



FOOTBALL CODE of CONDUCT

The following Football Code of Conduct is intended to clarify areas of particular importance to football players. More specifically, it is intended to clarify your obligations and guide your conduct. If you are uncertain about any aspect of the Code of Conduct or other related school policies, consult with your coaches or other advisers.

Obligations As A Student

Your general obligation as a student is to make satisfactory progress towards graduation.

As an academic institution, Orange Park High School exists to create and disseminate knowledge for the betterment of humanity. While time commitments are demanding during your athletic season, you should never lose sight of the goal of completing requirements for graduation. When you graduate from Orange Park High School, we want you to be proud of those academic achievements, which will allow you to pursue a satisfying career, or engage in post-secondary academic pursuits. In order to carry out your general obligation as a student, you must:

1. **Maintain academic eligibility.** You must remain in good academic standing in order to participate in athletics. Staying academically eligible requires that you maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average at all times.
2. **Maintain eligibility to practice and compete.** In order to be eligible to practice and compete, you must always maintain academic eligibility. Your behavior must be exemplary. Any behavioral problems within your academic setting may result in missing contest time or other reprimands set by the coaching staff and/or school administration.
3. **Attend class.** There is a direct correlation between classroom attendance and academic success. Accordingly, class attendance is mandatory for all football players enrolled in Orange Park High School which is a Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) regulated sport. All football players are subject to missing contests or other reprimands due to unexcused class absences. The coaching staff will be advised by faculty members of all absences and class attendance will be monitored by personal visits to class as well as communication with faculty.
4. **Inform teachers of expected absences due to athletic events.** Teachers are usually more than willing to assist you in resolving a conflict when advance notice is given. Remember, you are responsible for completing any work missed during your absence as soon as possible.
5. **Follow the Orange Park High School Student Honor Code.** The Honor Code covers all academic work done at Orange Park High School. It prohibits all forms of scholastic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism. The Honor Code is enforced by the Raiders Council which is empowered to set penalties ranging up to expulsion from the athletic team for violations. If you have any questions about whether the Honor Code applies to a given assignment, it is your responsibility to ask your teacher directly.
6. **Take ACT / SAT as part of minimum requirement for scholarship.** All football players must take the ACT or SAT at least twice per academic year. Failure to do so **will** be viewed as not upholding your obligation of satisfactory progress towards scholarship attainment and will result in a reprimand set by the coaching staff.

Follow the directives of the Academic Support Team of the Athletic Department. Academic Support Team maintains and directs study and tutorial sessions. **All** freshmen and other football players with less than a 2.5 core grade point average are required to participate in study and tutorial sessions. Academic Support stays in constant contact with football player's teachers to ascertain progress and concerns with school. If a football player is determined to be failing a course, there will be additional requirements by Academic Support. See Academic Support for more specific questions and concerns.

Obligations As An Athlete

Your general obligation as an athlete is to represent responsibly and with integrity the people, values, and traditions associated with Orange Park High School.

The football program is a highly visible component of Orange Park High School. As a football player, your attitudes, actions, and statements are constantly in the public eye and reflect directly on Orange Park High School. Because of the public visibility of the athletic program, you have a special responsibility in representing Orange Park High School. As an athlete, you are responsible for obeying the rules and regulations of the Clay County Interscholastic Athletic Association, which include those of the FHSAA. In order to carry out your general obligation as an athlete, you must:

1. **Display good sportsmanship.** You are expected to conform to established guidelines of sportsmanlike conduct in athletic competition, both on and off the playing field. Sportsmanlike conduct includes showing respect toward all who are in attendance at an athletic event: officials, coaches, athletes, opponents, spectators, and the media. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes inappropriate behavior in language, gesture, or action, which demeans, physically intimidates, or endangers others.
2. **Know, follow and be accountable for FHSAA Rules.** These rules include knowing what constitutes eligibility, sportsmanship, and your academic responsibility.
3. **Protect your health.** In addition to fulfilling the stringent training requirements of your sport, you must exercise special care to avoid the use of non-therapeutic drugs as well as the excessive consumption of alcohol, which can be harmful to you and others. Do not take drugs that have not been prescribed by a physician.
4. **Obey team rules and policies.** Your coaches have established rules and policies for guiding your success as a member of the football team. You are expected to follow their guidance and develop the ability to work well with others on your team.

Obligations As A Community Member

Your general obligation as a community member is to respect and obey the policies, rules, and laws of that community.

Your obligations extend beyond the classroom and the athletic field. Like other students at Orange Park High School, you are a member of several communities. You are a member of the Orange Park High general community, the surrounding residential community, and the local, state, and federal communities. Each of these communities expects its members to exhibit respectful and lawful behavior. As a member of these communities, you have no special rights or privileges that exempt you from penalty. If you violate their policies, rules, and laws, you will be accountable for your actions. In order to carry out your general obligation as a member of these communities, you must:

1. **Know and follow the rules in the Orange Park High School Student Handbook.** These rules of conduct apply to all Orange Park High students. (The Student Handbook is distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year.)
2. **Obey all federal, state, and local laws.** Any Orange Park High student who violates the law may incur penalties imposed by civil authorities. Remember, as a football player, you are visible within the community. You should make a conscious effort to avoid "being in the wrong place at the wrong time." Use good judgment.

Enforcement Of Code Of Conduct

The Student-Athlete Code of Conduct is enforced by various officials of Orange Park High School under whose jurisdiction the different parts of the Code of Conduct apply. These officials include your coaches, administrators within the FHSAA, the faculty, the administration, the Raiders Council, and other authorities of Clay County Schools.

Like any student, you are expected to obey the policies and regulations of Orange Park High School. You are subject to penalties for failure to uphold these rules. Orange Park High School has the right to impose penalties separate from those, which might be imposed by a court of law. Orange Park High School's penalties range from reprimand to expulsion from the team, depending on the severity of the offense.

Print Player Name

Player Signature

Date

Print Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date