offense, the decision will be reviewed by the committee.

**Second offenders:** Student athletes who violate the training (#8 & #9 of Athletic Code) rules for the second time will be suspended for a minimum of six contests (to include tournaments, double headers, dual matches as a single competition), not to exceed one year, or expulsion from the team. This disciplinary action recommended may be in addition to any other disciplinary action taken as a result of policies that are applicable for all students. Parents will be consulted by the coach or Athletic Director if any action is necessary. Counseling may be recommended. Should expulsion be needed on second offense, the decision will be reviewed by the committee.

**Third offenders:** Dismissal from the Athletic Program, for a period of two years.

