

**TERRELL COUNTY  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL**

**SANDERSON SCHOOLS**

**Athletic  
CODE OF CONDUCT  
2022-2023**



**HOME OF THE EAGLES**

Board Approved – July 12, 2022

## **Table of Contents**

• Letter to Parents.....	3 •
Extracurricular Activities.....	4 •
Jurisdictions.....	4 •
Concerns.....	5 •
UIL and Athletic Eligibility.....	5
• Conduct Expectations.....	6 •
School-Related Misconduct.....	8 •
Nonschool-Related Misconduct .....	8 •
Procedures.....	10 •
Awards and Honors.....	10 •
Insurance for Extracurricular Activities.....	11 •
Acknowledgement Statement.....	11 •
Acknowledgement Signature Page.....	12



Dear Parent:

Your son/daughter has expressed a desire to participate in the Terrell County Independent School District Extracurricular Program. It is the belief of the school administration and the staff that being involved in various extracurricular activities can help develop self discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, and respect. We believe that extracurricular activities instill the desire to succeed, attain personal goals that ensure maximum team effort, and build strength of body and strength of character.

It is our belief that strength of character is the foundation upon which to build the well developed, productive individual. Athletes and competitors, as people in any specialized field, have a unique role to play. They are constantly being monitored by their peers, teachers, and the community. Being under this scrutiny, extracurricular participants must have a strong character and remain constantly aware of the role they have assumed. They must be certain they present to their peers, teachers, and community the respect, sincerity and honesty expected of young ladies or gentlemen.

We believe very strongly that our students should possess these qualities. Because of this belief, we have established the following set of guidelines to be followed by all extracurricular participants. This handbook serves as a guide, but should not be considered all-inclusive. Any other actions deemed inappropriate will be handled accordingly.

Sincerely,

James Shelton, Athletic Director  
Terrell County ISD  
Sanderson Schools

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, special interest clubs, musical or dramatic productions/performances, student government and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of, or as a representative of Terrell County Independent School District. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district and sponsored by the district, including the following:

• Golf	• Football
• Basketball	• Track and Field
• Cheerleading	• Tennis
• Cross Country	

The term does not include academic clubs such as National Honor Society, nor does it include student government. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provisions of this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

### JURISDICTIONS

Student participation in extracurricular activities is highly encouraged. Terrell County ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students, the school district, and the Sanderson community. When performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities, and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student within the community or public in any setting as Terrell County ISD students, exemplary behavior is expected and must reflect the finest attributes of the total Terrell County ISD student body at all times and places.

Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Terrell County ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* extends beyond the Terrell County ISD Student Code of Conduct, not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This

*Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will be enforced with all students grades 6-12 participating in extracurricular activities:

- Regardless of whether school is in session
- Regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school related event
- Regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs
- Regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season
- Regardless of where or when the conduct occurs

**It is possible that a student who violates the Terrell County ISD Student Code of Conduct will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach/sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach/sponsor without having violated the Terrell County ISD Student Code of Conduct.**

### **CONCERNS**

If at any time during the school year parents/guardian have concerns or questions, please contact your child's immediate coach first. If further inquiry is necessary, please contact the following people in the order listed:

- A. Sport Head Coach
- B. Athletic Director
- C. Campus Behavior Coordinator
- D. Superintendent

### **UIL AND ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY**

For a student to participate in a practice, a game, or event that occurs on a school day, that student must be present on the same day. If the activity is an all-day event, the student must have been present the previous day. The only exceptions to be made will be given to the student who secures prior permission from the administration for that absence and for a student who submits a doctor's excuse for the absence. If this permission is granted or a doctor's note is provided, the student will be considered eligible for a practice, game, or performance

## CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

**The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor:**

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however, students may not quit one sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quits is still active. Quitting any sport during a season can result in a suspension of all sports for a calendar year.
  - Students that are in multi-sports or multi-events during a season have committed to splitting their time equally. No sport has a preference over another. If a student does not go to practice for one sport/event on a particular day, they will not participate in either sport/event during that day.
  - During the spring season, students are allowed to be in three sports as long as long as practices are attended. However, a student-athlete will not be allowed to miss three days of school because of athletic activities. The student-athlete will need to pick which two activities they will be attending per week.
- In-season begins the day equipment is issued to an athlete and continues until all equipment is turned in. All TCISD equipment must be turned in at the completion of the season. Failure to do so will result in the athlete being required to compensate TCISD for the replacement cost of the equipment.
- Students must meet the grade standards of TCISD. At the present, he/she must be passing all subjects with a **72 average** at the end of the six weeks grading period. Those that are having trouble meeting these standards must attend tutorials until the teacher notifies the head coach or the athletic director that the athlete is passing. Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Terrell County ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Praise your opponents and play beyond your ability.
  - Students should arrive at practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared.
  - Students who cannot be present for practice (including workouts), meetings, or events should call the coach or sponsor as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made-up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent more than two times per sport/event/season.
    - Excused practice make-ups will be specific to the sport/event.

- Consistent missed practices will result in game time loss, this includes missed practices for tutorials.
  - Skipping Intentionally—Knowledge of intentional missed practice will result in disciplinary action by the head coach/sponsor and/or Athletic Director/UIIL Coordinator. (Ex. extra running, game suspension, dismissal from team, etc.).
- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate, but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meeting or event are **REQUIRED** to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.
- Students are **REQUIRED** to show respect at all times to coaches, sponsors, teachers, and each other. This includes interaction on social media during and outside of school.
- Students should refrain from wearing hair styles or hair colors that draw attention to themselves. Hair colors must **NOT** extend beyond natural tones. Male students shall have their hair clean-cut and should not extend below the earlobes. Sideburns shall not extend below the lobes of the ear. Facial hair will **NOT** be permitted.
- Students are expected to dress accordingly for all out-of-town competitions.
  - When participating in academic UIL competitions, students must dress in their “Sunday best.”
  - When traveling for cross country, tennis or track, the students must wear the school issued uniform. Shirts not representing Sanderson Schools will **NOT** be allowed.
  - When traveling for sports, the students may wear a school issued travel shirt with the appropriate bottoms or they must dress according to the coach’s requirements. Males will wear blue jeans, button down shirt, and a tie to all football/Basketball away competitions. Girls will wear school appropriate jeans and a nice blouse.
  - Extracurricular participants **MAY NOT** wear the following attire on a school-related trip: ripped or frayed jeans, **CROCS**, sandals (any open toe shoes), shirts that represent other districts, shirts that are derogatory or could present a negative outlook on the student or district.
  - Caps and/or hats will be worn at the discretion of the head coach, but will not be worn so as to call attention to the individual, and will be worn properly positioned at all times.
  - Piercing will not be allowed for males and are limited to the ears for females.
  - Tattoos must be covered at ALL times.
  - Students are expected to dress accordingly in order to positively represent Terrell County ISD and the Sanderson community. When you travel as a team for competition, you must always look like a team.
- Students are expected to travel with the team to and from the competition-site unless arrangements have been made with the head coach/sponsor. An athlete not traveling home with the team from an event must notify the coach/sponsor prior to leaving for the event so that proper meal arrangements can be made for the rest of the team. A parent/guardian must provide the coach/sponsor with a note

stating that their child is leaving the event with them.

- If a parent wishes for a non-parent/guardian to pick-up a student from an event, the appropriate form must be picked-up from the school office, signed, notarized, and returned a minimum of 48 hours before the event.

- 7 -

- If an extracurricular participant is caught drinking or using any illegal substances while on a school sponsored activity it will call for an immediate dismissal from the program. Additional disciplinary action may be taken by the district administration and Campus Behavior Coordinator.
- Curfew will be at the discretion of the sport head coach, and will be strictly adhered to if issued.
- All Terrell County ISD extracurricular participants (6-12) are required to participate in the drug testing program, in order to be eligible to participate. • Terrell County ISD extracurricular participants must **NOT** engage in bullying, cyber bullying, harassment, hazing, etc. Participants who engage in this type of behavior will be dismissed and/or suspended from the team. The length of the suspension will be dependent on the infraction; however, the minimum punishment will be a 1-game/event suspension. (This is considered a first warning for all participants.)
- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Terrell County ISD Student Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor.

### **SCHOOL-RELATED MISCONDUCT**

Students who commit any offense defined as a prohibited behavior in the Terrell County ISD Student Code of Conduct which results in an ISS (In School Suspension) assignment, suspension, or DAEP (District Alternative Education Program), will receive a corresponding punishment from the Athletic Director, coach or sponsor according to the following guidelines:

- If placed in ISS for two (2) or more consecutive days: suspension from extracurricular activities run for the entire week(s) that include the ISS days, not to exceed 5 school days.
- If suspended from school for 1-3 days: suspension from extracurricular activities runs for the entire week(s) that include the suspension, not to exceed 5 school days.
- If placed in DAEP short term (2 weeks or less): suspension from extracurricular activities for the term of the DAEP assignment.
- If placed in DAEP long term (more than 2 weeks): suspension from extracurricular activities for the term of the DAEP assignment.



## LONGHORNS

(40 yard Bear Crawl, 40 yard Frog Hop, 40 yard Lunge, 40 Yard Sprint=1)

### Consequence Conditioning

( All sports will go by this key)

**Tardy-** 1 Longhorn

**Unexcused Absence-** 4 Longhorns (2 in the same week and you will miss first half of the next game)

**Teacher calls a coach about behavior-** 3 Longhorns

**Wrong attire at practice-** 1 Longhorn per item missing

**Written Referral-** 8 Longhorns

**ISS-** 8 Longhorns and will miss the next game

**Failed class at progress report check-** 4 per failing class. (Grade check will be every Monday after at 2:30)

**All Longhorns must be completed by the start of your next game or you will not be allowed to play.**

## NON SCHOOL-RELATED MISCONDUCT

Terrell County ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from engaging in:

- Conduct punishable as a felony or misdemeanor (minor, usually non-moving, traffic violations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis).
- Offenses relating to marijuana, controlled substances and dangerous drugs • Offenses relating to alcohol
- Offenses relating to tobacco, including vaping (e-cigarettes)
- Offences relating to abusable glue, volatile chemicals, aerosol paint, and other inhalants

- 8 -

The Athletic Director, UIL Coordinators, coaches, and sponsors will work cooperatively with the administration to review all the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular violation and, while not required for imposing discipline, may consider arrests and/or citations issued by law enforcement when determining whether an above offense has occurred. The Athletic Director, UIL Coordinators, coaches and sponsors will strive for consistency in meting out punishment for *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violations, but will also exercise sound professional discretion. Violation of any of the above mentioned rules by a student participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

**FIRST OFFENSE:** After the first offense, a student will be required to serve 10 hours of community service (option/suggestions provided at the time of punishment is assigned). Approval for allowable community service activities will be determined by the Campus Behavior Coordinator. A 5-page essay relating to the "Spirit of a True Eagle" will also be required. The topic will be articulated depending on the offense at the time punishment is issued. The final paper must meet approval of the CBC, along with the

corresponding English teacher.

**SECOND OFFENSE:** After the second offense, a student will be required to serve a total of 20 hours of community service (option/suggestions provided at the time of punishment is assigned). Approval for allowable community service activities will be determined by the Campus Behavior Coordinator. A 10-page essay relating to the “Spirit of a True Eagle” will also be required. The topic will be articulated depending on the offense at the time punishment is issued. The final paper must meet approval of the CBC, along with the corresponding English teacher.

**THIRD OFFENSE:** Suspension from all extracurricular activities for one calendar year.

**FOURTH OFFENSE:** Removal from all extracurricular activities indefinitely.

For each offense, the suspension will apply to all extracurricular activities, regardless of the number for which the student is enrolled.

**NOTE:** Offenses accumulate beginning in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. After two consecutive years without an offense the student will “lose” an offense (i.e., a student who committed two offenses who goes two consecutive years without committing an offense will be considered to only have one offense to his/her name). A student who has committed four offenses can be allowed to participate if he/she is in good standing, without having committed an offense, for two consecutive years. At that time, he/she will be considered to be on his/her third offense, having served his/her suspension from extracurricular activities for one year.

## PROCEDURES

The athletic director, UIL coordinator, coach, or sponsor will determine whether an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation has occurred.

Options/suggestions for community service projects will be provided by the school.

Upon determination of an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation, the following individuals will be notified:

- The student and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s)
- Coach, sponsor, or teacher who should be notified.

Nothing in this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* limits the authority of a coach or sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, including extra workouts, for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations, but do not engage in prohibited conduct.

## AWARDS & HONORS

The presentation of awards in extra-curricular literary, band, or athletic events is governed by the University Interscholastic League (UIL). Local awards at end-of-year festivities will be determined by the codes set by individual activities. Scholarships will be determined by criteria set by individual organizations.

According to the U.I.L. (University Interscholastic League) regulations a student can receive only one letter jacket during a four-year tenure in high school. A student may earn a letter jacket the following ways:

- A letter for UIL Academic events will be awarded for winning first place in the district-level competition. Students must also participate for 2 years to receive an award jacket in UIL academics.
- The athlete must letter in more than one sport or letter in the same sport for two years.
- The athlete must make a substantial contribution to the varsity sport. Students who earn their letterman jacket will receive it in the fall of their junior year.

**Note:** Completing a season in a sport does not mean that an athlete will letter on the varsity level.

## **INSURANCE FOR STUDENTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

### **Medical Bills**

Personal health insurance (ex: Blue Cross and Blue Shield) must be applied first on any medical service rendered. The extracurricular insurance provided by Terrell County ISD plan will serve as secondary coverage after the personal health insurance has been applied.

\*If the student has no personal health insurance coverage, the insurance plan will be applied to a percentage of the bill.

***Remaining balances on medical statements will be the responsibility of the injured student's parent or guardian.***

### **Claims**

A claim form for every athletic related injury will be initiated by the athletic director who has referred the injured athlete. As stated above, personal insurance is applied first in all cases and the extracurricular insurance used after or, in cases where students have no personal insurance. All injuries will be handled by the head coach and athletic director unless otherwise stated.

Coaches **Do Not** make doctor referrals or commitments of payment on medical bills under any circumstances.

### **Insurance Forms**

For all insurance forms and questions, contact James Shelton, Athletic Director.

### **NOTE:**

Soon after school opens, parents will have the opportunity to purchase low-cost insurance that would help meet medical expenses in the event of an injury to their child. For more information, contact the School Secretary.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed) is to sign an acknowledgement that the student and parent/guardian have read and understand the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*. The acknowledgment states that the signing parties understand the consequences for engaging in prohibited conduct. By signing, all parties understand that this document serves as a first warning for all rules, expectations, and procedures.

# EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 2022-2023

The undersigned student and parent/guardian have read the rules and understand the rules contained in this Extracurricular Student Code of Conduct. I understand that my child must abide by these rules. All these procedures, rules and expectations are considered a first warning for all student participants. Failure to do so may cause my child to be reprimanded, suspended, or dismissed.

STUDENT NAME PRINTED:

\_\_\_\_\_ GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT SIGNATURE:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

