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ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT PROCEDURE  
(ADM-P5131.8 b)  
Milford Public School District

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**1.0 SCOPE:**

- 1.1 This procedure provides specific guidelines to be followed by all students who represent their various schools in the field of athletics.

The on-line version of the procedure is official. Therefore, all printed versions are unofficial copies.

**2.0 RESPONSIBILITY:**

- 2.1 Superintendent or designee  
2.2 Building Administrators  
2.3 Athletic Directors  
2.4 All coaches (Head, Assistant and Volunteer)

*Authorized Signature on File*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**3.0 APPROVAL AUTHORITY:**

- 3.1 Superintendent of Schools

**4.0 DEFINITIONS:**

- 4.1 Tobacco products: cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco.
- 4.2 Alcoholic beverages: beer, wine and any liquor products or beverages such as soda/punch containing liquor product.
- 4.3 Performance-enhancement drugs: illegal steroids
- 4.4 Controlled substances: any and all medicines required by law to be prescribed by a physician
- 4.5 Drug Paraphernalia: includes any utensil or item which in the school's judgment, can be associated with the use of drugs, alcohol, or mood-altering substances. Examples include, but are not limited to, roach clips, pipes, bowls, crack vials, miniature cocaine spoons and tobacco rolling paper.
- 4.6 Probation: This is a trial period during which an athlete remains part of the team. The athlete attempts to correct his/her deficiencies within a prescribed time. The athlete will not be able to participate in contests involving other schools during this time.
- 4.7 Suspension: An action that denies an athlete participation in athletics for a period of time. In cases where an athletic suspension carries over into his/her next sports season, it reverts to a probationary period provided the athlete completes that entire sports season.
- 4.8 In Season: Begins with the first CIAC allowed practice day and ends with the awards ceremony for that sport.
- 4.9 Out of Season: Any time "not in season".

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4.10 Substance analogs: A chemical with a similar structure to another but differing slightly in composition.

**5.0 PROCEDURE:**

5.1 All students choosing to participate in athletic programs shall be given a copy of this code, and by virtue of their continued voluntary participation, shall agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the code. Whether occurring in- or out-of-season, student athletes who violate the conduct code, either on school grounds, at a school sponsored activity, or off school grounds, will be subject to progressive disciplinary action including, but not limited to, probation, suspension and permanent ineligibility for interscholastic competition in the Milford Public Schools.

5.2. The head coach, a building administrator and/or the athletic director will determine disciplinary action resulting from violation of Milford Public Schools athletic rules within five (5) school days of learning of the violation.

5.2.1 For first violations of the tobacco, alcoholic beverages, drugs, and/or illegal steroids rules, athletes have the option to attend drug/alcohol/tobacco assessment program.

5.2.1.1 Participation in this assessment option will not preclude a minimum athletic suspension period of fifteen (15) school days that must be completed before participation resumes.

5.2.1.2 In addition, athletes who voluntarily come forth seeking help for substance abuse problems may be granted immunity for the first offense from disciplinary sanctions under the athletic code if they go through with the assessment and enter a rehabilitation program.

5.3 Athletes and parents will be notified with reasons for, and types of, disciplinary actions. A grievance procedure, as described in the Student Athletic Handbook, will be followed for any athlete excluded from a sport, if so requested in writing to the building principal or designee within five (5) school business days.

5.4 A student athlete in the Milford Public School District will not use, consume, possess or sell/distribute:

5.4.1 alcoholic beverages

5.4.2 cigarettes, or tobacco of any form

5.4.3 illegal drugs, including, but not limited to marijuana, controlled substances and controlled substance analogs

5.4.4 drug paraphernalia related to, but not limited to, the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of prescription or non-prescription drugs.

5.4.5 performance-enhancement drugs (including anabolic steroids)

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5.5 Any student athlete possessing, selling/distributing, consuming and/or using any of the items listed in 5.4.1-5.4.5 shall be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

5.5.1 First Violation:

5.5.1.1 In season: The student athlete will be suspended from the athletic program for no less than the remainder of the present sports season or up to sixty (60) school days; whichever is greater. This penalty may carry over to subsequent sports seasons.

5.5.1.2 Out of season: – The athlete will be placed on probation for a minimum of fifteen (15) school days during the next season of competition in which the athlete participates; also, the athlete will miss the first interscholastic contest to follow his/her probation if no interscholastic contest should fall within the probation period.

5.5.2 Second Violation:

5.5.2.1 Whether in season or out of season, will result in suspension from all sports in the Milford Public Schools for one calendar year (365 consecutive days) from the date of the second violation.

5.5.3 Third Violation:

5.5.3.1 Whether in season or out of season, will result in permanent ineligibility for interscholastic competition in the Milford Public Schools.

5.6 Any student athlete involved in theft or possession of stolen property, hazing/harassment and/or any criminal acts shall be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

5.6.1 First Violation:

5.6.1.1 In season: The athlete will be suspended from the athletic program for no less than the remainder of the present sports season or up to sixty (60) school days; whichever is greater. This penalty may carry over to subsequent sport seasons.

5.6.1.2 Out of Season - The athlete will be placed on probation for a minimum of fifteen (15) school days during the next season of competition in which the athlete participates; also, the athlete will miss the first interscholastic contest to follow this probation if no interscholastic contest should fall within probation period.

5.6.2 Subsequent Violation:

5.6.2.1 whether in season or out of season, will result in suspension from all sports in the Milford Public Schools for one calendar year (365 consecutive days) from the date of the violation.

5.7 Any student athlete involved in conduct which results in the imposition of out-of-school suspension or expulsion by the school will be declared ineligible for the next interscholastic contest for which he/she is eligible.

5.8 Any student athlete suspended or expelled from school for disciplinary reasons, for any length of time, the athlete will be:

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- 5.8.1 Barred from participation in athletics during the term of the suspension/expulsion.
  - 5.8.2 Placed on probation for up to a maximum of sixty (60) school days and miss at least the first contest following the school suspension or expulsion.
  - 5.8.3 Subsequent school suspensions or expulsion(s) will result in suspension from all sports in the Milford Public Schools for up to one calendar year; 365 consecutive days.
  - 5.8.4 Students receiving school suspension(s) or expulsion(s) may be subject to removal from captancy and/or leadership role of their sport(s).
  - 5.8.5 Should an athlete be on athletic suspension at the conclusion of a sports season, the athlete will forfeit the privilege of earning a school letter, certificate or any other school athletic award.
- 5.9 Athletes, shall, at all times, behave in a manner that conveys respect for all individuals. Acts of harassment or hazing will not be tolerated.
- 5.10 Any action or behavior that necessitates the imposition of team or school discipline or the committing of criminal acts outside the school will be viewed as a violation of the Athletic Code.
- 5.11 A student athlete will abide by specific written rules formulated by the coach, submitted in writing, approved by the principal and distributed to all athletes and their parent(s)/guardian(s) at the beginning of the respective sport season.
- 5.12 Athletic suspensions or probations which have been imposed by other school districts on students transferring into the Milford Public Schools will be honored.

**6.0 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:**

- 6.1 Athletic Code of Conduct for Milford Public Schools
- 6.2 Milford Public Schools Handbook
- 6.3 Student Athlete Handbook
- 6.4 Administrative Policy #5114 Suspension/Expulsion: Due Process
- 6.5 Administrative Policy #5131.6 Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco
- 6.6 Administrative Policy #5131.7 Weapons and Dangerous Instruments
- 6.7 Administrative Policy #5131.8 Off-School Misconduct
- 6.8 Administrative Policy #5131.9 Assaults/Threats
- 6.9 Administrative Policy #5131.91 Hazing

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- 6.10 Administrative Policy #5144    Discipline/Punishment
- 6.11 Administrative Policy #6145.2    Interscholastic Athletics
- 6.12 Connecticut General Statutes

**7.0 RECORD RETENTION TABLE:**

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Storage</u>	<u>Retention</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Protection</u>
School imposed suspension letters	Student file	4 years or duration of high school years	Shred	File cabinet
School imposed expulsion letter	Student file	4 years or duration of high school years	Shred	File cabinet
Athletic suspension letter	Student file and Athletic Director's file	4 years or duration of high school years	Shred	File cabinet

**NOTE: In cases where suspension/expulsion has been imposed to a student due to weapon-related issues, those letters will not be expunged from the student's file; they will remain part of the file forever.**

**8.0 REVISION HISTORY:**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Revision #:</u>	<u>Description of Revision:</u>
08/14/2006	A	Initial Release

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