

## **APPENDIX K: PINNACLE ATHLETIC POLICY**

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Pinnacle Schools participates in athletics through both the Castle Valley Athletic Association and Utah High School Activities Association and abides by all rules set forth by each association. Students can gain critical life skills through participation in athletic programs and the goal for each Pinnacle team is to create an atmosphere of dedication, discipline and good sportsmanship where coaches and students work together while adhering to the Athletic Department Policy.

### **ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIOR STANDARDS**

Pinnacle athletes are students first and must maintain academic eligibility in order to participate fully. Athletes will maintain a minimum grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 grade point average (per UHSAA requirements) and any athlete with two failing grades during the preceding grading period will not be able to play on a high school team per UHSAA rules. Fourth quarter grades will determine eligibility for the subsequent school year's Fall sports (baseball, volleyball and cross country). Students will be able to make up fourth quarter grades during the summer as long as the grades are made up before tryouts for fall sports. Each week, student athletes will show their current grade summary to their coach. The Athletic Director will pull an official grade summary every two weeks to determine player eligibility.

Behavior also affects eligibility. Student athletes will be respectful to all other players, coaches and officials demonstrating good sportsmanship in practices and games as they represent Pinnacle Schools. Athletes will also be respectful to all Pinnacle teachers and staff. Students with one U or two N's will not be eligible to participate until the citizenship grade is brought up to satisfactory. Student athletes will not play with a U in the current quarter. Disrespect in any form will not be tolerated. Eligibility can be affected if a student athlete sluffs classes/assemblies, bullies or hazes others, is disruptive at school, commits theft or vandalizes personal or public property while at school.

Failing grades and poor citizenship must be brought up one day before any games in order for students to participate. Students who are repeatedly ineligible due to failing grades and/or poor citizenship may be declared ineligible and potentially dismissed from the team.

### **ATTENDANCE**

State law requires mandatory student attendance at school. The coach shall be notified as soon as possible if athletes are unable to attend practices or games. Emergencies, such as a death in the family or major sickness, are excused but it is the student's responsibility to contact their coach as soon as possible. Coaches have complete discretion for playing athletes who miss school on game days or are absent the day after a game. All other exceptions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and must be approved in advance. Student athletes are expected to be punctual and attend 100% of all team functions.

Any athlete that doesn't attend and participate in qualifying Region and/or State events will be kicked off the team, will return and pay for all uniforms and team clothing, will not be eligible for athlete of the year, will not attend the sports banquet and will be assessed a \$100 fine.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Open, honest and respectful communication is critical to our success as an Athletic Department. Athletes with concerns shall speak to their coaches first. Parents with concerns shall speak first with their athlete first and then approach the coach. Parents will not approach coaches before or after a game/match but shall arrange a meeting to discuss the issue. Coaches will not discuss an athlete's playing time. If parental concerns are not resolved, then the parent may arrange a meeting with the Athletic Director. If concerns remain unresolved, a meeting between the parents, Athletic Director and Administration can then be arranged.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Pinnacle Schools believes in modeling and promoting character education. Good sportsmanship follows good character. The UHSAA handbook states that "the concept of sportsmanship shall be taught, modeled, expected and reinforced in the classroom and in all competitive activities." Administrators, coaches, parents and athletes shall read the UHSAA

Sportsmanship Handbook found online. Per the UHSAA Handbook, “any coach, athlete or bench personnel ejected by an official shall be suspended from the next regularly scheduled game at that level of play.” All other violations will be handled based on the guidelines from UHSAA. Athletes may not appeal an ejection. Unsportsmanlike behavior from any parent or guardian at games or practices (including confronting coaches and/or officials) will result in their being removed from the gym/field and/or their athletes being benched or potentially removed from the team. As of May 2013, the Castle Valley Association instituted the policy that coaches who are ejected from a game receive a one game suspension. Games and practices can become heated during play and while some physical contact occurs in sports, no deliberate acts of violence or injury are ever acceptable on the field/court.

### **TOBACCO/ALCOHOL/DRUG POLICY (Revised 10/30/23)**

Pinnacle will follow current UHSAA policy regarding drugs, alcohol and tobacco which can be found in Article 10 of the UHSAA bylaws at <https://uhsaa.org/Publications/Handbook/Handbook.pdf> (see also below). Drug testing will be at the discretion of the head coach and/or administration with a minimum of one drug test per season. The drug test will count for multi-sport athletes during the same season. Should there be a positive drug test, the consequences for multi-sport athletes will be applied to both sports in the same season. Coaches and/or Administration reserves the right to drug test individual athletes at any time during the season.

### **SECTION 1: UHSAA Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Policies**

A. The UHSAA supports the U.S. Supreme Court rulings regarding education. First, to prepare students to be good citizens and second, to teach them to be self-reliant and self-sufficient. Activities of the UHSAA contribute to both of these goals. The use of alcohol, tobacco products or other drugs in almost every instance deters the realization of these goals. Every effort shall be made at the local, region and state levels of participation to eradicate the promotion, use or abuse of alcohol, drugs and tobacco with regard to participation in high school sports and activities. Limitation for participation of students in Utah high school activities regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco products and other drugs during a sports season, as defined in the Utah Code are:

1. **First offense:** Suspension from two consecutive games, meets, matches, competitions or performances at the same level of play (and any intervening levels as well). Practice may be continued following a personal assessment of the student by a licensed substance abuse intervention or treatment program and/or participation in a district or governing board of a charter or private school approved intervention program.

2. **Second offense:** A six-week suspension from games, meets, matches, competitions or performances. Student participation in an assessment by a licensed substance abuse intervention or treatment program with prescribed follow-up is required. Practice may continue only after the assessment has been completed and positive participation in the prescribed follow-up is occurring.

3. **Third offense:** An eighteen-week suspension from all games, meets, matches, competitions, performances and practices. Reinstatement of eligibility at the end of the eighteen-week suspension is predicated upon successful completion of a formal assessment, intervention and treatment program. In all of the foregoing offenses, local school and/or district requirements which deal with discipline, suspension, corrective measures, parent/guardian involvement, rehabilitation and so forth, must be met.

### **Interps & Guidelines 10.1.1: DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO**

A. Conditions of this policy include:

1. The use of electronic cigarettes or vapor products are prohibited.

B. Implementation of Policy

1. Violations carry over year to year and sport/activity to sport/activity in a participant’s career (there is no “fresh start” each year).
2. Violations must occur and be discovered during a sport/activity season.
3. Any penalties for violation follow the student to any school to which he/she transfers.
4. Any violation beyond the third offense carries the same penalty as the third offense.

## **SECTION 2: Local School or District Requirements**

Local school or district requirements may exceed those set forth in By-Laws Article 1

### **CONCUSSIONS**

Pinnacle will follow state policy regarding concussions (<https://www.uhsaa.org/SportsMed/ConcussionManagementPlan.pdf>). Parents will be notified as soon as possible about any head injuries that occur. Student athletes who receive a concussion during any practice or game will need to complete the clearance paperwork found online at the UHSAA website at <http://www.uhsaa.org/new/images/forms/ConcussionReleaseForm.pdf> and must be medically cleared by a doctor prior to resuming practice and/or play.

### **VARSITY LETTERING**

Students who earn a varsity letter in a sport must meet the following requirements:

#### **VOLLEYBALL**

- Complete the entire season as an active team member by contributing as much as possible toward the success of the team.
- Attend all games and practices unless excused by the coach (having to work instead of attending practice will be considered an unexcused absence as athletes have known for months that they are to plan work schedules around volleyball).
- To letter at the varsity level a student athlete must play in 75% of available games for that season (12/16 games).
- Athletes must exhibit good sportsmanship and behavior toward players, coaches and officials at all times.
- The coach has the right to waive such requirements when they are affected by injury.

#### **BASEBALL**

- Athletes must play in at least 28 innings (4 games total) of a varsity game or make the team as a senior.
- Athletes must be in good academic standing during the quarters that the athlete participates in that sport.
- Athletes shall have good character and be a positive influence to those around them both on and off the field.

#### **CROSS COUNTRY**

- An athlete must compete in (5) five of the invitational meets finishing in the top three positions on the Pinnacle team in at least (3) meets
- An athlete who finished in the top (6) scoring places in at least ( 5 ) meets
- An athlete who finished in the top three overall results of any individual or region meet or qualifies to compete in the state meet as a team or individual
- An Athlete who participates in every regular season meet and at region meet and/or who makes the team as a senior and competes in at least 5 meets

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

- Athletes must play in at least 30 quarters of a varsity game or make the varsity team as a senior.
- Athletes must regularly attend ALL classes and be in good academic standing.
- Athletes must have good character.

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

- Athletes must play in at least 20 quarters (5 games total) of a varsity game or make the team as a Senior.
- Athletes must be in good academic standing during the quarters that the athlete participates in that sport.
- Athletes shall have good character and be a positive influence to those around them both on and off the court.

#### **BOYS AND GIRLS GOLF**

- Athletes must play in at least 3 golf matches or make the team as a Senior.

- Athletes must be in good academic standing during the quarters that the athlete participates in that sport.
- Athletes shall have good character and be a positive influence to those around them both on and off the course.

#### **BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK**

- An athlete must compete in (5) five of the invitational meets finishing in the top three positions on the Pinnacle team in at least (3) events, or meets, or
- Finish in the top three overall results of any individual meet or region meet or who qualifies to compete in the state meet in a team or individual event.
- An Athlete who participates in every regular season meet and at the region meet and/or who makes the team as a senior and competes in at least 5 meets.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The **Athletic Director** is responsible for player eligibility, scheduling, ordering, maintenance of athletic facilities and coordination with the Administration of all issues regarding athletics. The AD will represent Pinnacle at all association meetings, coordinate training of the coaching staff, assist with Senior Night as needed, attend all parent meetings, maintain inventories and troubleshoot all athletic events.

Each **Head Coach** will complete all certification requirements for coaching prior to the start of each season. Coaches manage all aspects of their team and will distribute, collect and inventory uniforms and equipment, train and teach fundamentals and skills of the sport, assist with field/court preparation, supervise all team members at all events, supervise all assistant coaches, check student athlete grades weekly, submit scores and results through proper networks and organize the Senior Night and awards banquet. Coaches will model respect while consistently demonstrating good sportsmanship and teamwork.

The **Student Athlete** will follow all academic and citizenship policies, exhibit good sportsmanship at all times, refrain from using profane and obscene language at practices and games, obtain a physical exam (at the participant's expense), and are required to sign the Athletic Responsibility Contract. Students who quit the team or who are ruled ineligible to participate for any reason will be charged the full replacement cost of any shoes, clothing or equipment.

The **Parents/Guardians** of each student athlete are responsible for their athletes' participation ensuring they attend practices and games, contact the coaches if players will be absent, are academically eligible, have been medically cleared to participate, pay any fees necessary and return uniforms/equipment promptly to avoid being charged replacement costs. Parents/guardians are required to sign the Athletic Responsibility Contract for their athlete. Parents/guardians shall model for their athlete appropriate means of communication and shall never "trash talk" about the coaches, players or officials. shall any parent/guardian confront coaches or officials before, during or after a game, the student athlete may be benched for future games and/or dismissed from the team.

#### **COACHES AND SCHOOL ACTIVITY LEADERS AS SUPERVISORS AND ROLE MODELS (R277-605-3).**

Coaches, assistants, advisors and other designated school leaders shall:

- diligently supervise students on the field, court or competitive site, in locker rooms, seating areas, in eating establishments and lodging facilities, and while traveling
- be responsible for a student as long as a student remains on school grounds following a school-sponsored activity, subject to Pinnacle policy, consistent with this rule
- Shall be an exemplary role model and may not use alcoholic beverages, tobacco, controlled substances, or participate in promiscuous sexual relationships while on school-sponsored activities
- Shall act in a manner consistent with Section 53G-8-209 and may not
  - Use foul, abusive, or profane language while engaged ins school related activities
  - Permit hazing, demeaning, or assaultive behavior, whether consensual or not, including behavior involving physical violence, restrain, improper touching, or inappropriate exposure of body parts not normally exposed in public settings, forced ingestion of any substance, or any act which would constitute a crime against a person or public order under Utah law.

- Shall complete LEA training on bullying, cyber-bullying, hazing, and retaliation, consistent with Subsection R277-613–4(5).

Coaches who are in violation of the above policy are subject to disciplinary consequences that may include removal from coaching.

**ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITY CLINICS (R277-605-4).**

School personnel, activity leaders, coaches, advisors, and other personnel may not require students to attend out-of-school camps, clinics, or workshops for which the personnel, activity leaders, coaches, or advisors receive remuneration from a source other than the school or district in which they are employed. Required or voluntary participation in summer or other off-season clinics, workshops, and leagues may not be used as eligibility criteria for team memberships, participation in extracurricular activities, or for the opportunity to try out for school-sponsored programs.

## ATHLETIC RESPONSIBILITY CONTRACT

**ATHLETE'S NAME** [please print]

**SCHOOL YEAR**

**SPORTS** [circle all that apply]

BASEBALL	CROSS COUNTRY	VOLLEYBALL	BASKETBALL	GOLF	TRACK
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I have read the Athletic Policy for Pinnacle Schools and agree to abide by all policies. I understand my responsibilities as outlined in the policy and that I will be held accountable for my actions. By signing this contract, I am giving permission for my student athlete to be drug tested per school policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athlete's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Coach's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Director's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date