

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

Saugus Public Schools ascribe to a “Zero Tolerance” philosophy with respect to the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol. A drug is defined as any chemical substance that alters the mood, perception, or consciousness, and is misused to the apparent injury of the individual or society. Student possession, use, sale, or transfer of drugs during the school day, at school-sponsored functions, or on school grounds is prohibited at all times. This applies to all events, regardless of location or time of the event.

Any student found to be in possession of or under the influence of a drug or alcohol, or in possession of drug paraphernalia is subject to disciplinary action:

1. Parent notification
2. A mandatory four day suspension from school and its associated activities
3. Referral to the Principal for a hearing to determine a possible expulsion from Saugus Public Schools.
4. All contraband to be turned over to the Saugus Police Department
5. Referral to the Saugus Police Department for possible prosecution

Student athletes are required to adhere to MIAA rules as may be amended from time to time

Drug and Alcohol Policy Regulations

Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Rule for Athletes

1. **Saugus High School defines, but not limited to, a violation of the Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco policy as use, possession, and in the presence of. Student-athletes are to refrain from being anywhere drugs/alcohol/tobacco may be in the vicinity. The Chemical Health Rule has been extended to be inclusive of the period from: the first allowable day of fall practice, through the end of the academic year or final athletic competition of the year, whichever is later. (Broadening this window from "in season" to the entire academic year reflects that chemical health of our students is not simply a seasonal concern.**

First Violation:

Penalty: When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, that student shall lose eligibility in accordance of the MIAA Policy. Students found in violation of "being in the presences of" will be suspended for two (2) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

Second and Subsequent Violations:

Penalty: When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a second or subsequent violations occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic events or twelve (12) consecutive weeks, whichever is greater, in which the student is a participant. If after the second or subsequent violations the student on his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program; the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum period of (66) weeks. The director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification. Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year, but a penalty period will extend into the next academic year.

- a. The night before a contest, athletes are to be home at 10:00 PM.
- b. Any situation that develops, either in school or in the community that adversely affects the athletic team, results in immediate expulsion of the athlete(s) involved from the team for that season. Membership on a Saugus High athletic team is a privilege not a right. Every athlete shall conduct himself/herself in such a manner as to create a positive reflection of the school.
- c. Any boy or girl reaching the age of 19 before September 1 cannot participate in school sports. Anyone being 19 after September 1 is allowed to compete in athletics for the remainder of the school year.
- d. If a pupil transfers from a high school outside of Saugus-to-Saugus High School, he/she will be eligible immediately to participate in sports, if the transfer is necessitated by a change of residence of his parent or guardian.
- e. A student may practice or play only once in any one-day. Any player who violates this rule shall be declared ineligible for participation in any high school sport for 90 school days from the date of his/her last participation in a high school sport.

For the purpose of this rule, “a day” shall include the time from 12:01 AM to 11:59 PM. A non-school team is deemed to be a team if it has two or more of the following: (1) coach, (2) schedule of games, (3) schedule of practices, (4) uniforms.

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