



John Young Middle School
Jaguar
CODE

Athletic Code of Conduct
Approved by the Board of School Trustees July 8, 2020

& Drug Testing for Athletes
Board of School Trustees Policy 5145



School City of Mishawaka CODE OF CONDUCT
(ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION) CAVEMAN/JAGUAR CODE
(Amended May 2020 - Effective July 2020)

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

Participation in athletics is a privilege not a right. Students who participate assume greater responsibility and make certain sacrifices. All participating students must conduct themselves in a manner that appropriately represents the students, the families, the activities, the teams, the schools and the Mishawaka community.

The following rules of conduct shall apply to all students of John Young Middle School who are participants in interscholastic athletics or work as student managers.

Student athletes will not:

- A. Consume or possess alcoholic beverages.
- B. Use or possess tobacco in any form (cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco or snuff, vape, etc.)
- C. Use, possess, or distribute controlled substances (marijuana, cocaine, stimulants, intoxicants, depressants, narcotics, hallucinogens) or substances “made to look like” those listed above, unless prescribed by a physician.
- D. Be convicted of a felonious criminal offense.
- E. Engage in illegal activities or inappropriate behavior that dishonor or discredit the school or community. The school administration will decide questions as to whether a behavior is inappropriate. IHSAA By-Law C-8-1 shall serve as a guideline. It states: Contestants’ conduct in and out of school, shall be such as
 - (1) not to reflect discredit upon their school or Association, or
 - (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the school.
- F. Engage in hazing or harassment.
- G. Engage in habitual misconduct in school.

SECTION 2 - PROCEDURES

All violations accrued under the previous code, carry over with punishments being served as originally required.

Process: An offender meets with John Young Administration, having an opportunity to present the facts from his/her viewpoint. After the investigative phase is complete, the Administration will read the code and apply consequences, as written, for any given infraction.

Appeal: All appeals must be presented in writing to the Administration within 5 days of the notification to the parents of the offense and the penalty. All appeals will be heard by a yearly standing committee appointed by the Central Office Designee of School City of Mishawaka.

NOTE TO ATHLETES: THE JAGUAR CODE IS IN EFFECT 365 DAYS PER YEAR FOR ALL YEARS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY.

SECTION 3 – PENALTIES

Violations of the Jaguar Code will result in the imposition of penalties as follows:

TOBACCO or ALCOHOL

Tobacco Products, Snuff, Chew, Vape etc.

Possession, Consumption or Sale

Tobacco will be placed at a Level 1 offense.

Alcohol will be placed at a Level 2 offense.

Providing alcohol to others freely or for pay will automatically be placed on the fourth level.

ILLEGAL DRUGS

(and controlled substances including use of another’s prescriptions)

Possession, Consumption or Sale

Possession or consumption of illegal drugs will be placed at a Level 3 offense.

Providing prescription or illegal drugs to others will automatically be placed on the fourth level.

ILLEGAL or INAPPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES

Inappropriate behaviors bring dishonor or discredit upon the school and the community. Examples of inappropriate behavior include but are not limited to tee-peeing, curfew violations, traffic violations, sexting, etc.

Level of violation to be determined by administrator after investigation of offense.

ATHLETIC POLICY REGARDING STUDENT HAZING and HARASSMENT

See Board of School Trustee Policy 5516

Hazing and harassment are behaviors, by one person towards another, which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. These behaviors include harassment or bullying done through social media or electronic devices. Sexual hazing or harassment is a form of sexual discrimination under both Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972. It is the policy of The Mishawaka Athletic Department to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sexual hazing and harassment. Athletes shall not engage in behavior that in even the broadest sense, might be considered “hazing”.

HAZING / BULLYING / INTIMIDATION / & HARASSMENT

(In school or out - anytime)

Level of violation to be determined by administrator after investigation of offense.

ENFORCEMENT OF VIOLATIONS

- Level 1:
 - Coach's/Administrator's discretion up to 10% of season.
 - Practice at coach's discretion.
- Level 2:
 - 25% of Season
 - Practice at coach's discretion.
- Level 3:
 - 50% of Season
 - Practice at coach's discretion
- Level 4:
 - 365 Days
 - Loss of awards
- Level 5:
 - Life (End of E.C. Career)
 - Loss of Awards
 - No Practice

Offenders offered and choosing to participate in a restorative justice program will reduce their penalty by one level. The offender may only go through restorative justice one time in order to receive a lesser penalty.

Self-report will reduce the penalty by one level. See Self-Reporting definition.

SCHOOL CONDUCT

Habitual violation of school rules as listed in the John Young Middle School Student Agenda and School City of Mishawaka Rules of Student Conduct will result in the following school penalty:

Any suspension from school (in or out) required mandatory meeting with coach to discuss the behavior.

NOTE: Subsequent suspensions from school may result in additional athletic sanction, particularly for serious habitual misconduct. Such additional sanctions may include suspension from contests, practices and loss of awards.

IN SUCH CASES WHERE STUDENTS ARE SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL (OSS), THEY MAY NOT PARTICIPATE AND CANNOT ATTEND EVENTS (WHICH INCLUDES PRACTICE). IN CASES WHERE STUDENTS ARE ASSIGNED IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS), STUDENTS MAY PARTICIPATE AND ATTEND EVENTS AT THE DISCRETION OF THEIR COACH, UNLESS DIRECTED OTHERWISE BY THE JOHN YOUNG ADMINISTRATION.

ATTENDANCE

Students must attend school all day in order to be eligible for participation in an extracurricular activity after school. Excused absences due to appointments (i.e. doctor, dental, etc), family emergencies and approved field trips or school activities constitute attending school. Any exceptions must be granted by the principal or designee. An athlete who misses 5 consecutive days of school or athletic participation due to illness or injury must obtain written permission from a physician and present this to the Athletic Director or coach before they may again become eligible for participation. Additional practices are required by the IHSAA before regaining eligibility after an extended absence due to illness or injury.

SECOND/THIRD VIOLATION OF ATHLETIC CODE

In the event that a student-athlete violates the Athletic Code for a second time while he/she is a student at John Young Middle School, in the same category, that second offense shall apply. (Likewise third offense and so on.) In the event the student athlete's code violation is in a different category than the first (or second), the Administration shall weigh the circumstances, and evaluate the case in a manner consistent with the seriousness of the two offenses. He/She will then render a punishment commensurate with those circumstances.

SECTION 4 - ENROLLMENT AND TRANSFERS

Any student entering John Young Middle School who is under an active athletic suspension from another school must apply for athletic eligibility through the standing the standing Appeals Committee.

SECTION 5 - THE APPEALS PROCESS

Following notification that a penalty will be imposed for a violation of the Jaguar Code, the student or their parents may request a hearing before the Appeal Board. The Appeal Board may consider the guilt or innocence of the student with regard to their involvement in the violation. The Appeal Board should not consider changes in the assigned penalties unless the evidence (facts) or extenuating circumstances require otherwise.

Requests for hearings must be made in writing to the Principal within five (5) days of notification of suspension.

Be it understood that this Code of conduct is in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, twelve (12) months a year. Furthermore, violations of the Jaguar code are cumulative from year to year throughout the students' middle school or high school career.

Appeal Process:

An Appeal Board will be designated at the beginning of each academic year. The Board will consist of five (5) standing members and two (2) alternates. The alternates will be used in cases of absence or conflict of interest on the part of a standing member. The Board will be comprised of certified employees and administrators of School City of Mishawaka appointed by the Superintendent or his designee.

The Appeal Board retains the right to impose a stiffer penalty if it is felt that the original disposition was in error.

SECTION 6 - JAGUAR CODE PARAMETERS, PROTOCOL AND FURTHER DEFINITION

- Never will a penalty be “rounded up” to a higher number than the actual mathematical computation.
- Suspensions are to begin **immediately** subsequent to the offense.
- Any suspension in which the entire percentage cannot be fulfilled in that sport season shall be continued into the athlete’s **next sport season**.
- If a code or apparent code violation occurs with reasonable proof, and the individual refuses to cooperate with the investigation by school authorities, he/she may be suspended from the sport until cooperation is obtained or until the investigation is complete, at which time further penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the school Administration.
- A season is defined as that next season in which the athlete participates.
- A student may not participate (except practice if allowed by the code) during the appeals process. He/she has already been judged to have violated the code and therefore the penalty begins immediately upon his/her hearing with the school Administration.
- Appeals will be handled expeditiously.
- For any behavior that is not described in the John Young Middle School Student Agenda or the School City of Mishawaka Rules of Student Conduct, the John Young Middle School Administration reserves the right to consider all relevant information, review a student’s prior conduct, and administer a penalty commensurate with the offense.
- Self-reporting is defined as the athlete or parent of the athlete notifying a Coach, or School Administrator on the next school day after the infraction. If over the summer, the student **has 72 hours in which to reach a Coach, Athletic Coordinator, or School Administrator**. An athlete may self-report only one time (on the first offense of their career) in order to receive a lesser penalty.
- Because we adhere strongly to the policy that a student-athlete is a representative of his school and community, all athletes are responsible to hold themselves to this code and to high standards of behavior, 365 days per year, while attending John Young Middle School. This code comes into effect when a student officially begins practice as a middle school student and continues until the end of the student’s 8th grade year. The policy has no jurisdiction over non-athletes or over athletes who renounce their eligibility to compete.
- Violations from middle school shall not be carried over to high school (**with the possible exception of certain felonies**). *However, the middle school Administration may request that penalties due to violations be carried into the high school for reasons pertinent to that particular case.*

- For purposes of computing penalties, the “season” shall consist of all the regular season games and tournaments plus the first post-season Big 11 Tournament game.
- The powers vested in the Appeals Committee and the process of Appeal is defined under the section titled, **The Appeals Process**.

SECTION 7 - PARENT (FAN) DECORUM

Rule 3, Article C-3-6, Page 15, IHSAA By-Laws

“The member school’s responsibility for the conduct of its athletic program includes responsibility for the actions of its staff members, its participants, and any other individual or organization actively engaged in activities promoting the athletic interests of the member school. A member school’s responsibility of instituting full and complete team and crowd control measures at all contests in which such member school participates, assuring that the participants, staff and boosters of the member school conduct themselves at all times in a proper and sportsmanlike manner, and assuring full compliance by participants, staff and boosters of the member school of all association rules, including those involving eligibility and undue influence.”

School City of Mishawaka will not condone or permit inappropriate parental/fan behavior directed toward Mishawaka staff or players, the opposing school and all its representatives or the game officials. Such behavior by parents/fans can cause the school to suffer severe penalties from various sanctioning/governing bodies. Inappropriate behavior is embarrassing to the school and reflects poorly on our values as a community.

Parents/fans need to understand certain facets of the structure of middle school athletics and the relationships involved.

Notably...

1. There is no inherent right to participate. Coaches will only retain those players whose skills and attitudes meet the needs of the program, as defined by the coach.
2. Likewise, the coach alone is responsible for deciding who plays and how much.
3. By allowing one’s child or children to be involved in extra-curricular activities, the parent is, in effect, turning the child over to that coach for that time period. The coach, as a professional within the best interests of all extra-curricular participants in their charge, will instruct the child and keep the child safe within normally accepted standards.
4. It is inappropriate for a parent/fan to confront a coach after a practice or event. Parents/fans should wait until the next day and schedule a meeting with the coach. This will help avoid conflict at a potentially emotional time. If a parent/fan cannot reach satisfactory resolve from the coach, he/she may then contact the Administration at John Young.
5. Making derogatory comments about the officials, coaches, players of either team or other parents and fans at an athletic event is **never** acceptable.

6. Swearing in public at athletic events is **never** acceptable.
7. Coming to an athletic event intoxicated is **never** acceptable.
8. Being offensive or exhibiting other unseemly behavior is **never** acceptable.

Parents who violate any of the above standards of decorum risk sanctions by the School City of Mishawaka including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. A warning, verbal or written.
- B. Removal from the contest or premises.
- C. Banishment from attendance at athletic contests for a set period of time or even permanently.
- D. The severing of further contact with team personnel.
- E. Civil or legal action.

We commend those parents/fans who have always exhibited exemplary behavior and have served as positive role models for our student-athletes.

STUDENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY 5145

School City of Mishawaka recognizes that the use of alcohol and illegal drugs presents a threat to safety, health, and welfare of both our employees and our students. Because of the risks associated with such use, School City of Mishawaka conducts a mandatory random testing program for drugs and alcohol. The purpose of the program is as follows: (1) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs and alcohol, (2) to identify as soon as possible, those students who are using illegal drugs and alcohol and to inform their parents immediately, (3) to encourage students who use illegal drugs and alcohol to participate in treatment programs, (4) to protect the health, safety, and welfare of students and employees, and (5) to provide a safe and healthy environment for students and employees.

School City of Mishawaka's Student Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy applies to all School City of Mishawaka students in grades 7-12 who:

- A. participate in interscholastic athletics; or
- B. participate in extracurricular activities as listed in the school's handbook.

These students will be part of a pool of students from which students will be randomly selected for testing. School City of Mishawaka also reserves the right to test any student for reasonable suspicion of drugs or alcohol usage.

No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs or alcohol. Penalties for a positive test, dependent upon the grade of the student, will be as specified for drug and alcohol use in the Mishawaka High School Interscholastic Athletics and Extracurricular Codes or the John Young Middle School extracurricular Code. The results of such tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding results of these tests will not be disclosed to

criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which School City of Mishawaka shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parents or other legal guardian will be notified upon receipt of such legal notice.

If a student's test results indicate the presence of illegal drugs or alcohol (*positive test*), the following will occur:

- A. A meeting will be scheduled with the principal, the student, and the custodial parent or legal guardian to explain the penalties for a positive test. The student will have the option, at his/her expense to have the original sample retested.
- B. If the original sample is retested and the results of the second test are negative, the student's money will be refunded, and no further action will be taken. If the second test is also positive, a custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified, and a meeting will be scheduled with the principal, the student, and the custodial parent or legal guardian.

John Young Middle School Code of Conduct

School City of Mishawaka

Jaguar Code

SIGNATURE FORM

- A. I/We acknowledge that the participant is assuming a certain risk of being injured; that even with the best coaching, use of the most advanced protective equipment and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility in organized athletics. On rare occasions, these injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or even death.
- B. We, as parents, agree to abide by and support the rules established by the coaches, the IHSAA/Big 11 Conferences, and John Young Middle School.
- C. Parent(s) - Guardian(s) and participants are encouraged and expected to read and become familiar with those items of information included in the Jaguar Code. A signature at the bottom of this form indicates the following:
 1. Permission for my son/daughter to participate in any extra curricular except _____.
 2. An awareness of the school's policies as noted in the School City Rules of Student Conduct, School City of Mishawaka Handbook for Students and Parents, John Young Parent/Student Handbook, John Young Student Agenda, and the Jaguar Code, at Coaches meetings and in any and all materials distributed by any member of the school faculty relative to:

a. Injuries	e. Training and Conduct Rules
b. Expenses	f. Disciplinary Codes
c. Insurance	g. Awards
d. Academics	h. Other Handbook Item

Signed _____ /_____/_____
 Parent/Guardian Mo Day Yr

(On behalf of the family including biological, custodial, and step parents)

Student Application and Parent/Guardian Authorization for Athletic Participation

The undersigned certify they have read the Jaguar Code and understand the eligibility and conduct guidelines contained therein for student and parent. The student hereby makes application for the privilege to participate in the interscholastic programs sponsored by School City of Mishawaka and the Big 11 Conference. It is understood that in order to be eligible to participate the student must comply with all requirements of the School City Rules of Student Conduct, School City of Mishawaka Handbook for Students and Parents, John Young Parent/Student Athletic Handbook, John Young Student Agenda, and the Jaguar Code.

The undersigned student and parent or guardian further consent to the release by law enforcement and/or juvenile court authorities to school officials of records and other information indicating use or possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs or other activity involving the courts and police by the student and recognize that such records and information may be considered by school officials in determining a student's eligibility to participate in the athletic program.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Signed _____ /_____/_____
 Parent/Guardian Mo Day Yr

Signed _____ /_____/_____
 Student Mo Day Yr

STUDENT'S PRINTED NAME _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

Student-athletes may not participate in practices, contests or activities until this form is signed and on file with the school athletic office/function sponsor. The school will only pursue the acquisition of legal records in the event that the student is involved in a code violation, or there is reasonable suspicion to warrant an investigation. This is not for purposes of random checks without warranted suspicion.



School City of Mishawaka Drug Testing Policy Authorization and Consent Form

I understand that my performance as a participant and the reputation of my school are dependent, in part, on my conduct as an individual. I hereby agree to accept and abide by the standards, rules, and regulations set forth by School City of Mishawaka and the sponsors for the activity in which I participate.

In order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the students and employees of the School City of Mishawaka, I hereby authorize and consent to the School City of Mishawaka conducting a test on an oral fluid specimen, which I provide to test for drugs and alcohol. I also authorize the release of information concerning the results of such a test to the School City of Mishawaka and to the parents and/or guardians of the student.

This shall be deemed a consent pursuant to the Family Education Right to Privacy Act for the release of above information to the parties named above.

Signed _____
Student

____ / ____ / ____
Mo Day Yr

Signed _____
Parent/Guardian

____ / ____ / ____
Mo Day Yr

School City of Mishawaka
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Mishawaka, IN 46544



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