



PASCO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ATHLETE HANDBOOK

Every PHS Student-Athlete will comply and abide by the Student Code of Conduct of Pasco County Schools. The full and complete Student Code of Conduct can be found at the following link: http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/library/student_services/conduct/csc_eng.pdf

Sports Physical Packet are required of all participants. No student will be able to participate in conditioning or tryouts without a fully completed packet. The packet can be found on the school website under the Athletics page. <http://phs.pasco.k12.fl.us/athletics/sports-physical-packet/>

Participation fees are required of all student-athletes which is payable to PHS to be sent directly to the County in order to participate. \$70 first sport, \$40 second sport. Individual Cap of \$110 and Family Cap of \$180.

3 online courses must be completed: Concussion in Sports, Heat Illness and Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Courses can be found on <https://nfhslearn.com/courses>

Sections of the Student Code of Conduct which pertain to student-athletes are as follows:

The Student Code of Conduct shall be in force twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, on all school campuses, school transportation and at all school functions, whether on or off school campuses. This document is intended for the use of students, school district staff, and parents. We all share responsibility for the safety and security of our students. Any and all threats of harm should be immediately reported to school staff. The school will work to protect the confidentiality of all involved within the limits of the law.

Supervision of Students Before and After School or During School Activities School authorities are charged with the responsibility of supervising students no longer than thirty (30) minutes before or after school hours while such students are on campus, or thirty (30) minutes before or after an authorized school sponsored activity. Parents are not to rely on school supervision outside the time limits set forth above (F.S. 1003.31).

Respect and Civility Policy The District School Board of Pasco County believes that a safe, secure, nurturing and civil environment is essential to accomplishing its mission to create a community which

works together so all Pasco County students will reach their highest potential. This policy promotes mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among all district employees, students, parents and the general public. The policy is not intended to deprive any person of his or her right to freedom of expression. Rather, it is intended to maintain, to the extent that is possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free environment for students, families, and staff, that is free of disruptive, demeaning, intimidating, threatening or aggressive behaviors. • District staff will treat students, parents, fellow staff members and members of the public with respect and will expect the same in return. • District staff will not conduct business with those who use obscenities or otherwise speak in a demanding, loud, insulting or threatening manner. • Volatile, hostile or aggressive actions and words will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in these activities may face penalties up to, and including, criminal prosecution.

Student Eligibility – Interscholastic Activities HB 7029 mandates each school district establish and publish eligibility standards for extracurricular activities in its Student Code of Conduct. Per F.S. 1006.195, the following apply to all students participating in an interscholastic program sponsored by the district. The district has established, through its Student Code of Conduct, student eligibility standards and related student disciplinary actions regarding student participation in interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular activities. In compliance with HB 7029, the district has established the following:

- A student not currently suspended from interscholastic or intrascholastic extracurricular activities, or suspended or expelled from school, pursuant to a district school board’s suspension or expulsion powers provided by law, including 1006.07, 1006.08 and 1006.09 is eligible to participate in interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular activities.
- A student may not participate in a sport if the student participated in that same sport at another school during that school year, unless the student meets the criteria in 1006.15.
- A student’s eligibility to participate in any interscholastic or intrascholastic extracurricular activity may not be affected by any alleged recruiting violation until the final disposition of the allegation pursuant to 1006.20.

FHSAA Eligibility: The following includes a list of FHSAA district athletics eligibility criteria, including but not limited to:

- 2.0 GPA required for academic eligibility. A middle/junior high student must have a 2.0 GPA, or the equivalent of a 2.0 GPA based on a 4.0 scale, at the conclusion of each semester. A high school student must have a cumulative 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, at the conclusion of each semester to be academically eligible during the next semester (1006.15).
 - Athlete cannot turn nineteen (19) before September 1st of the current year.
 - Four-year eligibility limit.
 - Any other district or FHSAA policy that would remove or prevent a student from participating. Good Cause Participation
- A student who transfers schools and wishes to continue participating in the same sport at the new school may seek good cause authorization.
- The following includes a list of examples, such as, but not limited to, which may be considered for “good cause authority.” [Move to a new residence that make it necessary to attend a different school, Reassignment by school board or charter school board, Transfer of school within the first twenty (20) days] (i.e., acceptance into a previously applied for magnet program or career academy).

Attendance:

Florida Law 1003.26(1)(b) provides that if a student has at least five (5) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a calendar month or ten (10) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a ninety (90) calendar day period, the school must take action. The school may require documented medical and legal excuses for a pattern of non-attendance.

After three (3) unexcused absences the school shall contact the home (or work place) of the parent/guardian to determine the reason for the absence.

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Students must be present for the majority of the school day to participate in extracurricular activities unless otherwise approved by school administration. These include but are not limited to dances, special events, club activities and athletics.

FHSAA Attendance: 9.2.3 Attendance Within First 10 Days of Semester Required. A student must attend classes within the first 10 school days of a semester. Otherwise, the student will not be eligible until: (a) The student has made up all class work missed during his/her absence; and (b) The student has attended one school day for each school day missed. 9.2.4 Ineligible Student Cannot Change Schools to Become

Early Warning System: On-Track/Off-Track Systems The Early Warning System was designed to identify students who are at-risk for not graduating and need additional supports and interventions. Best practice would indicate that any On-Track/Off-Track system be utilized for this purpose as well as a motivational tool where students can earn additional privileges as opposed to a punitive and consequence-based system. Any loss of privileges for attendance relating to On-Track/Off-Track status must also match the Loss of Privileges policy as stated in the Attendance section above.

Student Athletes must stay on track. Athletic Director and/or Admin will have a meeting with any student athlete that is off-track. Being off-track may result in losing the privilege to play sports.

OSS: Students who are serving out-of-school suspension shall be excluded from all District or school sponsored activities taking place at any District School Board of Pasco County school or campus, at any school function or on any school sponsored transportation, including but not limited to extracurricular, co-curricular, student organizations, graduation ceremonies, dances, and other events. Suspended students may not be on the campus of the zoned school or any Pasco County school at any time for any reason, unless accompanied by a parent for a scheduled meeting with school staff.

• Pasco County Ordinance sec. 66-153(2)(b) provides that a minor who has been suspended or expelled from school may not be or remain in a public place, in any establishment, or within 1,000 feet of a school during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. during any school day.

7.2 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT 7.2.1 “Unsportsmanlike Conduct” Defined. A student who commits an act of malicious and hateful nature toward a contest official, an opponent or any other person attending an athletic contest shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, profanity, striking or threatening a contest official; physical contact with an

opponent which is beyond the normal scope of competition; spitting on a contest official or opponent; directing gender, racial or ethnic slurs toward a contest official, an opponent or any other person attending an athletic contest; or other such acts deemed to be unacceptable conduct according to the principal of the member school the student attends or this Association. 7.2.1.1 Penalty for Students. Students who are found to have committed unsportsmanlike conduct will be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition for a penalty period up to one or more calendar years. 7.2.1.2 Restoring Eligibility. The Executive Director, the Sectional Appeals Committee, or the Board of Directors on appeal, may restore the student's eligibility prior to the end of the penalty period, when in the discretion of the Executive Director, the student has been properly disciplined and the student signs a written statement of his/her intention to comply with these standards in the future.

Student Being Arrested and Charged (Involved in Extracurricular Activities) If a student is found to have been arrested on or off campus and/or charged with a felony or a delinquent act that would be a felony if that student were an adult, even if adjudication is withheld, then the student will be suspended from and deemed ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities. The student shall be suspended/deemed ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities, including athletics, for no less than ninety (90) school days from the date the school becomes aware of said violation. After the days of suspension from participation are completed, the principal or designee will review the suspension and make a decision concerning the eligibility of the student to resume participation in extracurricular activities. Results of this decision may not be appealed. The suspension may be lifted should the charges be dropped or a 'not guilty' be entered into the court records. (F.S. 1006.15)

Note: Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked by the principal for violations of the Student Code of Conduct including but not limited to actions that result in in-school-suspension, out of-school suspension and/or a recommendation for expulsion. Suspension or dismissal from extracurricular activities may be utilized as a disciplinary consequence in addition to or in lieu of other disciplinary actions. Note: A student's grade should not be lowered if they are excluded from extracurricular or co-curricular activities due to disciplinary reasons.

Disciplinary Reassignment: If the student has received four (4) separate out-of-school suspensions [OSS must be consistent with discipline matrix • For continuous disruptive behavior - defined as twelve (12) or more referrals].

Individual Sport Coaches will have attendance requirements and team rules for their practices and/or games.