



# ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

High school officials, coaches of athletic teams, and sponsors of student activities believe that students who are selected for the privilege of membership on teams, squads, clubs, and other school organizations should conduct themselves as responsible representatives of the school. In order to assure this conduct, coaches and sponsors enforce a Code of Conduct. Furthermore, members of teams and organizations who fail to abide by the Code of Conduct are subject to disciplinary action. Members of the teams and organizations must always serve as models of high moral character and must demonstrate appropriate academic commitment, which is expected from all students. As recognized representatives of their school, members are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior during the season (activity) or out of season, in uniform or out of uniform, on campus or off campus.

## SECTION A- EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND EDUCATION

1. Pioneer Valley Christian Academy has as its primary goal the academic education of all students. Therefore, each coach or sponsor has the obligation to encourage students to perform within reasonable academic expectations.
2. Foul language is unacceptable. All student-athlete use of foul language will result in immediate removal from the game and possible suspension from further contests. The student may be required to write a letter of apology to opponents, officials, and to the team.
3. All student-athlete use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, or possession or use of non-prescribed controlled substances or paraphernalia for their use will not be tolerated, and violators will be subject to disciplinary action.
4. Tardy students who do not sign in by 11 :00 AM will not be eligible for that day's practice or competition.
5. Attendance to all practices and games is mandatory. There are no exceptions. The athletic director and the coach must clear the missing of any practice. Violators will be suspended from the next competition even if the absence is not the day before the game.
6. Rule enforcement will be consistent and immediate. School officials are not expected to police off-campus activities unless the violation is brought to public attention, is sufficiently severe to bring discredit upon the organization, and is clearly proven.
7. Each coach has the prerogative to establish additional rules pertaining to the activity supervised. These rules may include attendance at practices, contests, trips, etc. Rules set by the individual coach or sponsor must be in writing and approved by the athletic director and communicated to the student participants before the activity begins.
8. Students suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in activities or athletics while they are on suspension.
9. The administration will be notified of all violations of the Code of Conduct and the consequences of the infraction. In addition to the penalties imposed by the Code of Conduct, such infractions will also be subject to appropriate administration disciplinary policies.



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## SECTION B - PROCEDURES

A student may be suspended from participation in any activity according to the following procedures:

1. All reports of violations of the Code of Conduct are to be made to the athletic director.
2. The athletic director contacts the student, the parents, and the coach to inform them of the violation and the procedures to be followed. If requested, a meeting is scheduled within three (3) school days. This meeting includes the athletic director, the student, his or her parents, and the student's coach.
3. The athletic director and coach or sponsor will determine the course of action. The student and his/her parents will be notified of the decision immediately.
4. Any student, who violates the guidelines and/or does not satisfactorily complete the season or activity, may not be eligible for other extracurricular activities including, but not limited to, others sports, any awards, or special recognition given for participation in the activity. Furthermore, a student who holds an elected or appointed office or position (i.e., peer leader, team captain, student organization officer) may be required to relinquish said position upon violation of the guidelines.
5. Penalties will be applied in every area of activity in which a student participates. Any offense constitutes a violation in all activities covered under the guidelines.

## SECTION C - GUIDELINES FOR ACTION

Guidelines are for the school year and refer to infractions which occur in or out of season. Guidelines also apply during the entire calendar year when the student is actively engaged in a school-related activity on or off campus.

Consequences for infractions by athletes are determined by the following guidelines:

1st Offense - Suspension from at least one contest

2nd Offense - Suspension from at least one-half of the season

3rd Offense - Suspension from all athletics for the remainder of the school year

These suspensions may carry over from season to season during a single school year.



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## SECTION D - RIGHT OF APPEAL

A student and his/her parents may appeal a decision by writing a letter to the director of athletics with a copy to the coach within three (3) days following the meeting. This letter should request a hearing with the athletic director, coach, parent(s), and student.

A meeting will then be called to hear both sides of the case and action will take action that is considered to be in the best interest of the student and school.

I have read and understand the above policies.

Athlete's Signature, \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature, \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_