

Lincoln Southwest
Athletic/Activities Code of Conduct
(Revised April 2008—Changes in **Bold.**)

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. Participants will be held to a higher standard of conduct than a student in general. Lincoln Southwest High School has two primary conduct rules that apply to all athletic/activities programs:

1. Violations of "Lincoln Public Schools Rules" (can be found in participation packet) for participation in activities are prohibited. These rules shall apply during the period that begins with the first allowable NSAA practice date in the fall and the last day of the current school year **(would also include a violation at a school sponsored event that occurs during summertime).**
2. Selling, using, possessing (can include being in close proximity too e.g. at a party or in a car where alcohol present), dispensing or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, controlled substances, inhalants or an imitation controlled substance or possession of drug paraphernalia **(on or off campus)**. These rules shall apply during the period that begins with the first allowable NSAA practice date in the fall and the last day of the current school year **(would also include a violation at a school sponsored event that occurs during summertime)**. This would also include any drug or alcohol citation issued by a law enforcement official during said period.

CONSEQUENCES

LPS Rules: Penalty for violation of training rule #1 will be as follows (If a student/athlete violates the policy and it calls for suspension, they will be required to serve their full suspension in that season and/or the next activity/sport they participate in during that academic year or subsequent academic years):

Each Offense: Will be reviewed individually by LSW Coaches/Sponsors and Administrators and appropriate consequences assessed.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs: Penalty for violation of training rule #2 will be as follows (If a student/athlete violates the policy, they will be required to serve their full suspension in that season and/or the next activity/sport they participate in during that academic year or subsequent academic years):

*These offenses are cumulative through the student/athlete's LSW career.

First Offense: The student will be ineligible for two weeks of interscholastic competition/performance during which time two or more competitions/performances occur. (A competition/performance week is defined as Monday –Saturday with at least one competition/performance is played within that week.) During the suspension the student must meet with the LPS Office of Student Services for drug/alcohol screening/evaluation. Ineligibility will be carried over to the student's next athletic/activity season, if needed to meet the two competition/performance requirement. The suspension begins the day the student is informed of the violation by an LSW administrator/coach/sponsor.

Second Offense: Ineligible to participate in all LSW activities/athletic events pending review by LSW administration. After review LSW administrators will determine penalty, this could include suspension from all athletic/activity events and practices for 90 school days.
The student must also meet with the LPS Office of Student Services for alcohol/drug screening/evaluation. Any suspension begins the day the student is informed of the violation by an LSW administrator/coach/sponsor.

Next Offense: Ineligible to participate in all LSW activities/athletic events pending review by LSW administration. After review LSW administrators will determine penalty, this could include permanent expulsion from all LSW athletics and activities. Student will be referred to the LPS Office of Student Services for drug/alcohol screening/evaluation. Any suspension/expulsion begins the day the student is informed of the violation by an LSW administrator/coach/sponsor.

**A student enrolling in a diversion program or any other form of criminal disposition in lieu of drug alcohol charges being filed does not waive any athletic policy suspension or code of conduct mandates.*

These are minimal and suggested sanctions. Sanctions may be increased if the Principal, Athletic/Activities Director, Assistant Athletic/Activities Director, or Head Coach deems that more severe sanctions are necessary **and appropriate. Participants may be subject to additional rules established by the coach/sponsor of his or her activity, as approved by the Athletic/Activities Director. Consequences for violations of these additional rules will be assessed at the discretion of the coach/sponsor.*

Procedures

The following procedures will be followed with regard to Code of Conduct violations:

1. The Athletic/Activity Administration official(s) considering the **alleged violation will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and decide if there is sufficient evidence to determine that a violation has occurred.**

2. Prior to commencement of **any consequence**, the student is to be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and be given the opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.

In the event of a suspension if the student is not readily available to meet with the school official for this purpose before the suspension is to begin, then the suspension may be imposed at that time so long as the opportunity for the student to hear the charges and evidence and for the student to tell his or her side of the story occurs as soon as reasonably practicable. An effort to schedule a meeting for this purpose should be made by the student and the student's parent or guardian as well. Given the fact that extracurricular activity suspension actions at times need to be taken outside the regular school day, a telephone conference may be used to give the student the opportunity to provide the student's position.

3. Nothing contained in this regulation shall prevent the participant, parents, guardian or representative from discussing the matter with the appropriate school personnel at any stage.

4. **Within a reasonable time a notice letter will be sent by the Athletic Administrator describing the violation and the discipline imposed.**

5. **The student or student's parent or guardian may request an informal hearing (in writing and sent within five days of receipt of the notice letter) with an LSW administrator.**

6. **Please note that once the initial Code of Conduct is signed (prior to first ever LSW activity/athletic participation) it shall be in effect immediately and in all subsequent academic years or until a new Code of Conduct is signed.**

** The Lincoln Public School Rules and Nebraska School Activities Association Rules that both parents and students are required to read for athletic/activity participation can be found in the "Participation Packet" available in the LSW athletic department office.*

I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and understand the LSW Athletic/ Activities Code of Conduct.

Student Name (Please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____