

**Rush-Henrietta Central School District Athletic Code of Conduct**  
***(Rules, Regulations, and Requirements Governing Participation)***  
***(Head Injury Information Attached)***

***Participation in our program is not a right, but rather a privilege earned by meeting certain eligibility standards, in both academic and conduct terms.***

***Team Rules***

The student-athlete is expected to comply with the established team rules, procedures, and instructions as communicated by the coach. Coaches have the authority to temporarily suspend an athlete from the team for failure to comply with the rules and procedures or when the athlete's safety or safety of others requires such action. Suspensions longer than two days will require authorization by the director of athletics or building-level administrator. Suspensions longer than five school days will require the approval of the assistant superintendent for student & family services. Note: Non-school days will not be counted within any suspension days. (District Code of Conduct, section IX: Disciplinary penalties, procedures, and referrals, page 16, item 3.)

***Citizenship/Sportsmanship***

It is expected that Rush-Henrietta student-athletes will exhibit a high standard of conduct at all times to positively represent the school district. All aspects of the District Code of Conduct apply during any athletic participation, whether on or off campus, including at all times during away travel. In the case that a student-athlete exhibits poor citizenship and/or sportsmanship, appropriate action will be taken by the coach and administration.

***Substance Abuse***

The health and safety of all student athletes is at the heart of our Athletic Department substance abuse policy. The provisions of the policy strictly prohibit any use of physician prescribed medication in a manner that departs from physician prescribed instructions. The policy further outlaws all recreational use of mood -altering substances throughout the entire course of the season. Any violation of this policy may result in suspension from participation in that sport for any portion, of a particular season, including the full duration of eligibility. Coaches are required to report violations or suspected violations to the athletic director. The athletic director will conduct an investigation and determine the appropriate disciplinary action, applying the process from the district code of conduct for suspension from athletic participation, co-curricular activities and other privileges (Section IX: Disciplinary penalties, procedures, and referrals, page 16, item 3.) In such an event, student athletes may be required to meet with a certified substance abuse professional in-house or in the community, and to follow through with any and all recommendations pertaining to treatment. Substance abuse amongst student athletes is unhealthy behavior, that if left unchecked, often leads to health and performance problems as well as morale problems on a team level. For all of these reasons, student athletes are expected to adhere to these standards, in order to represent the Rush Henrietta District with a dual spirit of dignity and wellness.

### ***Hazing***

Student initiations and the practice of “hazing” on or off school grounds is prohibited. “Hazing” refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. (District Code of Conduct, Section VII: Prohibited student conduct, E: Engage in any conduct that endangers the safety, physical or mental health , or welfare of others, page 11, item 9.)

### ***Attendance***

1. To be eligible for participation in an interscholastic athletic activity a student must be in attendance for at least one-half of the school day (2 academic blocks) on which that activity takes place.
2. An unexcused absence on the day prior to a weekend or holiday team activity will cause the student to be ineligible to participate.
3. For extraordinary circumstances, exceptions to items 1 and 2 above require the approval of the building principal or the athletic director.
4. Emergency or extraordinary situations that require late arrival to, or absence from school must be approved by a building administrator.
5. Tardiness or truancy on the day following an event is subject to disciplinary action by the coach.
6. A student who has been suspended may not participate in any team activities until the first day following the suspension. For suspensions less than five days, school recess may be taken into consideration for early return to play.

### ***Transportation***

1. When district approved transportation is provided for the team it is expected that all team members will travel to and from the event with the team.
2. Under extraordinary circumstances, parents may obtain permission from the coach and/or athletic director, to drive their own son/daughter home from the game. A written request, signed by a parent and/or guardian, must be presented to the coach/athletic director.
3. Under no circumstances are students to obtain transportation with coaches, district employees, or other students. (A coach may transport students on a temporary basis, with prior approval, using a district DOT approved vehicle.)
4. Under extraordinary circumstances, parents/students may obtain permission from the coach and/or athletic director, to drive to events where transportation is provided by the district. A written request, signed by a parent and/or guardian, must be presented to the coach/athletic director.

**As a student-athlete at Rush-Henrietta I have read the above code of conduct and understand the expectations and responsibilities that go along with being a part of an athletic team in this district.** (This includes the attached head injury information and the return to play procedures.) **I promise to abide by these rules and regulations.**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board approved: March 28, 2006

Head injury information added July 1, 2012

Substance abuse section updated December 2012

Updated July 2018