

BUFORD CITY SCHOOLS
2023-24 ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Athlete's Name _____ Grade _____ Sports _____

The Buford City School's administration, coaches, and staff believe that students who are selected for the privilege of membership on athletic teams should conduct themselves as responsible representatives of the schools. Since athletic participation on our sports teams is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate will be expected to follow the Code of Conduct established by the administration, and other specific rules established by respective coaches per their sport. As recognized representatives of our schools, members are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior during the season or out of season, in uniform or out of uniform, and on campus or off campus. The principal, athletic director, and head coaches shall enforce all rules and regulations as described in the Code of Conduct for athletes.

Per BCSS: Students are not eligible for participation each day they serve ISS.

Per GHSA: 1.56 Loss of Eligibility: Students assigned to an alternative school or on out-of-school suspension for disciplinary reasons, or adjudicated to YDC, lose their eligibility. Suspension is considered to have ended when the student is physically readmitted to the classroom.

1. A student-athlete who uses or possesses **alcohol or illegal drugs, including marijuana, or has a positive test in the BHS Drug Screening Program.**
 - a. **First Offense**
 - Loss of athletic participation in 20% of the next scheduled game competitions (this includes playoffs). The loss of athletic participation in game competitions will be carried over to the start of the next season, or to the next sports season if the athlete competed in that sport the previous athletic year.
 - The athlete is subject to random drug tests through the Drug Screening Program. An athlete's refusal to be tested in the Drug Screening Program will be treated the same as a positive test result and will be counted in the cumulative number of Code of Conduct violations.
 - b. **Second offense**-Loss of athletic participation for 50% of game competitions and subject to additional unannounced tests.
 - c. **Third offense**-Loss of athletic participation for one calendar year
 - d. **Fourth offense**-Permanently suspended from athletic participation on any sports team
 - e. The head coach may add other disciplinary action, such as loss of team captain, running drills, or community service.
 - f. The athlete is subject to being ineligible for athletic scholarship applications
 - g. A student caught vaping / smoking / using tobacco will automatically be suspended from their next scheduled game competition (including playoffs).
2. Any student-athlete convicted of **selling, or with intent to distribute drugs** will be permanently banned from athletics.
3. A student-athlete who is **arrested for, or charged with, a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony** shall be automatically suspended from athletics until the athletic director, principal, and superintendent make a ruling as to the disciplinary action of the particular case.
4. A student-athlete who commits the following offenses shall be disciplined. The discipline may include, but not limited to, suspension or permanent dismissal from the team.
 - a. **Theft**
 - b. **Fighting**
 - c. **Acting in an unsportsmanlike manner when representing the school**
 - d. **Any act at school or away from school, which results in any discipline by school administration**
 - e. **Any act at school, or away from school, which in the opinion of the coaches and administration, reflects in a negative manner on the school or athletic program.**

5. Buford City Schools will not condone **bullying or hazing** among its students. Buford City Schools will treat bullying and hazing as it does intimidation and harassment. Students suspected or guilty of bullying or hazing will be immediately referred to the principal. A student-athlete or parent should report any concerns directly to the coach, athletic director, or principal.
6. Student-athletes are responsible for information contained in **written or electronic transmission** (email) and any information posted on a public domain (internet, chat room, blogs, facebook, you tube, Instagram, twitter, vine). Inappropriate, threatening, or embarrassing information or pictures should not be posted in any public domain. A violation of this rule may result in game suspensions or dismissal from the team.
7. **Cell phones and cameras** may not be used inside a locker room for any purpose by a student-athlete. This means no texting, no calling, and no pictures. Should an athlete receive a call or text after school hours while in the locker room, he or she must take the phone (still in backpack, book bag, gym bag, etc.) out to the hall or outside the building before use. Cameras and cell phones may not be in use or out in view in the locker room for any reason. A violation of this rule may result in game suspensions or dismissal from the team.
8. A student-athlete who **loses their equipment or fails to return equipment or uniforms** to his/her coach must financially repay for the respective loss. The student-athlete is not allowed to participate in another sport or attend the sports awards program until all debts are cleared.
9. A student-athlete who is placed in **out-of-school suspension** cannot participate in or attend any games or practices during the suspension.
10. A student-athlete who **quits a team, or is removed from the team**, once it has begun official practices, cannot begin another sports season or practices until the sports season ends that he/she quit. If there is a mutual decision by the coach and player to discontinue a player's participation on a team, then the player can begin practice with another sport without penalty.
11. Each coach of a student-athlete has the prerogative to establish additional rules pertaining to the activity supervised. These rules may include attendance at practices, curfew, dress, locker room cleanliness, horseplay, being on time, and general conduct on buses or at off-campus activities.

A student-athlete and his or her parents may appeal a decision to the athletic director and school principal within three days of the disciplinary decision. The principal and athletic director will hear both sides of the appeal and will take action upon which they consider to be in the best interests of the student-athlete, the team, and school.

As the Parent/Guardian:

- I pledge to communicate with my child's coach in a professional manner when issues arise, and that I will not approach my child's coach during or after a contest or practice.
- I understand that appropriate concerns to discuss with the coach are: the treatment of my child mentally and physically, and concerns about my child's behavior.
- I understand that issues not appropriate to discuss with the coach are: playing time, team strategy, play calling, other student-athletes.
- I will express my concerns directly to the coach.
- I will contribute to the goal of a "family" environment within Buford Athletics by promoting good sportsmanship, by celebrating team accomplishments, and by giving value to my child's opportunity to be a member of a team.

***My signature acknowledges that I have read the Athletic Code of Conduct and agree to abide by all rules and regulations contained herewith.**

***My signature releases Buford City Schools to post on the athletic website, www.bufordwolves.com, my child's name and picture with any team rosters.**

***My signature releases my child's head coach to discuss with college recruiters my child's participation with the respective BHS sports team.**

 Player Signature

 Parent/Guardian Signature

 Date