

FOWLER ATHLETICS

GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A student is not required to take part in athletics; therefore, **athletics is a privilege**. Consequently, when high ideals and standards are violated, the privilege can be revoked. All athletes will be expected to conduct themselves with pride and dignity. All policies and procedures are to be maintained while on campus and at all athletic events.

The general philosophy of the Fowler Middle School Athletic Department is that we will attempt to help an individual who has made a poor decision; however, if those poor decisions are continually repeated, the welfare of the team must take priority.

Coaches have the right to discipline athletes on their individual teams, but will exercise sound judgment in evaluating specific penalties. Keeping in mind the welfare of the team, as well as the welfare of the individual, coaches will discipline in a consistent manner.

SPORTS

Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Tennis and Soccer are sports that will be offered at Fowler Middle School. Team selections will be based on the coaches' assessments. Fundamentals, attitude and behavior, in and out of the classroom, will all be taken into consideration for making a team at Fowler.

PHYSICALS

All students participating in athletics **must** have a physical signed by a doctor before they begin any tryouts or practices. All incoming 7th graders must have a new physical. Athletes that were in our program last year **do not** need a new physical unless they had a serious injury, but they do need to update their medical history information.

ATHLETIC PERIODS

1st Period – 8th Grade Boys Athletics
2nd Period – 7th Grade Boys Athletics

8th Period – 7th Grade Girls Athletics
9th Period – 8th Grade Girls Athletics

PRACTICE TIMES

Boy's Sports – All sports will take place before school beginning at 7:00 a.m.

Girl's Sports – All sports will be held after school until approximately 5:45 p.m. with the possible exception of cross country which may be in the morning.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES

Attendance at practice and contests is mandatory. **Skipping athletics or practice will not be tolerated!**

Serious consequences will result for any athlete who is caught skipping. If any player has an unexcused absence from a scheduled practice they must make up the work missed, plus any added sanctions deemed appropriate by that sport's coach. For an excused absence, the conditioning portion of the workout missed is all that will be made up. If an athlete is unable to workout for more than 2 days in a row, a doctor's note will be required for continued missed workouts.

GAME DAY ATTENDANCE

Athletes must be in attendance for the full day of school to be able to participate on a game night. Extenuating circumstances may be an exception to this policy if students are in attendance for a minimum of a half day and the absence is documented by a doctor's note, or approved by the Athletic Coordinator prior to the absence.

GAME DAY DRESS

Boys will wear pants, a button-down shirt with a tie, and dress shoes. Girls will wear a skirt or dress pants along with a nice shirt, or a dress, unless told otherwise. We will look and behave professionally.

24 HOUR RULE

If an athlete quits Athletics, he/she will be given an initial 24-hour grace period to return. If he/she quits again, they will not be allowed to participate until the following season.

OTHER SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

We want to always encourage our student athletes to participate in as many sports and activities as they would like. All in-season sports should be a top priority for students. We will do our best to accommodate conflicts with other schedules by working with the sponsors of other programs at Fowler. Fowler athletics should have top priority over all other sports leagues not affiliated with FISD.

ATHLETIC CONDUCT

Athletes should show respect for all coaches, teachers, officials, teammates, opponents, fans, visitors, and school officials. Fowler athletes should strive for, and be taught, acceptable and proper conduct at all school functions, and in the community, as they are representatives of their school and athletic program. Any unsportsmanlike penalties such as fighting, mouthing, taunting, etc. will be dealt with by the coach of that sport. Punishments may range from conditioning to suspension from the program.

We understand that academics do come first and any athlete that needs to attend tutorials will be encouraged to attend. Teachers will have tutorials before and after school, so the athletes should try to attend the tutorials that will not conflict with their practice. We feel that consistent C-halls and behavior issues are unacceptable within our athletic program and consequences for each action will be as follows:

The following consequences may be implemented for athletes during in-season sports.

1 C-Hall in one week	=	extra cardiovascular conditioning
2 C-Halls in one week	=	full game suspension
4 total C-Halls during season	=	season suspension
Full day of ISS	=	full game suspension
3 or more days ISS	=	season suspension
Short-Term ISS	=	extra conditioning

The following consequences will be implemented for athletes during off-season:

1 C-Hall in one week	=	extra cardiovascular conditioning
Continuous C-Halls	=	possible removal from athletic program
ISS	=	extra conditioning to removal of program
Short-Term ISS	=	extra conditioning

****Athletes may be removed from the athletic program due to excessive discipline problems.****

LOCKER ROOM, EQUIPMENT, AND THEFT

Equipment, which is school property, will be issued to each player and a record will be kept. Students are issued a locker with their own combination. It is the athlete's responsibility to take care of their equipment. The athlete will pay for any lost or stolen equipment. All equipment will remain at school unless instructed by a coach to take home. Athletes may not wear equipment home, wear another athlete's equipment, leave equipment out or have a messy locker room. Any violation will result in disciplinary action. **Stealing will not be tolerated!** Any athlete caught stealing may be removed from the program for the remainder of the school year. Cell phones, music devices, etc. are brought to school at your own risk and should be locked up.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Alcohol, tobacco, and drugs will not be tolerated at anytime in our program. Punishment will be dealt with through our Code of Conduct policies and could range from conditioning to suspension from the program. Profanity will also not be tolerated in the athletic program.

GROOMING

Students participating in athletics reflect an image by their appearance. Hairstyles, clothing, and make-up should not be disruptive. Male athletes are not allowed to have facial hair or have hair in their eyes or below their collar. Male athletes are not allowed to wear earrings on campus or at an athletic event.

TRANSPORTATION

We will provide transportation to and from the games for all athletes. Each student athlete must ride the bus to the game. We want to always encourage team unity, which includes riding on the bus home with teammates. Parents can pick their kids up at school after the game. Athletes must be picked up within a reasonable time (15 minutes) upon completion of practice and games. If students continue to have problems being picked up, we will document and issue 2 warnings. On the third offense, the athlete may be removed from the program.

OFF-SEASON

Any student athlete not participating in the current sport will be placed in an off-season program. This program will involve conditioning and weight training as well as drills to prepare the athlete for the next sport. The program will take place only during the school athletic period.

PARTICIPATION

We encourage all of our student athletes to participate in all the sports offered at Fowler. With this being said, every athlete must try-out for at least one sport. Unfortunately, the coaching staff will have to make roster cuts in Volleyball, Basketball, Track, and Soccer. Athletes that do not participate in any sports in 7th grade will need a recommendation from the athletic coordinator to be in athletics in 8th grade.

ELIGIBILITY

Athletes are set to the highest standards in the classroom. To be eligible to participate in athletic contests, a student must pass all classes with a minimum of 70% each 6 week grading period. 2 consecutive failing report cards will result in removal from athletics.

GRADING

Athletes must be on time and suited out for work out. Attendance at practice and games are mandatory even if injured. Student athletes must participate to the fullest of their abilities in all practices and games. Athletes must follow all athletic policies as agreed to in our Athlete's Promise. Based on a 30 day six weeks, each day will constitute 3.3 points. Participation, attitude, work ethic, and compliance with athletics will constitute 100% of the six weeks grade.

These policies and regulations are important to a successful athletic program. However, the key to a successful program comes from communication between the coaches and parents, the coaches and athletes, and the athletes and parents. We encourage the parents to share in their son/daughter's athletic experience and help make it a positive and rewarding one. If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with your child.

Fowler Middle School Coaching Staff

ATHLETE'S PROMISE TO FOWLER ATHLETICS

As an athlete participating in the Athletic program at Fowler Middle School, I do hereby promise to read, understand, support, and abide by the FOWLER MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETE'S CODE OF CONDUCT. The policies will be in effect and will be adhered to. It is my desire to be a contributing part of the Fowler Athletic Program and to help make it the very best possible.

Print Athlete's Name

Grade

Athlete's Signature

Date

As a parent/guardian of a Fowler Athlete, I have read and understand the FOWLER MIDDLE SCHOOL'S ATHLETE'S CODE OF CONDUCT.

Parent's Signature

Date