

HOMER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF BEHAVIOR FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Athletes who participate in athletic activities should recognize that they have an obligation to themselves, their co-participants and the school community to strive for excellence. It is hoped that participation in our program will enable the athletes to value their learning experiences, instill self-discipline and self-control and exercise mature behavior and judgment.

To encourage the development of the above, athletes are expected to adhere to the following general rules:

1. Athletes are expected to exemplify good citizenship in both school and the community at large. Athletes who do not, will be subject to removal from participation in athletics for a period of time, depending upon the severity of the offense. Any student who is suspended from school may not participate in athletics for those days that they are suspended. This includes in-school suspension.
2. All participants will adhere to the academic eligibility policy for athletes. Athletes will be informed of this policy. Eligibility to participate will be determined from grades in all subjects in which the athlete is enrolled.
3. Each student must arrive at school in time for the school day to begin. This especially applies to the school day immediately following evening contests. Extenuating circumstances can be brought to the attention of the coach or athletic director. Students who abuse this rule will be dealt with on an individual basis with the school administration.
4. Athletes will travel to and from contests via school approved transportation. Athletes may be released after the contest (a) directly to their parents or (b) with written permission from their parents approved by the building principal or the athletic director.
5. Athletes will be required to pay for lost equipment and for equipment damaged through misuse. Lack of payment or return of uniform will jeopardize his/her athletic status. Any athlete who is found guilty of stealing (money, sports equipment, clothing, etc.), or vandalism will be expelled from the activity and prosecuted if warranted.
6. Individual coaches may establish rules pertaining to their particular sport. Athletes will be informed of these rules in writing and are required to abide by them. Athletes may be suspended from participation for violation of these rules. Any such rules will be approved by the A.D.
7. A student is considered a team member when they are included on a squad list, have a physical exam and have participated in an organized team practice. No athlete will quit a team without first talking with his/her coach and explaining the reason for leaving the team. Any athlete who violates this requirement will be unable to participate or try out for another team until he/she talks with the coach.
8. All athletes involved in athletic programs shall not use or possess tobacco in any form, alcohol or other intoxicants, illegal drugs, or performance-enhancing drugs. Additionally, the abuse or distribution of prescription drugs is also prohibited. Violations of this rule will be dealt with according to the extra curricular code of behavior for students located in the student handbook.

Interscholastic Sports Career – This includes all interscholastic sports in grades 7 – 12. A student's violation record shall start clean when they enter the 7th and 9th grade years.

Risk of Injury - Participation in athletic activities creates risk of injury. Injuries can range from minor to very serious, including paralysis or even death. Contact sports normally carry the highest risk of serious injury. Homer Central School is committed to providing facilities, equipment and coaching/supervision that will make this participation as injury-free as possible.

Transportation to Practices: Many of our athletic activities do not have practice facilities at the high school. Athletes have to travel to another school or community site to practice. The school does not transport athletes to all practices. It is the athlete and/or parents' responsibility to get the student to his/her practice. This may involve the athlete walking, running, driving, or riding with another student, coach or a parent. Parents must be aware of how this transportation is taking place.