



## **DAVISON ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Philosophy of Athletics**

**Davison's interscholastic athletic program is a vital and integral part of our total educational program. As an integral part of the educational process, Davison's athletic program supports the objectives and standards of our district. Athletes must strive for educational and athletic excellence while staying within the boundaries of good sportsmanship. Students involved in extracurricular activities have a greater chance for success during adulthood. The development of character, integrity, commitment, and having a vision, is a key element of the Davison Athletic Department. In life, as in athletics, an individual must have a vision to succeed and learn how to deal with success and adversity. The athletic environment provides an excellent laboratory for students to develop life skills that will stay with them after graduation, and help bring success to their future.**

### **Program Objectives**

1. To provide a positive image of school activities at Davison Community Schools.
2. To provide students with opportunities for physical, mental, and emotional development.
3. To experience team play and understand its importance.
4. To develop loyalty, cooperation, commitment, and sportsmanship.
5. To create a desire to improve and excel.
6. To practice and develop self-discipline while learning to make decisions under pressure.
7. To develop an understanding of the value for extracurricular athletics within a balanced educational experience.
8. To develop leadership qualities and skills.

### **MHSAA/Davison Athletics CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES**

1. Know and adhere to the athletic code of the school.
2. Exceed all attendance and academic requirements as practical evidence of loyalty to school and team and proper philosophy of school-sponsored athletics.
3. Observe completely all policies regarding conduct, doing so as a duty to school, team and self.
4. Counsel with the **athletic director** over questions of eligibility.
5. Practice and play, giving complete effort in all circumstances giving credit in victory to teammates and to opponents in defeat. *"Play for the name on the front of your jersey rather than the name on the back."*
6. Accept favorable and unfavorable decisions, as well as victory and defeat, with equal grace.
7. Demonstrate respect for opponents and officials before, during, and after contests. **This includes but is not limited to the use of social media.**
8. Participation in extracurricular competitive interscholastic athletics is a student's privilege, not a right that can be removed at any time for failure to meet the set standards and requirements. A sense of entitlement WILL NOT be tolerated. Your commitment and

dedication to the team and the team's goals are paramount to the team's success.

### **Davison Athletic Code of Conduct for Student Athletes**

Participation in Davison's Sports Programs is a privilege. Athletes must adhere to MHSAA, Saginaw Valley League Conference and Davison Community School District expectations. Davison Community School District athletes must conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times and remember that they represent much more than just themselves. "Davison Made" means something very important to Davison Athletics, it is what we all stand for, respect, integrity, sportsmanship, honor, trust, hard work and team mentality, and it is vital that our student athletes know and understand that. This standard applies to school and community activities that may occur on or off school property. Violations may result in suspension or dismissal from a team in addition to consequences outlined in the Davison High School's Parent Student Handbook. The purpose of Davison's Athletic **Code of Conduct** is to establish an awareness of sports-related consequences for violation of established school rules. The disciplinary actions recommended in each case should be considered as the minimum. Each coach may establish and enforce additional rules and penalties. These rules must be in writing, approved by the athletic director and/or building principal, and shared with all participating students and parents. If circumstances warrant, a more severe disciplinary action may result.

Certain violations represent serious incidents that may occur in school, at school events, away from school, or during off seasons. The Davison Athletic Code of Conduct is enforced 365 days a year. These violations may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Possession, use, or transfer of controlled substances or drug paraphernalia.
- Possession, use, or transfer of alcoholic beverages including those labeled as non-alcoholic.
- Possession or use of tobacco.
- Possession, use or transfer of weapons.
- Theft, arson and vandalism.
- Gross misbehavior and/or persistent disobedience.
- Striking or threatening school personnel.
- Gang related activities.
- Hazing

<b>First Offense</b>	<p>Students will become ineligible in his/her sport (or next sport if not in season) for up to 21 calendar days depending on the violation. The length of suspension will be the decision of the athletic director, principal, and other administrator's as seen fit, along with the head coach.</p> <p><b>In the event that a student-athlete's suspension carries over to a new (next) sport's season, the student athlete will be permitted to try out for the next sport; however, they will be ineligible for the remaining number of contests related to his/her suspension. The length of the suspension is determined by the season in which the athlete was participating when the offense occurred or the next season in which the athlete participates if the offense occurred in the off-season.</b></p>
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<b>Second Offense</b>	Students will become ineligible for participation in all athletic activities for up to 70 calendar days depending on the violation.
<b>Third Offense</b>	Students will become ineligible for participation in athletic activities for up to 365 calendar days and depending on the severity the violation also keeping in mind that violations are cumulative the student can be suspended from athletics for the remainder of their high school career.

***\*The last day of school until the first day of fall practice will not be counted as a part of the 70 calendar days. Violations are cumulative beginning with the first days of the fall season of their freshman year.***

**Athletic Code of Conduct for Student Athletes (continued)**

Other violations represent less serious incidents that may also occur in school, at school events, away from school, or during off seasons. These violations may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Skipping school.
- Fighting.
- Insubordination.
- Threatening/ harassing students and/or groups of students in person or on social media.
- Cheating
- Repeated referrals or dismissals from class.
- Assault.
- Inappropriate behavior unbecoming of a student-athlete.

<b>First Offense</b>	The athletic director will meet with the student athlete to explain disciplinary consequences. Consequences may include loss of athletic participation for a consecutive number of days. The athletic director shall inform the student and parents of the disciplinary action in writing.
<b>Second and Subsequent Offenses</b>	The athletic director will meet with the student and parent to explain disciplinary consequences. Consequences may include loss of athletic participation for the remainder of the season. The athletic director shall inform the student and parents of the disciplinary action in writing.

**Note:** Students receiving out-of-school suspension for violation of school rules are also suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities; which include athletic practices and contests while serving the suspension. The athletic department can hand down extra athletic consequences in the

case of a school suspension. Students cannot be on school property or attend an away contest as a spectator.

### **Appeals and Due Process**

Davison students may appeal athletic consequences related to violation of school rules to the principal, in writing, within twenty-four hours of the suspension. The principal's decision will be final.

### **Athletic Attendance Policy**

**Attendance** – It is the expectation that athletes attend all practices and games. If an absence occurs coaches must be contacted prior to the absence whenever possible. The following consequences exist for unexcused absences. Each coach may establish and enforce additional rules and penalties that have been approved by the athletic director and/or building principal, and shared with all participating students and parents.

First Offense	Coach and athlete conference
Second Offense	Coach, parent and athlete conference, One game suspension
Third Offense	Dismissal from team

***Athletes dismissed from their team as a result of unexcused absences may request a review of their dismissal through submission of a written appeal to the athletic director. This appeal must be submitted within two school days of being dismissed. The athletic director will make a final decision within two days of receiving the appeal.***

### **School Attendance**

1. A high school student must be in school one-half of the school day in order to participate in a practice or game on that day. The athletic director must approve any exception to this rule.
2. A middle school student must attend at least four classes during the day to participate in a practice or game on that day. The athletic director must approve any exception to this rule.
3. Exceptions to this rule are at the discretion of the athletic director and/or building principal.

### **Expectations of Students/Parents/Fans**

1. Be positive, enthusiastic, supportive, maintain high standards of ethics, integrity, sportsmanship, and leadership.
2. Work together with coaches and parents, within the program, regarding rules processes and procedures. Remember the importance of confidentiality during coaches meetings regarding other students and the fact that the coach cannot discuss another student's situation with you. ***When adults and coaches get together, kids win! We need to work together to help kids to be as successful as they can in every possible situation, and in everything they want to do.***
3. Understand how his/her sport fits into the total athletic effort of the Davison Community School District and know that we are trying to create unity among all.
4. Understand that officials will make mistakes, and will make bad calls at times, remember that as the athlete your job is to play not complain about officials, and as

the adult you are the model to our student athletes and how we should represent the Davison Athletic Department. If you are not representing the athletic department appropriately, you may be asked to leave the event.

5. Demonstrate the ability to relate to and deal with different people in an appropriate and professional manner (i.e. students, parents, faculty, administrators)

***If this is a continued problem, you may be expelled from athletic events for a longer period of time up to and including the entire season or longer.***

#### **Game Conduct**

1. Each student athlete should set an example of proper behavior for the next student athlete who will "borrow" the uniform. Their behavior and actions are a direct reflection and representation for the Davison Athletic Department and school district. Good sportsmanship is a must regardless of the situation. There is **absolutely NO** excuse for anything less!
2. Officials are human, they are individuals that volunteer their time for a very minor cost to the school, and are there to have a good game just like you. Refrain from questioning a call or having an interaction with an official unless it is a positive one. If a question in regards to a call is needed, allow your coach to do that, in the right manner, at the right time, under his/her judgement.
3. Maintain a professional and respectful demeanor whenever you are in a position of being observed by others.

#### **Internet**

**Coaches and players should refrain from posting on the Internet any information concerning the Davison team that is not directly related to the team, schedule, or information as would be seen fit. Common sense must be used in the matter, and if you are questioning whether you should hit post/send then you probably shouldn't be. Appropriate use of social networking/media is an absolute necessity. Remember that you and your teammates are not the only ones who see it, no matter what you think or how you post it. Leave announcements and other news related to the team, up to your head coach to post**

#### **Athletic Website**

The athletic office has its own website where all athletic schedules can be found, along with information regarding the athletic department, updates, and individual team information.

[www.davisonathletics.org](http://www.davisonathletics.org)

**I have read and understand the Davison Athletic Code of Conduct.**

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sports:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of parent or guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_