

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR GOVERNING PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES AT DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

Participation in the Darien High School extra-curricular and athletic program is both an honor and a privilege and, as such, carries a responsibility for the student to follow rules and regulations including the following:

I. Participation Rules:

In order to participate in any extracurricular activity at Darien High School, students must fulfill the required coursework offered by the Darien School District before the period of participation begins. A parent is required to accompany the student to the educational session designed to:

1. expose students and families to the risks associated with substance abuse,
2. provide a forum for open dialogue between students and their parents around the use of substances
3. offer tools to students and families to combat the pressures to use substances.

For all students at Darien High School, any use, or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, or use of any form of tobacco/nicotine, including vaping, at any time during the period of participation in an extra-curricular activity or athletic team, in school or at a school sponsored event, will result in appropriate disciplinary action.

The appropriate disciplinary action under these rules is **separate** from any other discipline that will be otherwise imposed in school. Disciplinary action under these rules will be determined by consideration of all the facts and circumstances of a particular situation, but shall include as a minimum the following penalties:

For Offenses Involving Drugs, Alcohol, Vaping and Tobacco Products:

1. ***First*** offense for any extra-curricular activity or athletic season:

The student will be suspended from membership and participation in all activities related to that extra-curricular or athletic team (including team practice) for fourteen (14) calendar days. The student will also be required to meet with a drug and alcohol counselor prior to re-entry into the activity or team from which he/she was suspended.

2. ***Second*** offense for any extra-curricular activity or athletic season:

For Athletics:

- i. If the second offense occurred within the same season as the first offense: The student is suspended for the rest of the season.

ii. If the second offense occurs in a different season than the first offense: The student will be suspended from participation (including practice) for 28 calendar days.

For Extra-Curricular Activities:

The student is suspended from all extracurricular activities for 28 days.

The student will also be required to meet with a drug and alcohol counselor on a weekly basis during the 28 day suspension.

3. ***Third*** offense for any extra-curricular activity or athletic season:

The student is suspended from all extra-curricular and athletic participation for the remainder of the school year.

II. Enforcement Procedures:

- A. Darien High School students and their parents shall sign off in Aspen acknowledging acceptance of these rules as established in the Student Handbook before participation in any extra-curricular or athletic activity. Parents will be notified if the rules regarding eligibility and participation have been violated and of the disciplinary action taken.
- B. All DHS students will be held responsible for meeting these standards in order to participate. If a student uses or possesses drugs, alcohol and /or tobacco products or nicotine in school or at a school sponsored event and the student is not participating in an extracurricular activity at the time of the offense, the misconduct will result in a "strike" even if he/she is not active at the time of the violation.
- C. The school Administration is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the expectations regarding extra-curricular activities at DHS and their determination under these rules shall be final.
- D. The Director of Athletics is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the expectations regarding athletic activities at DHS and his/her determination under these rules shall be final.
- E. Due to the interdependence of athletic and other extra-curricular violations, collaboration in decision- making and information-sharing will take place between the Athletic Director and the rest of the school administration.
- F. Violation of these expectations may result in longer suspensions, loss of leadership positions, and ineligibility for awards from the extra-curricular activity or athletic team, as determined by the advisor, coach, and/or organizational guidelines.