

# Athletic Code of Conduct

Boys Ranch I.S.D. Athletic Program represents an important aspect of total student learning, where students are afforded an opportunity for physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, and social growth, and where the District's mission of education excellence is enhanced.

## Athlete's Code of Conduct

Being a BRISD Athlete is a student choice and thereby a privilege, one that along with being a great honor, carries with it responsibilities. The following are expected of a Boys Ranch Athlete:

1. Boys Ranch athletes will be intense competitors on the field, the court, the mat, and the track but are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times and strive to model their behavior after Cal Farley's Boys Ranch ideals.
2. Boys Ranch athletes are to display positive leadership at all times in our school and around the community.
3. Boys Ranch athletes are to strive for the highest in moral and spiritual values.
4. When traveling to compete against other schools, Boys Ranch athletes will represent themselves and their teams in a manner that reflects Cal Farley's Boys Ranch values and ideals.

As a Boys Ranch athlete, our young men and young ladies have an image to reflect: one of leadership, character, responsibility, competitive spirit, and integrity. Students are not required to take part in extra-curricular activities. Therefore, it is imperative that all students taking part in athletics understand the following responsibilities and rules and that the coaches of that athletic program and the athletic director have the right to remove that privilege.

### **I. Training Rules**

*All training rules must be followed from the start of the season to the end of the season. Any incident reported to the athletic director via email, phone call, or daily incident report containing the following violations will have the following consequences. \*Incidents at school or on school-sponsored activities may carry additional consequences such as ISS, OSS, or DAEP placement. .*

#### Use/Possession of Tobacco Products

- First offense - Athlete is placed on probationary status for the remainder of the sport, eligible to practice, and eligible to participate in athletic contests.
- Second offense – Athlete is eligible to practice, but ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game/meet/tournament/contest.
- Third offense – Athlete is eligible to practice, but ineligible to participate in the next two scheduled games/meets/tournaments/contests.
- Fourth offense – Athlete is suspended from the team for the remainder of the season and will be ineligible for letter award

## Use/Possession of Alcohol/Drugs/Illegal Substances

- First offense – Athlete is eligible to practice, but ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game/meet/tournament/contest.
- Second offense – Athlete is eligible to practice, but ineligible to participate in the next two scheduled games/meets/tournaments/contests.
- Third offense – Athlete is suspended from the team for the remainder of the season and will be ineligible for letter award

## **II. Serious Criminal Offenses**

- First offense – Athlete is eligible to practice, but ineligible to participate in the next two scheduled games/meets/tournaments/contests.
- Second offense – Athlete is suspended from the team for the remainder of the season and will be ineligible for letter award

*When a serious criminal offense has occurred, school administration (superintendent, athletic director, or campus principal) should be notified, as well as, the head coach by a member of the childcare team. Violations should be reported as soon as possible.*

## **III. Quitting**

- Athletes are strongly encouraged to fulfill their commitments to each team. While it is not possible to force an athlete to keep his/her commitment, caseworkers, houseparents, head coach, counselors, and athletic director will work together to find a resolve to keep the athlete on the team.
- An athlete who choose to quit a sport will serve a two-week suspension from the next sport.
- Those who quit are ineligible for letter jacket, as well as, “Athlete of the Year” honors.

## **IV. During the contest**

- The athlete must refrain from the use of profanity/trash talk or resorting to illegal tactics.
- Temper fits, flagrant violations of rules, etc. will not be tolerated.
- Total respect of officials is a must.

*Any behavior contrary to the above-mentioned or any act, which is not conducive to good sportsmanship, will result in temporal and perhaps permanent removal from the contest. The head coach will appropriately discipline any athlete who is ejected from a contest.*

## **V. Practice Regulations**

- Practices are essential for proper conditioning, improvement of techniques, and teamwork skills. Athletes are required to attend ALL scheduled practices. Every effort should be made to avoid missing a practice.
- Notify the coach as soon as possible prior to a practice or contest if an athlete must be absent.
- Obey all practice/training rules set up by the coach.
- Profanity and poor effort will not be tolerated.
- Violation of practice regulations may result in loss of letter award for that sport.

## **VI. School Equipment**

- Athletes are responsible for the proper care of all equipment they are issued for their respective sports.
- School equipment must not be abused nor worn for personal use.
- Replacement of any equipment damaged by improper care, lost, or stolen is the financial responsibility of the athlete.

## **VII. Travel**

- Be on time for all trips.
- Dress appropriately as directed by the coach.
- Abide by all rules while traveling on bus/van/etc.
- Be mannerly in restaurants and public places.
- Coaches and/or sponsors have the authorization to inspect travel bags and luggage before traveling on overnight trips. Students are responsible for making sure all contents in their possession are in accordance with school policy
- Coaches and/or sponsors have the authorization to collect cell phones/electronics each night just prior to assigned “lights out.”
- All students making the trip on the bus will return on the bus unless in an emergency-type situation or there is good reason for returning with the parents. If a student plans to return with the parents, it must be cleared with the head coach prior to the trip.
- Appropriate documentation/notification is essential for a coach to release residents for a home visit.

## **Athletic Lettering Policies**

### **Football**

1. Play on varsity squad for five or more games

### **Cross Country**

1. Participate in ½ of the meets at the varsity level, or
2. Place in the Top 20 in a varsity meet or run on varsity at the district or regional meet, or
3. JV runner may count a JV meet as a varsity meet if the time would have placed him/her in the Top 20 on the Varsity division.

### **Basketball**

1. Play on varsity squad for at 12 or more games

### **Wrestling**

1. Wrestle in ½ of the varsity matches, or
2. Score 30 team points on the varsity level, or
3. Qualify for the Regional Wrestling Tournament. (Must win 1 match at district.)

### **Track & Field**

1. Compete in a minimum of two events in ½ the meets on the varsity level, or
2. Score 1 point at the district track meet, or
3. A runner or field event contestant at the district meet may count JV time or mark if it would have earned points on the varsity level.

### **Tennis**

1. Play in ½ of the varsity matches, or
2. Place in the Top Four in the varsity district meet.

### **Baseball**

1. Play on the varsity squad for 10 or more games.

And/Or have the unreserved recommendation of the head coach of the varsity sport.

*Exception: After two years of participation, a senior who has not met all the requirements may letter at the discretion of the head coach with the approval of the athletic director. A student who has served as manager for a sport for three years will also be eligible for a letter.*

## **Boys Ranch ISD Athletic Goals**

### **Goals of the Junior High Program**

- A quality experience for all athletes involved.
- Development of skills to progress as an athlete.
- Sportsmanship on the playing field as well as off.
- Enjoyment of the game and of the team- building experience.

Each of these goals has equal weight in the Junior High Program. Winning is an outcome of the accomplishment of these goals. The desire to win is fostered; however, the winning is a nice thing that happens at this level – it is not the driving force that governs the program.

### **Goals of the Junior Varsity Program:**

- Development of skills and refinement to prepare for Varsity competition.
- A quality experience for all athletes involved.
- Sportsmanship on the playing field as well as off.
- Enjoyment of the game and of the team–building experience.

At this level, a primary focus is development of players to compete at the varsity level – but not at the expense of other goals. The desire to win is more strongly encouraged, but again not at the expense of the other goals.

### **Goals of the Varsity Program**

- Refinement of skills to create a competitive interscholastic team.
- Sportsmanship on the playing field as well as off.
- Develop citizenship and leadership (school & community).
- A quality experience for all athletes involved.
- Enjoyment of the game and team-building experience.

Winning at all costs is not a concept that is promoted at the varsity level; however, there is a higher expectation to win. Coaches will make team decisions that will affect individuals on the team differently in an effort to win, but not at the expense of other goals.

### **Athletes' Expectations of Coaches**

*Each athlete can expect his or her coach to:*

- Run a well-organized and productive program.
- Develop a positive environment that encourages athletic achievement.
- Hold each athlete and team accountable for action on and off the playing field through proper supervision.
- Lead by example through actions and words on and off the field.
- Correct mistakes in a positive manner that encourages development.
- Support other athletes, coaches, and programs with sincere enthusiasm and loyalty to the school.

### **Coaches' Expectations of Parents/Caseworkers**

- Communicate any concern directly to the coach.
- Notification of any scheduled conflicts in advance.
- Notification of any injury or illness promptly.

### **Topics left to the coaches' discretion.**

- Playing time.
- Play calling.
- Team strategy.

### **Parent/Caseworker-Coach Meeting Procedure.**

1. Our coaches may be contacted either at home or the school.
2. Request a meeting to discuss concern.
3. If the coach is unavailable, contact the athletic director.
4. Do not confront a coach when children are present. (i. e. right before or right after a game or practice.)

Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions.

If not satisfied with the outcome of the parent/cw-coach meeting, contact the Athletic Director. If no resolve has been made after these two meetings, you may contact the Superintendent's Office.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

~ Can an athlete practice or participate in a contest the same day that he/she served ISS or DAEP?

**Answer: Yes and No. A student may practice and participate in a contest the same day he/she served ISS. A student may not be excused from ISS to travel with the team to the event, however. A student in DAEP is not allowed to practice nor participate with an athletic team.**

~ May an athlete compete in dual sports during a season?

**Answer: Yes. An athlete may participate in two sports during a season. The first sport must be designated Primary and the second choice as Secondary. If the athlete fails academically, he/she will be limited to one sport per season the remainder of the year.**

~ Do academically ineligible students continue to practice?

**Answer: Yes. According to UIL, even though an athlete is ineligible for athletic contests, he/she will continue to regularly attend practices.**

~ Do injured athletes attend practices or travel with teams to contests?

**Answer: Yes and No. Injured athletes do attend practices for rehabilitation, cognitive skills, and team unity. Due to budget constraints, injured athletes do not travel to away events unless assigned a managerial task by the coach.**

~ When a student fails a course at the end of a grading period, is that course the only subject the student must pass to regain eligibility in three weeks?

**Answer: No, the student must be passing all courses at the end of the three-school week evaluation period in order to regain eligibility.**