



Jacksboro Athletic  
Handbook

**Jacksboro I.S.D.  
Athletic  
Department**

August 2021

Jacksboro 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 Jacksboro 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 Jacksboro Athlete:

We believe all Jacksboro athletes should be diligent in preparation, relentless in effort, disciplined by nature, respectful in actions, self-controlled with words, humble in spirit, and aggressive in pursuit of excellence, without regard to score, opponent, time, or referee. As athletes display these characteristics, great things happen: teams are successful, players are motivated, fans are supportive and enthusiastic, parents are proud, prospective athletes want to participate, and very often character is enhanced in all involved.

As a Jacksboro 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 extracurricular activities. Therefore, it is imperative that all students taking part in athletics understand the following responsibilities and rules and that the coaches of the athletic program and the athletic director have the right to remove that privilege.

## **Training Rules**

*Athletic policies apply to student athletes year-round. Breaking the training rules involves the following: receiving a ticket by the police, being visibly seen by a school employee in person or social media.*

### **Category I**

#### **A. Felony Charges/Criminal Offenses**

- Texas High School Coach's Association: Code of Ethics, Article IX, Management of a Felony Crime
- It will be considered a breach of the code of ethics to willingly allow a student/athlete who is charged with and under indictment for a felony crime to participate in an athletic contest. This action should not be considered a presumption of guilt, but rather it affords the accused athlete the time and opportunity to clear his/her name. The student/athlete may be allowed to remain on his/her athletic team as a suspended member, but should not be allowed to represent his/her school or community in an athletic contest while under this suspension.
- Any athlete that is charged with a serious criminal offense is suspended from athletic contests and before or after school practices until their guilt or innocence is determined.

#### **B. Use/Possession of Drugs/Alcohol/Illegal Substances**

- Any athlete that is caught breaking training rules will be subject to the following consequences.

### **Cumulative Consequences for Category I Offenses**

- **First offense** - Athlete is placed on probationary status for the remainder of the year, eligible to practice unless placed in DAEP, ineligible to participate in athletic contests for 30 calendar days. The athlete must complete 25 miles before participating in any contest.
- **Second offense**- The athlete is ineligible to participate in athletic contests for 120 calendar days. The athlete will not be allowed to participate in before or after school practices during the suspension. The athlete must complete 50 miles before participating in any contest.
- **Third offense** – The athlete is ineligible to participate in athletic contests for one calendar year. The athlete will not be allowed to participate in before or after school practices during the suspension.
- Any offense after the third offense shall result in permanent removal from the Athletic Program.

## **Category II**

### **A. Use/Possession of Tobacco Products (Vaping)**

- **First offense** – Athlete is placed on probationary status for the remainder of the year and eligible to practice. However, the athlete must complete 10 miles before they are allowed to participate in the next athletic contest.
- **Second offense** – Athlete is still eligible to practice. However, the athlete must complete 20 miles before they are allowed to participate in the next athletic contest.
- **Third offense** – Athlete is not eligible to practice before or after school. The athlete must complete 30 miles before they are allowed to participate in the next athletic contest.
- **Fourth offense** – Will result in a Category I consequence.

### **B. Quitting**

- An athlete may not quit an athletic team after the sport's first contest without consequences except under very rare circumstances. The head coach and Athletic director must coordinate approval of such an occasion.
- Athlete will be suspended during the first 2 contests of their next sport.
- No letter award shall be earned in that sport and the student will be ineligible for any honors in that sport.

### **C. 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 and coaches is a must.
- Insubordinate behavior towards coaches will not be tolerated.

*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 or the sport or the Athletic Program.*

### **D. ISS/DAEP**

- Athlete must complete 2 miles for each day of ISS/DAEP before they are allowed to participate in the next athletic contest.
- Athlete must attend all practices but may not participate during ISS.
- Athlete will not be allowed to practice or participate while in DAEP.

*The head coach or Athletic Director will appropriately discipline any athlete taking into account the seriousness of the offense plus past history. Any athlete that is in violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct may be disciplined or removed from the athletic program at the AD's discretion.*

## **Athlete Responsibilities**

### **Practice Regulations**

- Practices are essential for proper conditioning, improvement of techniques, and teamwork skills. Athletes are required to attend scheduled practices.
- Notify the coach as soon as possible prior to a practice or contest an athlete must miss.
- Obey all practice/training rules set up by the coach.
- Profanity and poor effort will not be tolerated.
- Violation of practice regulations will result in consequences at the discretion of the head coach.

### **Travel**

- Be on time for all trips.
- Dress appropriately as directed by the coach. Be mannerly in restaurants and public places. Abide by all rules while traveling on bus/van/etc.
- All students making the trip on the bus will return on the bus unless in an emergency-type situation or there is a 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.

### **Social Media & Technology**

- Use good judgment. Think before you post: If you wouldn't want your parents, coaches, or grandparents to see it, then it's not something you need to post. Golden Rule –treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Remember the internet is permanent. No offensive or inappropriate pictures or comments are to be posted. Anything you place on the internet is the property of the site. You no longer have control once you post.
- Parents, coaches, administrators, and law enforcement may monitor web sites and you could face disciplinary action if you are in violation of the athletic code of conduct, school policies, or laws. In addition, potential employers typically search sites as a way of screening applicants.
- Ultimately, as a student-athlete, you are a representative of Jacksboro athletics at all times and are in the public eye more than other students. Keep that in mind as you participate in social networking sites.

### **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 (equipment is not to be taken out of the locker room unless permission is given by a coach).
- Replacement of any equipment damaged by improper care, lost, or stolen is the financial responsibility of the athlete. (Due to custom athletic apparel costs, replacement values can be up to twice as much as its original cost.)

**Awards Program** • Student-Athletes must be in good standing with the Athletic Department in order to receive any awards.

There are two Opposite models of sports on a spectrum  
– Developmental & Professional

Developmental Model of Sports

Success is measured in terms of each athletes' personal growth and development. Most important product is the quality of the experience.

Coach's primary job: Emphasis on strengthening desirable behavior by encouragement and positive reinforcement, which in turn leads to: An athlete who is motivated by positive desire to achieve which in turn leads to: An athlete who perceives athletic competition as a challenge.

Professional Model of Sports

Product Orientation – Winning!

Athletes are commodities – Value is based on how much they contribute to winning.

Coach's primary job is to win.

The team that makes the fewest mistakes wins, which in turn leads to: Emphasis on eliminating mistakes through the use of punishment and criticism, which in turn leads to: An athlete who is motivated by fear of failure which in turn leads to: An athlete who perceives athletic competition as a threat.

Model of Sports and Jacksboro Athletics

**Junior High Programs – Modified Developmental Model**

**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.

**Junior Varsity Programs – between the two models**

**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.

### **Varsity programs – Modified Professional Model**

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

- Refinement of skills to create a competitive 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.

## **Expectations**

#### **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**

- 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 - Coach Meeting Procedure.**

1. Our coaches may be contacted either at home or the school.
2. Request a meeting at the school 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.
5. If not satisfied with the outcome of the parent - coach meeting, contact the Athletic Director. If not satisfied with that meeting, contact the Campus Principal. If no resolve has been made after these three 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. But they may not participate in a contest the same day he/ she served ISS unless it is the last day to serve. 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.**

~ 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. Injured athletes do attend practices for rehabilitation, cognitive skills, and team unity.**

~ 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.**

~ Can a student go home with their parents after an out of town athletic contest?

**Answer: It is permissible if it is an emergency situation or necessary for travel purposes. It must be cleared by the coach prior to the contest. It is not permissible for the student to travel with another student or another student's parents without proper communication between the guardians and the coach. We prefer all athletes to ride to and from games with their teammates and coaches.**

~ When a student is suspended, can they stand on the sideline in a uniform?

**Answer: If the student is still practicing with the team, then they are required to participate in all team activities except playing in the game.**

**I have received a copy of the Jacksboro ISD Student- Parent Athletic Handbook and acknowledge that I am responsible for understanding the contents of the code of conduct.**