

# CANDOR ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

## **Substance Abuse:**

The Candor Central School District makes it a priority to encourage student-athletes to refrain from using drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products.

The following is a partial list of behaviors that are prohibited on or off school grounds and will be handled by the proper school personnel in a consistent way, but with the stipulation that the High School Principal has the final say on all incidents and the punishments assigned.

- Using, possessing, or selling of alcohol, and/or being under the influence of drugs and/or having possession of paraphernalia or any simulations or imitations of any of these types of items
- Smoking or using tobacco products, including chewing tobacco.
- Possessing or using prescription drugs not intended for the student-athlete in question or using them without the proper supervision of the high school nurse. All drugs are to be deposited in and administered through the nurse's office.
- Being in the presence of any of the aforementioned items while attending social gatherings where underage drinking, tobacco, or drug use is occurring.

## **Disciplinary action when an infraction occurs:**

### **A. First Infraction:**

After an investigation, the Coach, High School Principal, and the Athletic Director will meet to discuss the infraction and any disciplinary action that needs to be taken. The student-athlete will be required to attend and participate in practices leading up to the next game in which the student-athlete will be eligible to play. A student-athlete will be required to miss the number of games necessary to equate to a minimum of 20% of the scheduled contests for that sports team.

For example, if the infraction occurs during football season which has a schedule of eight games, the player will be forced to miss 20% of the 8 games or 1.6 games - a 2 game penalty would be deemed appropriate at the High School Principal's discretion in this instance. If the player's infraction occurs during basketball season which has 20 scheduled games, the player will miss 20% of the 20 scheduled games or 4 games total.

We will allow the student-athlete, coach, and parents (if they so choose) to meet with the Athletic Director to discuss the infraction and any disciplinary action that has been levied. The student-athlete will then be required to attend and participate in all practices leading up to the game in which they are eligible to return. The student-athlete will not be allowed to participate in any games between the infraction and the end of the disciplinary period, but will be required to be in attendance on the bench in street clothes for the entire period.

### **B. Second Infraction:**

When a second infraction occurs within a year of the first infraction, whether a repeat of the first infraction or an entirely different one, the High School Principal will arrange a meeting with the Coach and Athletic Director to investigate the allegations. At this meeting, if the student has been found guilty of this second infraction, the student will be suspended for a minimum of 40% of the current season. The 40% is again taken from the total number of games that are scheduled for the team - not 40% of the games that are left on the schedule. The student-athlete and/or parent may arrange a meeting to discuss the issue if desired.

C. **Third Infraction**: If a third infraction occurs, the student-athlete may be subject to permanent suspension from athletic participation pending an administrative review.

### **Special Notes in Regard to Any Level of Infraction:**

Infractions sometimes occur toward the very end of a sports season or the end of the school year. In either case, the disciplinary actions, as outlined above, may not be able to be fully applied during one sport season. In the event a situation arises which spans more than one sport season or even one school year, school officials have the prerogative to carry discipline to the next sport played, and/or if necessary, to the next school year.

The 20% and 40% penalties in the First Infraction and Second Infraction stages respectively, will always be based on upon the total number of games scheduled for the sport for that season. However, if a penalty carries over into the next season, the remainder of the penalty will be based upon a percentage of the number of games for that second season. For example, if an athlete is only able to finish half of his 20% penalty during football season (10% = 1 game suspension), then he will still owe 10% at the start of the next sport season in which he participates. As an example, if he will be playing basketball, he would owe 10% of the 20 game basketball schedule, or 2 games total.

### **Extracurricular Code of Conduct**

Students are expected to display good citizenship and behavior in the academic and athletic arena. They must be able to conform to all the rules governing athletics as set forth by the NYSPHSAA, Section IV and the IAC. Our student-athletes should understand and act in accordance with the Candor High School Student Handbook and the Athletic Code of Conduct governing the daily routine of a Candor student.

Our student-athletes will always show respect toward our coaches, officials, school personnel and anyone else involved with the athletic program we offer. Our behaviors and actions will also be judged by how we treat and interact with our opponents, their coaches, fans and anyone involved with their athletic programs as well. During the school day, we will be held to a high standard in how we deal with our classmates, teachers, and other school authorities and personnel. If a student's behavior requires an in-school or out of school suspension the following consequences will be enforced for our student-athletes.

**In-School Suspension**: An in-school suspension for any length of time during the school day will require the student to be ineligible to play for a game that day, or if no games are scheduled, that student will be forced to miss the next game to be played by that team. If there is a practice, the student will be allowed to participate that day. For the game that the student will be required to miss, the student will be allowed to attend the game, but only in street clothes.

**Out-of-School Suspension**: An Out-of-School Suspension will cause the student-athlete to miss all games which take place during the suspension as well as one additional game after the student returns to regular school attendance. Athletes will not be allowed to attend the games while under suspension, but will be allowed to attend the additional game in street clothes after the suspension has been concluded.

**In order to be a Student-Athlete in the Candor Central School District, one should expect to:**

- be dealt with on an individual basis subsequent to any incident(s) with the police
- be allowed to try out for another sports team if that student was cut from a team during tryouts or leaves under mutual agreement between the coach and player. The Athletic Director and the both coaches involved must agree that the student be allowed to pursue a second sport tryout.
- be allowed to petition the Athletic Director for permission to play in subsequent seasons after being dismissed from a team by a coach during a previous season, or after quitting a team during a previous season.
- work hard in class. Failure to work hard, earn appropriate grades, or act as a conscientious student will put the student-athlete in danger of being put on the AAP List - described in detail later in this document.
- participate in physical education classes throughout the year. Students who do not participate or cannot participate due to an absence, injury or illness will not be allowed to participate in a practice or game on that date unless they have a legal excuse for being absent or a doctor's note clearing them to return to action. If they have been cleared to play, the student will be expected to make up the physical education class that was missed.
- be expected to work their way back into playing shape after missing an extended period of time due to injury or illness. A medical release is the first step to reinstatement into team practices and games, but a 'back to action' plan will also be created between the player, the coach and school medical personnel to ensure the safety and health of the player who has missed significant time.
- be expected to travel with the team on the district supplied bus to and from all school sponsored scrimmages and contests that require transportation. A student may only travel home with a **parent** who has signed the appropriate form provided by the coach. If other arrangements need to be made to transport the student, a parent should contact the Athletic Director or High School Principal for permission. This should be done well in advance of the contest for permission to be granted. *[NYS Law prohibits school officials from dropping off student-athletes at their homes on the way back from contests]*
- be treated consistently when displaying symptoms of having received a concussion. The student will be evaluated and treated according to our district's concussion plan. This plan can be found on the school's website. The **School Doctor** will be the ultimate authority on allowing a student to be reinstated to full athletic activities.
- be placed on the AAP list if they are failing two or more classes at the end of 5 weeks or at the end of a semester.
- be aware of and follow our attendance requirements as described later in this document.

- be aware of and follow our policies on using social media as described later in this document

### **Extracurricular Attendance Requirement**

Attendance for a full day of school is expected for a student-athlete in order to participate in an extracurricular activity. Students must be in attendance at the start of homeroom to participate in athletics, unless they have:

- a) a legal excuse for a medical or dental appointment
- b) a legal excuse according to the state guidelines - college visit, funeral, court date..
- c) special permission from the High School Principal or Athletic Director

Medical appointments must be verified by a signed note from the doctor's or dentist's office. Students who sign in late or out early due to illness will not be allowed to practice or play in any event that day - unless they return with an appropriate doctor's note. All college visitations must include a meeting with a representative from the counselor's/admissions office. Verification of the visit can be made by bringing back a business card or a signed statement on the college's letterhead.

### **Academic Accountability Program (AAP)**

Any student participating in an extracurricular activity will have to follow the Academic Accountability Program (AAP). This program ensures that an education first priority is upheld by our student-athletes. This program is designed to keep players in the game if they are working hard in the classroom. There are two levels to the AAP as described next.

#### **AAP - Level One:**

Students may be placed on Level One for two weeks by any or all of their teachers. Level One is basically a two week warning which allows the student-athlete to continue practicing and to continue competing in games as they try to catch up and improve their school work.

Teachers may put student-athletes on this list for a variety of reasons. Students who do not do their classwork or homework on a regular basis; students might have behavior issues in class, or maybe they just don't do well on quizzes or tests. The student may or may not be failing at this time. A teacher sets up a contract with a student to indicate the areas that need to be addressed and ways for that student to become more successful in class. The student will spend the next two weeks getting missing work done, correcting earlier mistakes, or just coming in during a study hall to make sure that he/she understands the material well enough. If the student follows the plan, he/she can stay on Level One, if the teacher feels there is still a need, or can be taken off the Level One list. If the student does not do well at all in following the plan and is still having troubles in class, the teacher may move the student to Level Two.

#### **AAP - Level Two:**

Students are placed on Level Two only after they have been on Level One for at least two weeks. The idea is the same as Level One, but now the students, while they can still practice with the team, are not allowed to participate in any games while on this list. The student must now follow a newly created plan of action set forth by the teacher for the next two weeks. At the end of this two week period, teachers look at what has been accomplished and then decide to keep the student on Level

Two, move the student back to Level One, or possibly even take the student off both lists. If the student was placed back on Level One or taken off the lists all together, the student will immediately be free to get back into game action.

The Athletic Director reserves the right to extend Level Two status into the next sports season if acceptable progress has not been made by the student in the targeted class(es).

### **Students Failing Two or More Classes:**

After each five week marking period, student-athletes who are failing two or more classes will automatically be placed on the AAP Level One designation. These students will work with the teachers whose classes they are failing to create an action plan to improve their class standing. The student will have to follow through with this plan or risk advancing to Level Two. The Athletic Director will be in contact with these students' teachers to make sure they are each working towards successful completion of the goals set up in their action plans.

It will be the requirement for each of these students to complete the appropriate form to document their progress to determine eligibility. This form will be acquired from the Athletic Director's office. The students will be required to get the appropriate signatures from the teachers of the classes that they are failing during this two week period.

### **Social Media – Hazing - Bullying:**

- Using social media like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snap Chat, or the like to criticize or berate teammates, coaches, other players, game officials, opponents, or other school personnel may lead to consequences including, but not limited to, suspension from practice and/or games, or possibly dismissal from the team.
- Hazing athletes by teammates or by coaches is not allowed. Any actions that are deemed as hazing will receive an appropriate consequence based on administrative discretion.
- Bullying is a practice that we cannot accept or tolerate. All reports of bullying, whether in school, at practice, or in a game will be investigated by our Dean of Students and Administration. Appropriate consequences will be administered accordingly.