



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE—NEWTON HIGH SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

This Newton High Code of Conduct describes the essential qualities of the student athlete/activities participant. The most exemplary students can only be successful with the proper support of their school, coaches/sponsors, teammates, and parents. This code outlines the expectations for student behavior and consequences for violations, as well as the role of school, team, and family in upholding them.

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES CODE OF ETHICS

Being a student athlete/activities participant is a privilege. Being a student athlete/activities participant is also a year-round commitment to upholding the Code of Conduct. Students represent not only the Newton High community, but also the Newton community. These students are expected to always act in ways that support the values of Newton High School. These core values are Get It Done (GID); What's Important Now (WIN); Attitude, Commitment, Effort (ACE); Protect the Brand (PTB); & Energy Giver.

Trustworthiness

Trustworthiness – Be worthy of trust in all you do.

Integrity – Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor; do what is right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.

Honesty – Live and compete honorably, do not lie, cheat, steal, or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct, always be forthcoming with all information.

Reliability – Fulfill commitments; do what you say you will do; be on time to practices and games/activities.

Loyalty – Be loyal to your school and team/group; put the team/group above personal glory.

Respect

Respect – Treat all people with respect at all times.

Class – Live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; help up fallen opponents, compliment extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post- game/event rituals.

Respectful Conduct – Do not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of the sexual nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport/event.

Respect for Officials – Treat contest officials with respect; do not complain about or argue with officials' calls or decisions during or after an event.

Self-Respect – Taking pride in oneself and being a person of honor and dignity.

Responsibility

Importance of Education – Be a student first and commit to earning your diploma and get the best education you can. Be honest with yourself about the likelihood of getting an athletic/activity scholarship to participate on a professional level, and remember that many universities will not recruit students that do not have a serious commitment to their education, the ability to succeed academically, or the character to represent their institution honorably.

Role Modeling – Remember, participation in sports/events is a privilege, not a right, and that you are expected to represent your school, coach/sponsor, and teammates with honor on and off the field. Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model.

Self-control – Exercise self-control; do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

Healthy Lifestyle – Safeguard your health; do not use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose, or maintain weight.

Integrity of the Game – Protect the integrity of the game/event; do not gamble or associate with or deal with professional gamblers.

Sexual Conduct – Sexual or romantic contact of any sort between students and coaches/sponsors is improper and strictly forbidden. Any knowledge of sexual misconduct must be reported to proper authorities.

Fairness

Be Fair – Live up to high standards of fair play; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

Caring

Concern for Others – Demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to yourself or others. Teammates – Help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement, or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches/sponsors.

Citizenship

Play by the Rules – Maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game/event and competition rules.

Spirit of Rules – Honor the spirit and the letter of rules; avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper gamesmanship techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

—————→ **Parent Initial** _____ **Student Initial** _____



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the student athlete/activity participant, team leaders, parents, coaches/sponsors, fans, and the entire Newton High community to uphold these values. Newton High will establish and maintain a healthy environment that supports these students as they mature and excel. Newton High will do this by ensuring that the school environment promotes healthy decision-making related to all aspects of wellness including mental health promotion, proper nutrition, sleep, and abstaining from the use of alcohol and other drugs.

School:

The goal of Life of a Railer is to improve the health, wellness, and performance, and to reduce substance abuse of High School student athletes/activity participants. This is done by working on policy change and providing education and training to student athlete/activity participants, parents/guardians, coaches/sponsors, and the fans so they support effective policies in schools. Life of a Railer focuses on providing information to student athletes/activity participants about the immediate impact lifestyle choices have on something that's really important to them: their performance!

Coaches/Sponsors:

- Facilitate discussion to determine expectations for the team/group.
- Define "success" and set goals for individuals and teams/groups for the season ahead.
- Communicate expectations to parents.
- Exemplify the highest moral character as a role model for young people.
- Recognize the individual worth and reinforce the self-image of each team/group member.
- Establish a realistic team/group goal or vision for each season and communicate that to the student athletes/activity participants and parents.
- Encourage and assist team/activity members to set personal goals to achieve their highest academic potential.
- Create a set of training rules for student athletes/activity participants that reflect the positive values of abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (performance degrading substances).
- Strive to develop the qualities of competence, character, civility, and citizenship in each team/group member, as outlined in the student athletic/activities policy/code.
- Provide a safe, challenging and encouraging environment for practice and competition.
- Gain an awareness of the importance of prevention, care and treatment of injuries.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the game/event officials.
- Teach and abide by the rules of the game/event in letter and in spirit.
- Build and maintain ethical relationships with other coaches/sponsors and administrators.

NEWTON LIFE OF A RAILER

- Strive for excellence in coaching/sponsoring skills and techniques through professional improvement.
- Promote personal fitness and good nutrition.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Refrain from use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs before, during, or immediately after practices and games/events or until my supervisory duties are completed.

Parents:

- Be a positive role model so that through my own actions I can help make sure that my child has the best athletic/event experience possible.
- Be a "team/event" fan, not a "my kid" fan.
- Weigh what my child says in any controversy, since it is normal for youth to tend to slant the truth to their advantage.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches/sponsors, spectators, and support groups.
- Be respectful of all officials' decisions.
- Not instruct my child before or after a game/event, because it may conflict with the coach's/sponsor's plans and strategies.
- Praise student athlete/activity participants in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes/activity participants, and as people.
- Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the sport/event.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team/group.
- Help my child learn that success is experienced in the development of his/her skills, and that he/she can feel positive about their skill development during the season, regardless of the team's/group's record.
- Take time to talk with coaches/sponsors in an appropriate manner, including proper time and place, if I have a concern. I will respect the coach/sponsor by following the designated chain of command:

Student--Coach/Sponsor—Athletic Director/Vice Principal—Principal—Superintendent—Board of Education.

- Support the alcohol, tobacco, and other drug-free policies of our school by refraining from the use of any such substances during athletic/activity performances. I will also support my child and hold him/her accountable for their commitment to non-use of substances as outlined in the Code by **not hosting parties that have alcohol or drugs or allowing my child to be at a party with alcohol or drugs.**

Team Leaders:

- Exemplify the highest standards of character and duty to team/group, school, and community.
- Conduct on and off the fields of play/performance with behavior that is an example to others.
- Possess high level communication skills and be willing to confront any behaviors of concern or violations of standards of student athlete/activity participant code of conduct among peers.
- Act as a conduit between team/group and coach/sponsor.
- Bring any serious concerns to the attention of adult authority.
- Hold team/group meetings to discuss chemical health and behavioral issues.
- Act to insure an inspire team/group goals and effectiveness.

Student Athletes/Activity Participants:

- Be physically fit (athletes).
- Be loyal and dedicated to their family, team, teammates/groups, school, and coaches/sponsors.
- Have and maintain a record of acceptable and appropriate citizenship, character, and personal conduct, both inside and outside the school environment. In regard to a student's questionable eligibility, the administration will investigate and make the determination. In a finding of ineligibility, this determination will also include specific periods of time. Students with D's or F's in classes may be withheld from games/contests until their grades are at a reasonable level (determined by AD or Head Coach/Sponsor).
- Comply with the coaches'/sponsors' procedures for pre-season practice and try-outs. If there are circumstances (physical or otherwise) which involve the athlete/activity participant, it is important that the coach/sponsor and/or Administration be notified in advance of the situation.
- Attend all practices, scrimmages, games/performances, meets or matches. Acceptable absences include those for (and including KSHSAA policies): illness, college visitations, doctor appointments, religious holidays, death of a family member and school sponsored activities approved by the administration. Teacher-sponsored trips (example: trips taken during vacation to Europe, Canada, etc.) and family vacations will not be considered excused absences. Parents and student athlete/activity participants are asked to make these decisions prior to the beginning of the sports/events season. Realizing special situations may occur; the student athlete/activities participants and parents can apply for a waiver to this rule from the Administration or Coach/Sponsor. If the waiver is granted, the student athlete/activity participant may be required to sit out contests/meets/events upon returning from the trip. It is necessary for the student athlete/activity participant to apply for this waiver well in advance of the absence.



Fans (Anyone who is watching an event):

- Any person who attends a school sponsored extra-curricular activity who behaves in a disorderly or unsportsmanlike manner may be ejected. The administration may exclude anyone who is found to be disorderly or unsportsmanlike from extra-curricular or athletic/activity events for up to one year. "Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action!" (Rule 52, KSHSAA Handbook)

————→ **Parent Initial _____ Student Initial _____**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility for student athletes/activity participants is governed by the KSHSAA. This eligibility requirement is set for all levels of competition (Varsity, JV, and Frosh).

A student athlete/activity participant must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. An athlete, spirit, or spirit competition group must have passed a physical examination and have completed a Physical Form provided by the Athletic Department prior to playing or practicing a sport at Newton High School. **It must be dated AFTER MAY 1 of the current school year.**
2. A student athlete/activity participant is eligible for interscholastic competition for no more than eight consecutive semesters once entering grade nine.
3. Each student must have **passed a minimum of 5 classes** the previous semester at Newton High School or Railer Academy (summer school doesn't apply) and be **enrolled in 7 classes excluding seminar.**
4. An athlete may play only one sport during a season unless it is approved by the coaches, Athletic Director, and parents with an understanding of which sport takes precedence. Students who are involved in both athletics and other activities must communicate with all coaches/sponsors to outline a plan for participation in each to avoid conflicts.
5. a. If at any time an athlete receives any type of financial remuneration for participating in sports that are organized by the KSHSAA, athletic eligibility for that athlete will be terminated from all high school sports from the date of the infraction. b. Accepting a nominal fee for teaching, supervising, or officiating in an organized youth sports program or recreation, playground, or camp activity shall not jeopardize the athlete's amateur status. c. If an athlete signs a professional playing contract, amateur status will be lost in the sport involved.
6. A member of a school team is a student athlete/activity participant who is regularly present for, and actively participates in, all team/group practices and competitions/events. Bona fide members of a school team are prevented from missing a high school practice or competition to compete with an "out-of-school team" of the same sport, scholars bowl, or debate/forensics activity. Whenever a conflict arises between the high school team practice/competition and an out-of-school practice/competition on the same day (of a different sport), the high school team



practice/competition must be honored by the student athlete/participant. Priority must be given, at all times, to the high school team, its practices, and its contests.

7. Please consult the Athletic Director if you have transferred from another high school. Certain regulations must be followed to allow the athlete to participate.

8. If an athlete competes in any KSHSAA event under an assumed name, the athlete will be ineligible in all sports.

9. During the school calendar year, student athlete/activity participants may not have any contact with their coach/sponsor for the purpose of practicing or playing at any time other than within the limits of the season as described by KSHSAA rules.

10. a. Any student athlete/activity participant or coach/sponsor who is disqualified from a game/event at the Freshman, Junior Varsity, or Varsity level, for exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct shall not participate in the next scheduled interscholastic event, including KSHSAA Tournament contests. The athlete/activity participant or coach/sponsor is not allowed to be in attendance at the next scheduled event. There is a two-game/event suspension for an athlete/activity participant who is removed from a game/event due to fighting. The student and coach/sponsor are required to take an NFHS Sportsmanship course online before returning to play. b. If any student or coach/sponsor receives a second game/event disqualification during the season, that individual will be required to forfeit any participation in that interscholastic sport/event, at any level, for the remainder of that season. c. If the game/event disqualification is administered in the final contest of the season (including tournament play), the penalty shall be carried over in that sport/event and invoked at the first regular season game/event the following academic year. If a disqualification is administered to a graduating senior or coach/sponsor in the final game of coaching for Newton High School, it is the expectation of the KSHSAA that the school will take immediate and appropriate disciplinary action, which could include suspension for those contests in the next season of sport.

—————→ **Parent Initial _____ Student Initial _____**

GENERAL POLICIES

MANDATORY PRE-SEASON MEETINGS

Pre-season meetings for the student athlete/activity participant and at least one parent/guardian are MANDATORY before the student athlete/activity participant is allowed to begin practice or compete in any games/events. There are no exceptions. If the meeting is not attended, the parent/guardian will come to the school to view the presentation that was given on the original meeting night ***before*** the student can begin practice or compete in games/events.

ATTENDANCE

Students must attend school in order to be eligible for participation in an activity. Any student missing 45 minutes or more may not practice or compete/perform that day unless the absence was a school



activity or a **NOTE** from a doctor. Other absences (court appearances, funeral, etc...) **WITH PRIOR APPROVAL** from the Administration will be excused.

PRESENTATION

Student’s dress and grooming should show good taste for school competitions/events.

TRAVEL

Student athlete/activity participants must travel to and from an out of town contest by school vehicle, unless prior arrangements are made. It is preferred that the athlete/activity participant ride home with the team/group unless the parent/guardian are staying in that town to visit or are going in a direction away from Newton. Parents may sign their student athlete/activity participant out with the coach/sponsor after the event. If someone other than the parent will be taking the student athlete/activity participant from the contest/event, the parent must email the Administration the day PRIOR to the contest/event notifying them of this permission.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Any student athlete/activity participant who behaves in a disorderly or unsportsmanlike manner may be ejected.

PROCEDURE TO ADDRESS CONCERNS

Contact the appropriate coach/sponsor of the particular team/group about concerns or problems related to an athletic/activity program. The chain of command must be used. Student—Coach/Sponsor—Athletic Director--Vice Principal—Principal—Superintendent—Board of Education.

—————→ **Parent Initial** _____ **Student Initial** _____

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG (AOD) POLICY

In accordance with Kansas law prohibiting underage alcohol consumption, underage tobacco use, and use of controlled drugs; Newton High upholds the legal standard for sport and student athlete/activity specific codes of conduct as upheld by the United States Supreme Court.

Because the use of alcohol, tobacco (including other nicotine delivery devices such as E-cigarettes and JUULs), and other drugs prevents the normal development of a healthy mind and body, the following Code of Behavior has been established.

1. No student athlete/activity participant will possess or consume tobacco products, including nicotine delivery devices such as E-cigarettes and /or JUULs and/or alcoholic beverages at any time or place, including summers and weekends.
2. No student athlete/activity participant will possess, sell or use illegal drugs at any time.
3. No student athlete/activity participant will use prescription drugs without the consent of a physician and/or parent at any time.

“In the Presence of” Policy: Any student athlete/activity participant who attends a party/gathering where alcohol or drugs are being illegally dispensed, the student athlete/activity participant is required to leave the party/gathering IMMEDIATELY and report their own attendance to a coach/sponsor or Administrator before the end of the next school day.

Cyber Image Policy: Any identifiable image, photo or video which implicates a student athlete/activity participant to have been in possession or presence of alcohol and /or other drugs or portrays actual use, or out of character behavior or crime (including sexting), shall be confirmation of a violation of the code. This includes ANY and ALL images posted by the student athlete/activity participant via email, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc.

Athletes Who Host Lose the Most Policy: There shall be a greater consequence for any student athlete/activity participant if it is determined they were involved in the organization, facilitation, promotion, or hosting of any gathering or social event where alcohol or drugs are available, or use has occurred. Penalty should be at a minimum double the first violation status and include a one-year suspension.

Team Leaders Policy: Student athlete/activity participant leaders will be held to the highest standard of behavior as they have chosen to be an example to their peers. Any student athlete/activity participant in a leadership role will face a greater consequence (level 2 or 3 punishment) for any serious code violations.

————→ **Parent Initial _____ Student Initial _____**

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATIONS

Tiered Suspension: Student athlete/activity participants that are penalized due to an infraction of the code will be suspended, using a tiered system. Any penalties will carry over into the post-season and next sports/competition season they are involved in. Any student who violates the code will become ineligible for awards during the season in which the infraction occurred.

Level 1 (first violation) – 20% game/competition suspension (in a 10-game season, 2 game suspension) The student athlete/activity participant must still attend practices, meetings, and team activities, but cannot compete or perform.

Level 2 (second violation) – 50% game/competition suspension (in a 10-game season, 5 game suspension) from the first date of disciplinary action and 5 hours of community service (to be determined by the Administration). The student athlete/activity participant must attend all practices, meetings, and team activities, but cannot compete or perform.

Level 3 (third violation) – automatic suspension from athletic/activity competition participation for the remainder of the year. It will be up to the coach if the student athlete/activity participant will be allowed to remain on the team.

In addition, anyone with an Alcohol and/or Other Drug infraction will adhere to the following:

The parent and student athlete/activity participant must see a qualified Chemical Health Specialist to discuss the magnitude and status of the chemical health of the individual. They (parent and student)



must also see the School Resource Officer to discuss the legal ramifications of the behavior of concern and to discuss the law and youth risk behaviors such as drinking and driving.

The student athlete/activity participant and parent must commit to an understanding that corrective measures are necessary in order to resume the athletic/activity career or to practice and compete again. This includes a signed document that clearly states:

1. Acknowledgment that a violation has occurred;
2. They (Parent & Student) are willing to make changes in order to resume/continue athletic /activity participation;
3. Will recommit to adhering to the code of conduct;
4. Understanding the next level of consequence that will result should another violation occur. The student athlete/activity participant must also address the teammates and coaches/sponsors by apologizing to the team/group in-person and recommitting to the provisions of the Code by resigning it in front of teammates/group and coaches/sponsors.

Permanent Suspension/Expulsion: School property is considered a “Drug-Free” zone. The following violations will result in the immediate and permanent suspension for the remainder of the athlete’s/activity participant’s career:

- Students who are in the possession or use of ILLEGAL DRUGS on school property, or in conjunction with a school activity or sponsored event, including transport to or from any event.
- Participate in a contest/event or practice session while under the influence of an illegal substance.
- Distribute, dispense, or sell any such drugs to any other student or student athlete/activity participant at a school activity or sponsored event.
- Students who engage in any criminal activity or violations of civil law may be denied participation in an extracurricular program. Recognizing the varying degrees of the severity of the violations (misdemeanors vs. felonies), consequences for such involvement may result in a minor reprimand or denial of participation depending upon the nature of the offense.
- If a student is caught violating the code, any costs that are incurred will belong to the student, not the school or organization the student is representing.



KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT

The Code of Conduct will apply to each student athlete/activity participant for one calendar year (including summer) from the date of his/her most recent signature and will be in effect at all times, in all locations, including non-school activities. Violation of the Code will result in penalties, which are consistent with those identified within the code as determined by the coach/sponsor and/or Administration. Each coach/sponsor also has the prerogative to establish and implement additional guidelines specific to his/her particular team/group.

Honesty Clause

In the event of a code violation, all parties agree to the following:

Athletic/Activity Code of Conduct:

- I will be cooperative
- I will be forthcoming and truthful with all information about the violation being investigated.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO FOLLOW ALL TERMS DESCRIBED IN the Newton High Code of Conduct.

By signing this document, I indicate that I have knowledge, understanding, and agreement to these standards, set forth in order for _____ to be afforded the privilege of representing Newton High School as a student athlete/activity participant. I am also aware and agree that this policy is in effect for a full calendar year including weekends and summers, and any violation of any of these standards shall result in the consequences contained within this policy.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____