**WINNACUNNET HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CONTRACT**

This contract outlines a few of the most important and highly questioned rules from the Winnacunnet High School Student Athlete and Parent Handbook. This contract has been designed to bring total understanding among student athletes, their parents and school personnel. We ask that all participants and parents read and sign this contract indicating full knowledge of the rules, regulations and commitment that participation in sports programs at Winnacunnet High School demands. The rules stated in this contract have been established to assure the successful operation of the athletic programs and the entire handbook can be found on the WHS Athletics website.

It is important to note that the penalties listed below are minimum penalties and more serious consequences could be given if warranted. Immediate removal from a team could occur if the Coach, Director of Athletics, and/or Principal rule the violation serious enough.

**Substance Abuse Policy**

The use of alcohol, other drugs, and tobacco/vape products is illegal. Violating the substance abuse policy includes possession, use, or being caught in the presence of alcohol, other drugs and/or tobacco/vape products. Use of tobacco/vape products by Winnacunnet High School athletes is prohibited, regardless of age.

* **First Offense** violators of the Substance Abuse Policy Policy will receive a fifteen (15) day suspension. Students may serve ten (10) days only if they agree to enroll in and complete an approved substance abuse education program. Any program not currently approved must be approved through the Principal.
* **Second Offense** violators will receive a suspension removal from all WHS athletics and activities for a period of 365 days.
* **Third Offense** violators will be removed from all athletics and activities for the remainder of the student’s high school career.

*During the penalty phase, the athlete must attend and participate in the practice sessions and must attend the games but may not dress in uniform. Failure to comply with this rule will mean removal from the team. For any violation, a student must serve a minimum one game suspension. If the violation occurs and the suspension is completed prior to the first game (during preseason), the student must sit out the first regularly scheduled NHIAA contest. When a student violates The Substance Abuse Policy, the student and his/her parent(s) will meet with the Athletic Director or another administrator to discuss the violation. No consequences will be imposed until the meeting takes place.*

**Stealing, Vandalism, and Other Criminal Acts**

When appropriate, violations of this rule will be investigated by the Coach, Director of Athletics, and WHS Administration. If local law enforcement is involved, WHS will not interfere with a criminal investigation and will impose necessary sanctions upon the completion of the criminal investigation. When a violation is confirmed, either by law enforcement or school administration, appropriate action will be taken. This action will include a minimum of a ten (10) to twenty-five (25) days suspension up to removal from the team.

**Gross Misconduct**

Gross misconduct includes but is not limited to:

* 1. Assault on a coach, official, opponent or spectator
  2. Leaving a contest in anger during the event or interrupting the flow of the game with unsportsmanlike behavior
  3. Obscene language, threats and/or gestures directed at a coach, officials, teammates, opponents, or spectators
  4. Any behavior deemed not appropriate for a student representing Winnacunnet High School sports or behavior or actions that bring dishonor to the individual, team or school.
     1. Harassment, intimidation, sexual harassment or hazing of students
     2. Text messages or inappropriate use of social media towards a teammate, fellow student and/or athlete, opponent, coach or others may result in immediate removal from the team.

Behavior deemed as gross misconduct will be reviewed by the Coach, Director of Athletics and the Principal. If in violation of this code, the athlete will be suspended for a minimum of ten (10) days or up to possible removal from the team.

**School Attendance**

Athletes who are absent from school are ineligible to compete or practice on that day. Exceptions to this rule must be made through the Coach and the Director of Athletics. Student athletes must be in attendance no less thanhalf the school day (7:45-11:05 AM or 11:05 AM-2:30 PM), unless prior approval is given by the school administration for the student to be absent. The Athletic Director will email an attendance report to all coaches each day and any student not present for at least half the day will not be allowed to participate. Any student who serves an in school or out of school suspension may not participate in the practice session or the game/meet on the day(s) in which the suspension occurred. Absences on a Friday, will deem an athlete ineligible for any Saturday or Sunday participation that weekend.

**Practice/Game Attendance**

Regular attendance at all practices and games along with promptness is imperative. Absences will be excused only for illness, school sponsored events, family emergencies, or extreme circumstances. Unexcused absences from a game or continued unexcused absences from practice will result in dismissal from the team. Each program will share their specific attendance policy with athletes and parents.

**Parent Code of Conduct**

As a parent or legal guardian of a student athlete at Winnacunnet High School, it is expected that you model behavior conducive to good sportsmanship, and demonstrate behavior that will not embarrass the school, your child, or yourself.

1. I agree that officiating is difficult and that officials are part-time employees who do not officiate for a living. They are doing their best to be fair to both teams and I agree to accept their decisions and to not shout at, disparage, or verbally abuse them.
2. I agree to not taunt players, coaches, officials, or fans before, during, or following a competition.
3. I agree to support my son/daughter’s role on the team, even if I do not understand or agree with the role. If my son/daughter has a concern about their role or playing time, I will encourage my son/daughter to meet at the appropriate time with the coach to discuss our concerns. If I feel that it is necessary for me to meet with the coach, I will setup a time to meet with the coach, possibly in the presence of the Athletic Director, but will not verbally assault or abuse the coach.
4. I agree to not contact the NHIAA about scheduled dates, tournament games, or eligibility unless directed to do so by the Athletic Director or school administration. I understand that the NHIAA will communicate only through the school administration and athletic department in most circumstances.
5. I agree to encourage my son/daughter to resolve conflict with their coaches and teammates directly before asking for my help. I understand that an important lesson they will learn though participation in high school sports is to take responsibility for their own actions and to learn how to handle adverse situations.
6. I agree that if I attend practices or games, I will be a respectful spectator who adheres to good sportsmanship and does not attempt to coach.

By signing this contract, we understand that all Winnacunnet High School, NHIAA, and WHS Athlete Handbook and Parent Code of Conduct policies are required to be followed by athletes, parents, and coaches.

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Student-Athlete (print) Parent/Guardian (print)

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Student-Athlete (signature) Parent/Guardian (signature)

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