

# UNION-SCIOTO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Athletic Department guidelines have been created with one goal in mind: to allow each athlete to become the best he/she is capable of being. The guidelines are formulated for the conviction that athletic achievement is to be enhanced by healthy diet, healthy personal habits and abstinence from alcohol and drugs. These guidelines exist to promote the soundness of body and mind that are the core of athletic excellence.

### Expectations for Athletes

All athletes are governed by the constitution and rules of Unioto High School, the Scioto Valley Conference and the Ohio High School Athletic Association. The following outline specific expectations established by the Unioto Athletic Department.

1. Abide by the constitution and rules of the Ohio High School Athletic Association ([wwwOHSAA.org](http://www.OHSAA.org))
2. Demonstrate sportsmanlike conduct and show respect for teammates, competitors, game officials, fans, and coaches.
3. Be present and on time for all competitions, practices and meetings.
4. Follow all training rules (See Below).
5. Follow the guidelines for student conduct as stated in the Unioto Student/Parent Handbook.
6. Show concern for and provide proper care of school property and equipment.
7. Be in school on the day of a contest or practice by 9:30am except when school is not in session or prior approval has been granted by a building administrator.
8. Student athletes are responsible for returning all equipment issued to them during the sport season. The student-athlete will be financially responsible for any lost equipment. All financial obligations of the student- athlete must be taken care of within one week after the end of the sport season. No student athlete will receive an athletic award, grade card or grade transcripts until all equipment is returned and all financial obligations have been paid.
9. A student athlete quitting an athletic activity may not participate in a new sport activity until the athlete has received a release from the head sport coach of the sport being dropped and must wait until the end of that specific sport season.
10. Athletes are expected to attend the awards program to complete their sport season and receive their recognition/awards. Any awards not picked up within two weeks of the sports awards ceremony will be unavailable unless extenuating circumstances prevented receipt of awards in a timely manner.
11. An athlete represents more than the individual. As a representative of the team, school and community, the athlete's conduct and appearance must reflect this additional responsibility. Student- athletes should behave in such a way as to be free of any suspicion of breaking training

rules and/or unsportsmanlike conduct (this includes Internet sites such as Facebook or Twitter).

NOTE: Parents and/or Guardians are an extension of their student athlete. Their conduct on social media could cause their athlete to be suspended or dismissed from a team.

## **Training Rules**

1. Any athlete violating the student Discipline Code in the Student/Parent Handbook at an athletic meeting, practice or contest will be referred to the responsible building administrator. The consequences as outlined in the Handbook will be enforced in conjunction with Athletic Department consequences.
2. During the season, an athlete shall not use, abuse, possess, transmit or conceal: alcoholic beverages, tobacco (smoking/smokeless), look-a-like or controlled substances as defined by law. It is not a violation for a student to use a legally defined drug prescribed by an attending physician for the student's own use. The medication is to be treated as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.

## **Consequences for Violating Training Rules**

**First Offense** – The student-athlete shall be denied participation in 20% of all scheduled competitions. The athlete must seek an assessment from a school recommended agency and follow all recommendations of the assessment.

**Second Offense** – A second violation within the school year will result in dismissal from the team unless the athlete and family voluntarily seek an assessment of the student's substance use from a school recommended agency and follow recommendations contained therein. The student-athlete shall be denied participation in 30% of all scheduled competitions.

**Third Offense** – A third violation within the school year will result in dismissal from all athletic participation for the remainder of the current athletic season and the next two athletic seasons. The school district will again refer the student-athlete for professional treatment.

Suspensions from athletic participation will be carried over to the student's next season of athletic participation. (ie: an athlete who participates only in volleyball receives a denial of participation from 20% of volleyball matches of junior year, but did not complete suspension before the end of the season. The suspension will be completed at the beginning of the senior season of volleyball). Also, athletic participation denial can carry over from one sport season to a consecutive sport season. (ie: a golfer receives participation denial for 30% of the season, but does not complete the suspension before the end of the golf season. The suspension will be completed at the beginning of the consecutive winter sport season).

In the case of all suspensions, the building principal along with the athletic director will meet with the suspended athlete and determine the athlete's ability to participate in practices or other team events until the terms of the suspension are met.

**Self/Parent Referral** – If a student-athlete or parent(s) ask a coach, counselor, administrator or other school personnel for help and an assessment prior to any known violations of this policy, they will not be subject to any Athletic Department disciplinary action provided they follow the recommendations of the school recommended assessment. A self-referral will be considered a first offense, but will not carry any Athletic Department penalties.

### Additional Training Rules

1. A 'season' is defined as that period of time from the date of the first practice session, as allowed by the OHSAA, through the end of the athletic season or the sports awards ceremony. The latter of the two dates will be used to determine the end of the season.
2. Curfew during the season will be determined by the team's coach.
3. A student cannot quit one sport and participate in another sport during the same season without the release and written permission of the head coach of the former sport. The student is responsible for all equipment issued and must return all school owned items in good condition or they will be charged for the equipment. Grade cards and transcripts will be held until all equipment is received or fines have been paid.
4. Participants who are constant discipline problems in school or on a team may be dismissed for the remainder of the season from all participation privileges by the team's coach. Coaches also reserve the right to select team rosters and may choose to deny participation rights to any athlete who is consistently a discipline challenge even if the sport team is usually recognized as a 'non-cut' team.
5. Suspension from school means suspension from a team for the corresponding period of time. While suspended, athletes may not have contact with the sport team in any manner, this includes not being able to attend contests to watch from the stands.
6. Participants must have a conference with the head coach before resuming participation after being suspended.

## AUTHORIZATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

As parents or legal guardians of an Unioto student-athlete, we/I hereby authorize and consent to our/my child's participation in interscholastic athletics for the 2018-19 school year. We/I understand that the activity in which our/my child will be participating is potentially dangerous and that physical injury may occur to our/my child requiring emergency medical care and treatment. We/I hereby acknowledge that we/I have been properly advised, cautioned and warned by the proper administrative and coaching personnel of the Union-Scioto School District that our/my child may, by participating in this activity, be exposed to the risks of serious injury, including but not limited to sprains, fractures and ligament and/or cartilage damage which would result in temporary or permanent, partial or complete impairment in the use of his/her limbs; brain damage; paralysis; or even death. Notwithstanding such warnings, and with full knowledge and understanding of the risk of serious injury to our/my child which may result, we/I give our consent to our/my child to participate.

In consideration of the acceptance of our/my child by the Union-Scioto Local School District in its Athletic program, we/I agree to release and hold harmless the Board of Education of Unioto, its Members, the Superintendent of Schools, the Principal, the Athletic Director, all coaches, and any and all other of their agents, and/or employees and agree to indemnify each of them, from any and all claims, costs, suits, actions, judgments, and expenses arising from our child's participation in interscholastic athletics and sports.

We/I hereby give our consent and authorize the Board of Education of the Union-Scioto Local School District and its agents, and/or employees to consent on our/my behalf and on behalf of our/my child, to emergency medical care and treatment in the event we/I are unable to be notified by reasonable attempts of the need for such emergency medical care and treatment.

We/I understand and agree that we/I will be responsible for all medical bills and costs that may be incurred as a result of medical care and treatment of our/my child.

Students who have made a decision to take part in the athletic program will be required to practice and participate in scheduled contests after school and possibly on non-school days.

### AGREEMENT OF OUTLINED RULES

By signing this document, I verify that I have read the stated rules and consequences. I agree that these rules and consequences are fair and just and I will abide by them while a member of any Unioto athletic team.

**Student Name (Please Print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

As a parent/guardian of a Unioto student-athlete, I verify that I have read the rules and consequences outlined in this document. I agree that I will help my student-athlete abide by these rules while a member of a Unioto athletic team. I am also verifying that I have read the Unioto Authorization for Participation in Interscholastic Athletics form, that I understand the form and agree with the terms of the authorization.

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_