

GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS:

Interscholastic athletics are an integral part of a good school program. It is through our athletic teams that our towns, school and citizens are seen by others. Therefore, our athletes must present themselves as real ambassadors of Genesee Valley Central School, who hold high principles of sportsmanship, teamwork, sacrifice, citizenship and loyalty.

PHILOSOPHY OF COACHING:

We, as educators of young men and women at Genesee Valley Central School, believe that athletics provide a primary means through which habits, attitudes and ideals essential to ethical competition are devised. Athletics, when properly utilized, serve as a potential educational media through which the optimum growth – the physical, mental, emotional, social and moral development of the participants -- may be fostered. We believe that every boy or girl should be in a sport and there should be a sport for every boy or girl.

MODIFIED: No student who abides by the terms and conditions of this Code of Conduct will be cut from a modified sports team.

VALUES OF INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS:

The most desirable goal in all of education is the enrichment of life. Athletics contribute greatly to this goal in the following ways:

1. Develops physical fitness and alertness
2. Develops sportsmanship
3. Helps many students choose a vocation of teacher, coach or related field
4. Keeps many students in school who otherwise may not graduate
5. Develops teamwork which is so necessary in our society today
6. Allows for our advanced physical education students to excel – one who competes hard will many times succeed in life
7. Develops good health and safety habits
8. Develops skills and courage
9. Teaches how to take instruction and orders, as well as gives them an opportunity to take part in the planning and leadership of athletics

PRACTICE AND ATTENDANCE:

Team members are required to attend all practice sessions and games unless excused by the coach.

Each team member must meet the required number of practices required by the NYSPHSAA handbook for the specific sport being played.

In order to participate in a game, practice or other activity, students must be in attendance at school for the entire day. Students who miss all or a part of the school day for an acceptable reason (medical appointment, legal appointment, funeral, etc.) may participate in a game, practice or activity with the approval of the principal. The student is responsible for bringing an excuse from the “appointment” stating that is where they have been. If an excuse is not brought to the coach, athletic director, or principal, the student will not be able to practice or play that day.

Students who do not participate in their regular Physical education class during the day will not be allowed to participate in the next practice or a game unless they have an acceptable excuse.

HEALTH EXAMINATION:

Any student who may engage in inter-school competition shall receive an athletic health examination and may not practice or participate without the approval of the school health officer. It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill this requirement.

INJURIES:

All injuries, regardless of how minor, must be reported immediately to the coach so that required procedures will be followed. DO NOT wait until after practice, after the contest or the next day. Genesee Valley Central School has formed a concussion management team that consists of the Athletic Director, a Principal, two coaches, and a nurse. A student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion will have to meet certain criteria to be able to be reinstated to playing status.

INSURANCE:

Any claims must be submitted to the student’s insurance company first. If the student does not have insurance or if the insurance does not cover all the expenses, a claim should be filed with the school nurse. The forms and instructions should be obtained from the school nurse no later than the next school day after the student reports the injury to the coach.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR:

Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated at any time and will result in disciplinary action which may include removal from the game, suspension from the team or suspension from school. Major or repeated violations will be reported to the District Athletic Director and, if the violation is repeated, then to the building principal. At that point, the building principal will meet with the coach involved, the athletic director, and the athlete and

his/her parents to review the violation. After completion of the review, the building principal, in consultation with the coach and athletic director, will decide what disciplinary action will be taken and the Athletic Director will notify the parents of the athlete. For major violations within a game/practice setting, where expulsion from game (i.e. red carded) has occurred, the school Code of Conduct could also be in effect. For example, fighting during a game could result in an out of school suspension for this infraction based on the discretion of Administration, but will result in ineligibility from participation for a length determined by the coach.

EQUIPMENT:

The athlete is responsible for the care of all equipment issued to him/her during the season. Issued equipment is not personal clothing and is to be worn only when representing the team. Each piece of equipment issued must be returned at the end of the season in good condition. Any student who does not turn in all equipment at end of season, he/she will not be able to start the next season until having done so. Any item not returned must be paid for before the athlete will be permitted to participate in another sport. The parents will be notified and billed for the item if this occurs.

TRIP REGULATIONS:

All students riding on buses are to adhere to the accepted rules and regulations pertaining to school bus safety. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of the players on the bus. All students going on a trip as a member of a team must ride to and from the event on the assigned bus in order to participate in the activity unless previously excused by the building principal and the coach. If the parents are at the game or event, they may secure the coach's permission to bring the student home with them. This request will be in writing. If a student athlete does not abide by these trip regulations (i.e. go home from an away trip without proper permission), a two day out of school suspension will occur. The AD will be notified and the coach and AD will determine an appropriate response.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND ILLEGAL DRUGS:

Athletes will not have in their possession, be associated with, or use tobacco, alcohol, or other chemicals in any way including look-a-like drugs and all those outlined in the Genesee Valley Central School Drug and Alcohol Policy. The term "possession and association" implies the legal definition according to the New York State ABC law, whereas "the intent to consume" alcohol or other chemicals may be reasonably inferred by the circumstances. Any charge of violation of this regulation, when made by school staff, board of education members, police officers or any eyewitness to the event, will be considered. The athletic director will investigate alleged violations and report his/her findings to the building principal and then follow the offense chart listed below for appropriate action. The penalties for violation of this section of the Athletic Code are as follows:

FIRST OFFENSE: The athlete will be suspended for **50%** of the regularly scheduled athletic contests, rounded up to the next higher number. A suspension will include regular season, playoff, sectional, and state tournament games. The student will continue to practice with the team and will sit on the bench in street clothes during games. In the event that there are less than **50%** of the scheduled games left in the season, the suspension will carry over into the next athletic season in which the athlete participates

SECOND OFFENSE: The athlete will be suspended for one calendar year from participating on athletic teams. At the end of 6 months of suspension, assuming mandatory counseling has been attended, a committee consisting of at least 1 coach, the building principal, and the athletic director will review the situation. Reinstatement could be considered at this point if deemed appropriate by committee.

THIRD OFFENSE: (Within 1 calendar year of the end of the second offense suspension) The athlete will be permanently suspended from participation on athletic teams for the remainder of his/her schooling at Genesee Valley Central School. The school will make every attempt to assist students who wish to receive counseling, at parent expense, for alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drug habits but such counseling will not reduce the penalty imposed.

CONDUCT OUT OF SCHOOL:

Athletes found guilty of committing a serious misconduct while out of actual school jurisdiction will be referred to the Athletic Committee (Athletic Director, Principal and one other coach) who will determine any disciplinary action to be taken. All athletic events will be subject to the same DASA (Dignity for All Students Act) that is in effect during school hours. This is true for athletes, coaches, fans, and volunteers in the athletic program.

ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIOR INELIGIBILITY

The academic and behavior ineligibility will adhere to the student handbook. The modified sports will follow middle school policies and JV/Varsity sports will follow the high school policies. If an 8th grader is playing a JV/Varsity sport, then he/she follows the high school policy. Any athletes who are competing on a combined team with another school will adhere to the GVCS Athletic Code of Conduct.

Implementation

A list of students in grades 5-12 with grade/s below 65 will be generated every week, on Monday morning at 9 a.m. They will remain on this list until the next report is generated. Other than the first two weeks of a quarter, with one subject, the advisor/coach will implement a plan of not less than 20 minutes per practice to help the student succeed in their academic class. Any student failing two classes will be considered Ineligible to compete/perform until passing. Parents will be notified if their child is failing one or more classes.

INELIGIBILITY POLICY

Practice:

- ✓ Failing 1 class – Student has to sit out 20 minutes of practice and bring homework to work on
- ✓ Failing 2 classes – Student has to sit out half of practice and bring homework to work on
- ✓ Failing 3 classes – Student cannot practice.

Games:

- ✓ Failing 1 class – Student can still play in a game
- ✓ Failing 2 classes – Student cannot play in a game, but can still travel to the game on the bus
- ✓ Failing 3 or more classes – Student cannot play

INELIGIBILITY

- If ineligible, students may only attend competitions/productions in street clothes as a spectator. They may however, ride school transportation with the team and remain with the team for the duration of home and away games and support their teammates and coaches.
- This list will be updated weekly and distributed to coaches.
- The student will not participate in any extra-curricular performances or competitions, but may continue to practice. Coaches and advisors will implement a plan of not less than ½ of each practice to help the student succeed in their academic class.
- If students feel that their grades are not accurate or have not been updated regularly, they should first talk with their teacher, then the guidance office, and finally, the Principal.

NOTE: This list is only as good as the grades that are entered into Power Grade. Teachers must enter at least 1 grade per week for this to be effective (e.g. participation grade). Parent access to PowerSchool is available through Chris Gyr at 585-268-7900 extension 1120.

UNPAID OBLIGATION INELIGIBILITY:

Students with unpaid obligations from the previous school year will be denied eligibility for extra-curricular activities into the next school year until obligations are met.